

# POPULATION AND MIGRATION ESTIMATES NORTHERN IRELAND (2009) – STATISTICAL REPORT



9.30am – Thursday 24 June 2010

## Executive Summary

1. Between July 2008 and June 2009 the number of people living in Northern Ireland increased by 13,900 people (0.8%). Population growth was less than in each of the previous three years, primarily due to a fall in levels of migration to Northern Ireland. The Northern Ireland population at 30 June 2009 is estimated to be 1.789 million people up from 1.775 million people in June 2008. The increase in population between July 2008 and June 2009 was due to:
  - natural growth of 10,600 people (25,400 births and 14,800 deaths);
  - net migration of 2,100 people (23,500 people came to live here and 21,400 people left); and
  - a net gain of 1,200 due to other changes, including HM Forces stationed in Northern Ireland.
2. In the decade to 2004, the overall annual rate of population increase was around 7,000 persons (0.4%) each year. The 2005-6, 2006-7 and 2007-8 increases in population were significantly larger at 17,000 people (1.0%), 17,500 people (1.0%) and 15,900 people (0.9%) respectively.
3. Within Northern Ireland, Dungannon Local Government District had the biggest increase in population (+1.9%) while Antrim (+1.5%), Craigavon (+1.7%), Lisburn (+1.5%), and Newry and Mourne (+1.5%) LGDs all experienced population growth of at least 1.5%.
4. More detailed analysis and figures are attached.

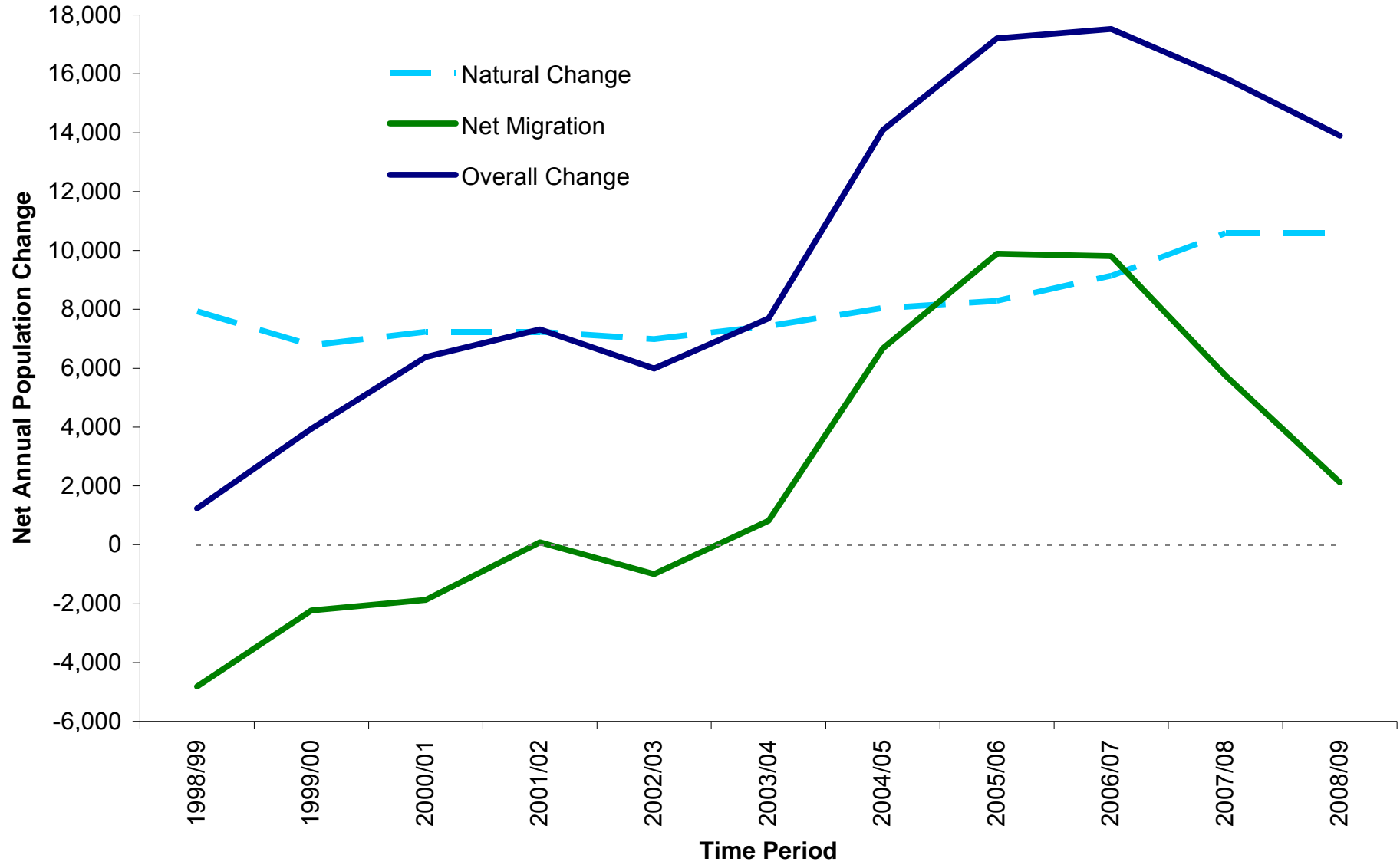
## *Introduction*

This report outlines some of the main findings in the 2009 mid-year estimates of population and migration for Northern Ireland. All the statistics presented are available on the NISRA website at <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp.htm>. Also available on the website is a detailed methodology report on population estimates and a report on the sources used to estimate migration in Northern Ireland.

## *Northern Ireland level*

- Between mid-2008 and mid-2009 the number of people living in Northern Ireland is estimated to have increased by 13,900 people (0.8%). The size of the resident population in Northern Ireland at 30 June 2009 is estimated to be 1.789 million people;
  
- the population increase between July 2008 and June 2009 was a result of the following factors:
  - a. natural growth of 10,600 people (25,400 births and 14,800 deaths);
  - b. net migration gain in Northern Ireland of 2,100 people (23,500 people came to Northern Ireland to live and 21,400 people left); and
  - c. a net gain of 1,200 due to other changes, including Her Majesty's Forces stationed in Northern Ireland.
  
- Figure 1 shows the components of population change between 1998/99 and 2008/09. Prior to 2004, population increase in Northern Ireland was mostly due to natural change i.e. the number of births minus the number of deaths. However, in 2005/6 and 2006/7 the contribution from migration was larger than the contribution from natural change;

Figure 1: Components of Population Change (1998/99 to 2008/09)



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- between 2008 and 2009 the number of children<sup>1</sup> has increased by 0.2% (from 381,100 to 382,100). However, in the ten-year period between 1999 and 2009 the number of children has fallen from 407,500 to 382,100 a decrease of 6.2%. This overall fall since 1999 reflects the declining number of babies born in the late 1980s and 1990s;
- however, the latest birth figures show a significant rise in the number of babies born since 2001. It is estimated that with the current pattern of fertility the “average” woman will have 2.04 children in her lifetime. The number of babies born between mid-2008 and mid-2009 (25,400) is 18% higher than the number of babies born between mid-2000 and mid-2001 (21,500);
- between 2008 and 2009 the working age<sup>2</sup> population has increased by 0.6% (from 1,098,100 to 1,104,900). The main drivers of this growth are a surplus of people aging into working ages over people aging out of working ages, and net migration gain from persons of working age. In the ten-year period between 1999 and 2009 the working age population has increased from 1,013,500 to 1,104,900, a rise of 9.0%;
- between 2008 and 2009 the pensioner<sup>3</sup> population has increased by 2.0% (from 295,800 to 301,900). In the ten-year period between 1999 and 2009 the pensioner population has increased from 258,000 to 301,900, a rise of 17.0%;
- between 2008 and 2009 the very elderly<sup>4</sup> population has increased by 2.4% (from 28,000 to 28,700). In the ten-year period between 1999 and 2009 the very elderly population has increased from 23,200 to 28,700, a rise of 23.4%;

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<sup>1</sup> Children are defined as those in the population aged under 16.

<sup>2</sup> Working age population is defined as the male population aged 16-64 and the female population aged 16-59.

<sup>3</sup> Pensioners are defined as the male population aged 65 and over and the female population aged 60 and over.

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- the overall death rate in Northern Ireland has fallen significantly over the last 30 years from 11 deaths per 1,000 population in 1979 to 8 deaths per 1,000 population in 2009; and
- the median age (the age at which half the population is older and half is younger) of the Northern Ireland population has increased from 28 to 36 years over the last three decades.

### *Local Government Districts (change in population size)*

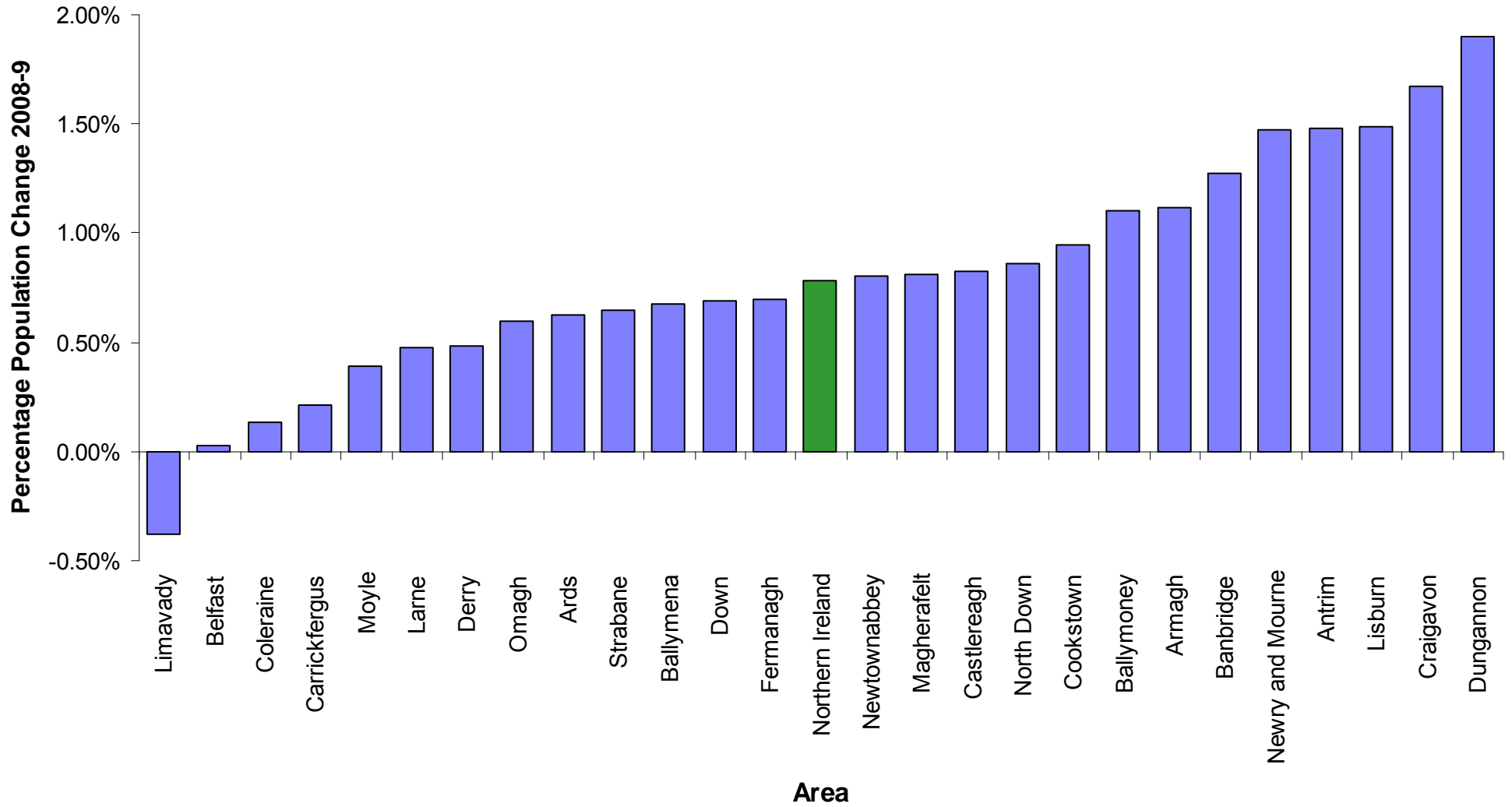
- Between 2008 and 2009, Dungannon and Craigavon Local Government Districts had the greatest increases in population (+1.9% and +1.7% respectively). These rates of increase are more than twice the Northern Ireland percentage increase (+0.8%);
- other districts that experienced population increases of at least 1.5% included Antrim (+1.5%), Lisburn (+1.5%), and Newry & Mourne (+1.5%) Local Government Districts;
- in contrast, between 2008 and 2009 Limavady (-0.4%) was the only Local Government District that experienced a loss in population;
- Figure 2a shows the overall percentage population change for all Local Government Districts within Northern Ireland between 2008 and 2009; Figure 2b shows equivalent figures for the 10-year period between 1999 and 2009;

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<sup>4</sup> Very elderly are defined as those in the population aged 85 and over

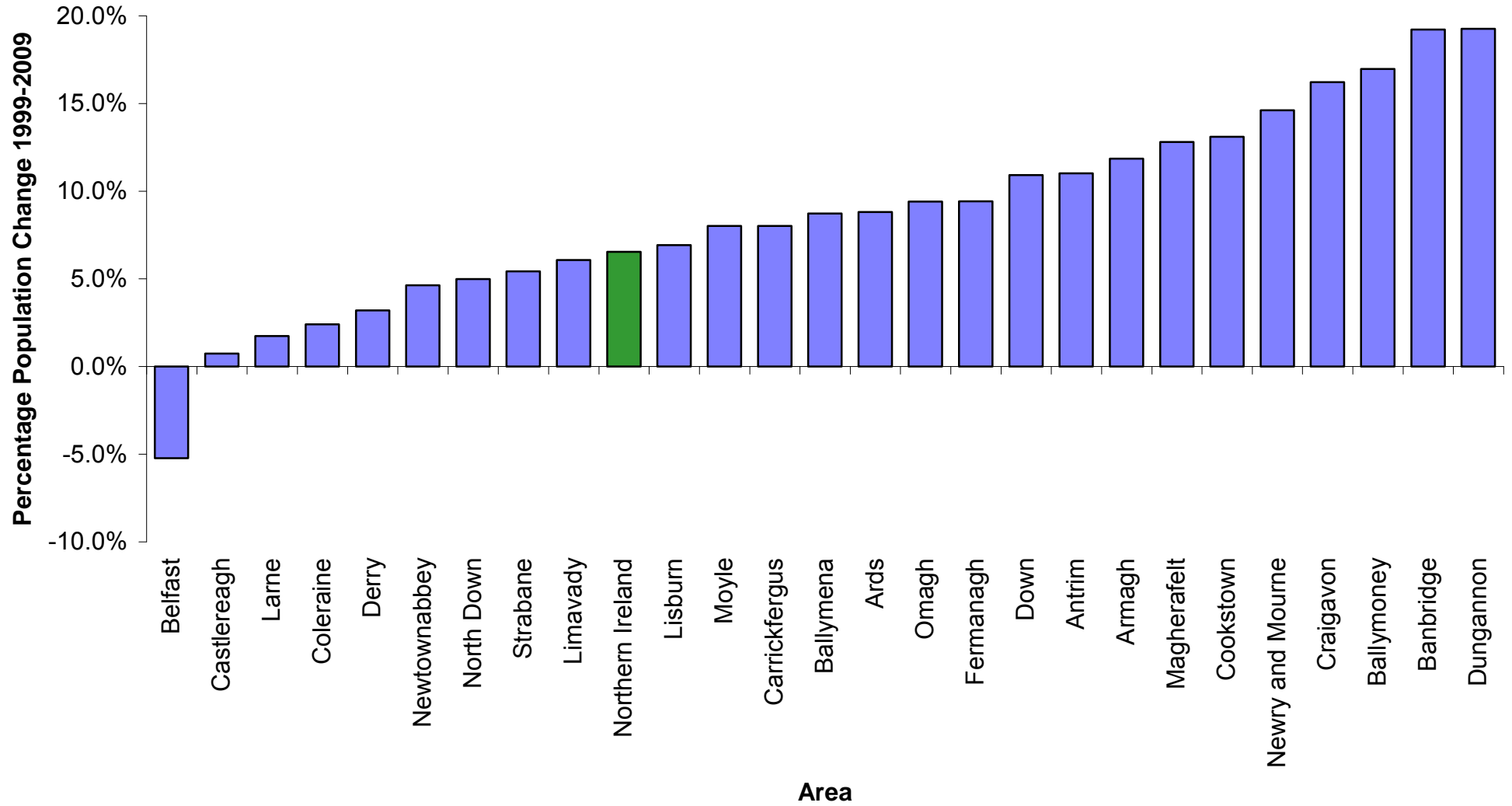
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Figure 2a: Overall percentage change in population size between 2008 and 2009 of Local Areas



# Population & Migration Estimates Northern Ireland (2009)

Figure 2b: Overall percentage change in population size between 1999 and 2009 of Local Areas



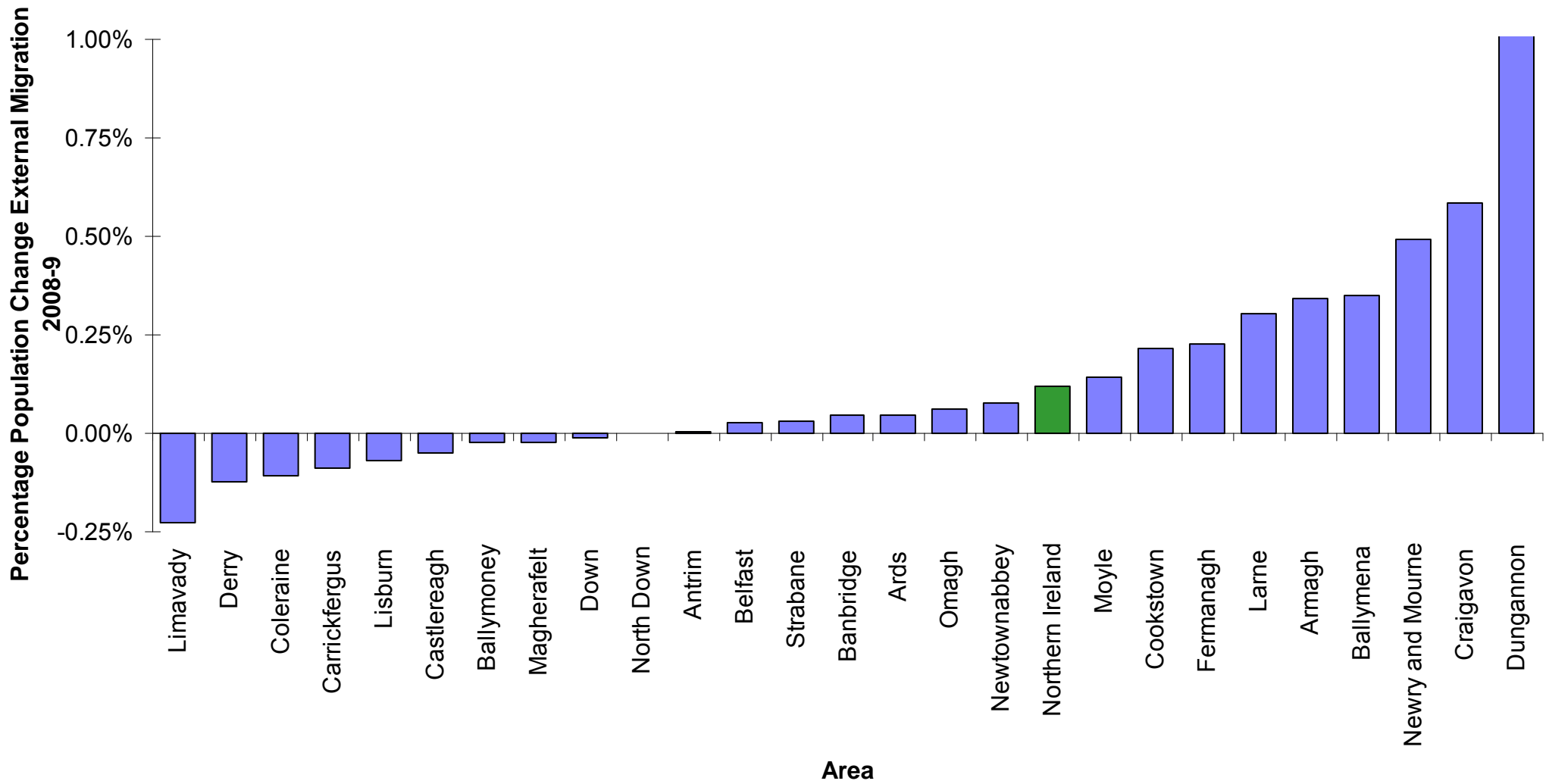
## Population & Migration Estimates Northern Ireland (2009)

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- all Local Government Districts in Northern Ireland experienced a natural increase in population (births less deaths). The largest natural increase of population was in Belfast Local Government District, with a natural increase of 1,000 people;
- Newry and Mourne Local Government District had the highest proportion of children among its population (24.0%), while North Down Local Government District had the lowest proportion (18.4%);
- North Down Local Government District had the highest proportion of the population of pensionable age (21.3%), while Derry Local Government District had the lowest proportion (13.7%);
- Figure 3 shows the overall percentage change in population size due to migration (2008-9) from outside Northern Ireland to each area; and
- Magherafelt Local Government District had the largest percentage of population change due to natural increase; however, net outward migration in Magherafelt results in an overall population increase similar to that of Northern Ireland as a whole. Dungannon Local Government District had the largest percentage of population change due to migration from outside Northern Ireland (as shown in Table 4).

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Figure 3: Net external migration as percentage change of population size between 2008 and 2009 by Local Area



## Population & Migration Estimates Northern Ireland (2009)

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The following tables<sup>5</sup> are attached:

Table 1: Northern Ireland mid-year population estimates, by gender and 5-year age bands, 2009

Table 2: Components of population change, Northern Ireland, 1998 to 2009

Table 3: Components of population change, by area, 2008 to 2009

Table 4: Detailed migration, by area, 2008 to 2009

Table 5: Local population estimates for selected age groups, by area, 2009

**NISRA**  
**June 2010**

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<sup>5</sup> All figures in tables have been rounded to the nearest 100. Therefore counts may not add to totals due to rounding.

**Table 1 Northern Ireland Mid-Year Population Estimates, by Gender and Five Year Age Bands, 2009**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Persons</b>
0-4	62,700	59,700	122,300
5-9	57,800	54,600	112,400
10-14	63,000	59,500	122,500
15-19	64,000	61,200	125,300
20-24	67,800	64,600	132,400
25-29	62,900	62,400	125,300
30-34	56,700	57,500	114,100
35-39	61,300	62,700	124,000
40-44	64,100	66,600	130,700
45-49	61,500	64,300	125,800
50-54	54,500	55,800	110,300
55-59	48,500	48,800	97,300
60-64	44,700	47,400	92,100
65-69	36,600	40,100	76,700
70-74	29,000	33,800	62,800
75-79	21,300	28,700	50,100
80-84	13,500	22,700	36,200
85-89	6,600	13,500	20,000
90+	2,100	6,500	8,600
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>878,600</b>	<b>910,300</b>	<b>1,788,900</b>

**Table 2 Components of Population Change, Northern Ireland, 1998 to 2009**

Year	Population at start of period	Births <sup>1</sup>	Deaths <sup>1</sup>	Natural Change	Net Migration	Other Changes <sup>2</sup>	Population at end of period	Population Change	
								Number	%
Mid 1998 to Mid 1999	1,677,800	23,400	15,500	7,900	-4,800	-1,900	1,679,000	1,200	0.1
Mid 1999 to Mid 2000	1,679,000	22,300	15,500	6,800	-2,200	-600	1,682,900	3,900	0.2
Mid 2000 to Mid 2001	1,682,900	21,600	14,300	7,200	-1,900	1,000	1,689,300	6,400	0.4
Mid 2001 to Mid 2002	1,689,300	21,500	14,200	7,200	100	0	1,696,600	7,300	0.4
Mid 2002 to Mid 2003	1,696,600	21,500	14,500	7,000	-1,000	0	1,702,600	6,000	0.4
Mid 2003 to Mid 2004	1,702,600	22,000	14,600	7,400	800	-600	1,710,300	7,700	0.5
Mid 2004 to Mid 2005	1,710,300	22,400	14,400	8,000	6,700	-600	1,724,400	14,100	0.8
Mid 2005 to Mid 2006	1,724,400	22,700	14,400	8,300	9,900	-1,000	1,741,600	17,200	1.0
Mid 2006 to Mid 2007	1,741,600	23,800	14,700	9,100	9,800	-1,400	1,759,100	17,500	1.0
Mid 2007 to Mid 2008	1,759,100	25,200	14,600	10,600	5,700	-500	1,775,000	15,900	0.9
Mid 2008 to Mid 2009	1,775,000	25,400	14,800	10,600	2,100	1,200	1,788,900	13,900	0.8

<sup>1</sup> Mid year to mid year.

<sup>2</sup> Other changes include changes in Her Majesty's Forces stationed in Northern Ireland.

**Table 3: Components of population change, by area, 2008 to 2009**

Area	Population at start of period June 2008	Births <sup>1</sup> 2008/2009	Deaths <sup>1</sup> 2008/2009	Natural Change 2008/2009	Net Migration 2008/2009	Other Changes <sup>2</sup> 2008/2009	Population at end of period June 2009	Population Change	
								Number	%
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1,775,000</b>	<b>25,400</b>	<b>14,800</b>	<b>10,600</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,788,900</b>	<b>13,900</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Antrim	53,200	800	400	500	200	100	54,000	800	1.5
Ards	77,600	900	600	300	200	0	78,100	500	0.6
Armagh	58,200	900	400	400	200	0	58,800	700	1.1
Ballymena	62,700	800	500	300	100	0	63,200	400	0.7
Ballymoney	30,100	400	200	200	200	0	30,400	300	1.1
Banbridge	47,000	700	400	400	200	0	47,600	600	1.3
Belfast	268,300	3,900	2,900	1,000	-900	0	268,400	100	0.0
Carrickfergus	40,000	500	300	200	-100	0	40,100	100	0.2
Castlereagh	66,200	900	600	200	300	0	66,800	500	0.8
Coleraine	57,000	700	500	200	-200	0	57,100	100	0.1
Cookstown	35,900	600	300	300	0	0	36,300	300	0.9
Craigavon	90,800	1,500	700	800	700	0	92,400	1,500	1.7
Derry	109,100	1,700	800	900	-400	0	109,600	500	0.5
Down	69,800	1,000	600	400	0	100	70,300	500	0.7
Dungannon	55,400	900	400	500	600	0	56,400	1,100	1.9
Fermanagh	62,000	900	500	300	100	0	62,400	400	0.7
Larne	31,300	300	300	100	100	0	31,400	100	0.5
Limavady	34,100	400	200	200	-200	-200	34,000	-100	-0.4
Lisburn	114,800	1,800	900	900	400	400	116,500	1,700	1.5
Magherafelt	43,800	700	300	400	-100	0	44,200	400	0.8
Moyle	16,900	200	100	100	0	0	16,900	100	0.4
Newry and Mourne	97,300	1,600	700	900	500	0	98,700	1,400	1.5
Newtownabbey	82,700	1,200	700	500	200	0	83,400	700	0.8
North Down	78,900	900	800	100	200	300	79,600	700	0.9
Omagh	52,100	700	400	400	-100	0	52,400	300	0.6
Strabane	39,600	600	300	300	0	0	39,900	300	0.6

<sup>1</sup> Mid 2008 to 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Other changes include changes in Her Majesty's Forces stationed in Northern Ireland.

**Table 3: Components of population change, by area, 2008 to 2009**

Area	Population at start of period June 2008	Births <sup>1</sup> 2008/2009	Deaths <sup>1</sup> 2008/2009	Natural Change 2008/2009	Net Migration 2008/2009	Other Changes <sup>2</sup> 2008/2009	Population at end of period June 2009	Population Change	
<b>Health and Social Care Trusts</b>									
Belfast	334,500	4,700	3,500	1,200	-600	100	335,200	600	0.2
Northern	453,800	6,200	3,600	2,600	500	300	457,100	3,300	0.7
South Eastern	341,100	4,600	2,900	1,700	800	900	344,400	3,300	1.0
Southern	348,700	5,600	2,600	3,000	2,200	100	353,900	5,300	1.5
Western	296,900	4,300	2,200	2,100	-600	-100	298,300	1,400	0.5
<b>Education and Library Boards</b>									
Belfast	268,300	3,900	2,900	1,000	-900	0	268,400	100	0.0
North Eastern	417,900	5,600	3,300	2,300	400	300	420,800	2,900	0.7
South Eastern	407,300	5,500	3,500	2,000	1,000	900	411,200	3,900	1.0
Southern	384,600	6,200	2,900	3,300	2,200	100	390,200	5,600	1.5
Western	296,900	4,300	2,200	2,100	-600	-100	298,300	1,400	0.5
<b>NUTS III Areas</b>									
Belfast	268,300	3,900	2,900	1,000	-900	0	268,400	100	0.0
East of N. Ireland	432,500	6,100	3,400	2,700	1,400	300	437,000	4,400	1.0
North of N. Ireland	286,800	4,000	2,100	1,800	-600	-100	287,900	1,100	0.4
Outer Belfast	382,600	5,200	3,300	1,900	1,000	800	386,300	3,700	1.0
West & South of Northern Ireland	404,700	6,200	3,000	3,200	1,200	100	409,300	4,600	1.1

<sup>1</sup> Mid 2008 to 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Other changes include changes in Her Majesty's Forces stationed in Northern Ireland.

**Table 4: Detailed migration by area, 2008 to 2009**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Population at June 2009</b>	<b>Net Internal Migration<sup>1</sup> 2008/2009</b>	<b>Net External Migration<sup>2</sup> 2008/2009</b>	<b>Net Total Migration 2008/2009</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1,788,900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>2,100</b>
<b>Local Government Districts</b>				
Antrim	54,000	200	0	200
Ards	78,100	100	0	200
Armagh	58,800	0	200	200
Ballymena	63,200	-100	200	100
Ballymoney	30,400	200	0	200
Banbridge	47,600	200	0	200
Belfast	268,400	-1,000	100	-900
Carrickfergus	40,100	-100	0	-100
Castlereagh	66,800	300	0	300
Coleraine	57,100	-100	-100	-200
Cookstown	36,300	0	100	0
Craigavon	92,400	200	500	700
Derry	109,600	-300	-100	-400
Down	70,300	0	0	0
Dungannon	56,400	0	600	600
Fermanagh	62,400	-100	100	100
Larne	31,400	0	100	100
Limavady	34,000	-100	-100	-200
Lisburn	116,500	500	-100	400
Magherafelt	44,200	-100	0	-100
Moyle	16,900	0	0	0
Newry and Mourne	98,700	0	500	500
Newtownabbey	83,400	100	100	200
North Down	79,600	200	0	200
Omagh	52,400	-100	0	-100
Strabane	39,900	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> Internal migration relates to population migration across local areas within Northern Ireland only.

<sup>2</sup> External migration relates to migration flows with Great Britain, the Republic of Ireland and the Rest of the World.

**Table 4: Detailed migration by area, 2008 to 2009**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Population at June 2009</b>	<b>Net Internal Migration<sup>1</sup> 2008/2009</b>	<b>Net External Migration<sup>2</sup> 2008/2009</b>	<b>Net Total Migration 2008/2009</b>
<b>Health and Social Care Trusts</b>				
Belfast	335,200	-700	0	-600
Northern	457,100	100	400	500
South Eastern	344,400	800	-100	800
Southern	353,900	400	1,800	2,200
Western	298,300	-600	0	-600
<b>Education and Library Boards</b>				
Belfast	268,400	-1,000	100	-900
North Eastern	420,800	100	300	400
South Eastern	411,200	1,100	-100	1,000
Southern	390,200	400	1,900	2,200
Western	298,300	-600	0	-600
<b>NUTS III Areas</b>				
Belfast	268,400	-1,000	100	-900
East of N. Ireland	437,000	500	900	1,400
North of N. Ireland	287,900	-400	-200	-600
Outer Belfast	386,300	1,100	-100	1,000
West & South of Northern Ireland	409,300	-200	1,500	1,200

<sup>1</sup> Internal migration relates to population migration across local areas within Northern Ireland only.

<sup>2</sup> External migration relates to migration flows with Great Britain, the Republic of Ireland and the Rest of the World.

**Table 5 Local Population Estimates for Selected Age Groups, by Area, 2009**

Area	Numbers				Percentages		
	All Ages	Children <sup>1</sup>	Working Age <sup>2</sup>	Pensioners <sup>3</sup>	Children <sup>1</sup>	Working Age <sup>2</sup>	Pensioners <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1,788,900</b>	<b>382,100</b>	<b>1,104,900</b>	<b>301,900</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>16.9</b>
<b>Local Government Districts</b>							
Antrim	54,000	12,600	33,500	8,000	23.3	61.9	14.8
Ards	78,100	15,300	47,600	15,200	19.6	60.9	19.5
Armagh	58,800	13,700	35,400	9,700	23.3	60.2	16.4
Ballymena	63,200	13,000	38,000	12,100	20.6	60.2	19.2
Ballymoney	30,400	6,600	18,600	5,200	21.7	61.2	17.1
Banbridge	47,600	10,500	29,500	7,500	22.1	62.1	15.8
Belfast	268,400	52,100	169,400	46,900	19.4	63.1	17.5
Carrickfergus	40,100	8,000	24,900	7,200	20.1	62.1	17.9
Castlereagh	66,800	13,000	40,400	13,400	19.4	60.6	20.0
Coleraine	57,100	11,600	34,100	11,400	20.3	59.8	20.0
Cookstown	36,300	8,200	22,700	5,400	22.5	62.6	15.0
Craigavon	92,400	20,300	57,500	14,500	22.0	62.2	15.8
Derry	109,600	25,700	68,900	15,000	23.4	62.9	13.7
Down	70,300	15,300	43,300	11,700	21.8	61.6	16.6
Dungannon	56,400	12,800	35,400	8,200	22.7	62.8	14.6
Fermanagh	62,400	13,200	38,400	10,800	21.2	61.5	17.3
Larne	31,400	6,000	19,200	6,200	19.1	61.2	19.6
Limavady	34,000	7,800	21,300	4,900	22.9	62.8	14.4
Lisburn	116,500	26,300	71,600	18,500	22.6	61.5	15.9
Magherafelt	44,200	10,300	27,700	6,200	23.3	62.7	14.1
Moyle	16,900	3,500	10,200	3,300	20.4	60.0	19.5
Newry and Mourne	98,700	23,700	60,900	14,100	24.0	61.7	14.3
Newtownabbey	83,400	17,000	51,100	15,400	20.4	61.2	18.4
North Down	79,600	14,600	48,000	16,900	18.4	60.3	21.3
Omagh	52,400	11,900	32,800	7,800	22.6	62.5	14.8
Strabane	39,900	9,200	24,300	6,400	23.0	61.0	15.9

<sup>1</sup> Children are defined as those in the population aged under 16.

<sup>2</sup> Working age population is defined as the male population aged 16-64 and the female population aged 16-59.

<sup>3</sup> Pensioners are defined as the male population aged 65 and over and the female population aged 60 and over.

**Table 5 Local Population Estimates for Selected Age Groups, by Area, 2009**

Area	Numbers				Percentages		
	All Ages	Children <sup>1</sup>	Working Age <sup>2</sup>	Pensioners <sup>3</sup>	Children <sup>1</sup>	Working Age <sup>2</sup>	Pensioners <sup>3</sup>
<b>Health and Social Care Trusts</b>							
Belfast	335,200	65,000	209,900	60,200	19.4	62.6	18.0
Northern	457,100	96,700	280,000	80,400	21.2	61.3	17.6
South Eastern	344,400	71,600	210,500	62,400	20.8	61.1	18.1
Southern	353,900	81,100	218,800	54,100	22.9	61.8	15.3
Western	298,300	67,700	185,800	44,800	22.7	62.3	15.0
<b>Education and Library Boards</b>							
Belfast	268,400	52,100	169,400	46,900	19.4	63.1	17.5
North Eastern	420,800	88,600	257,300	75,000	21.0	61.1	17.8
South Eastern	411,200	84,500	250,900	75,800	20.6	61.0	18.4
Southern	390,200	89,200	241,500	59,500	22.9	61.9	15.2
Western	298,300	67,700	185,800	44,800	22.7	62.3	15.0
<b>NUTS III Areas</b>							
Belfast	268,400	52,100	169,400	46,900	19.4	63.1	17.5
East of N. Ireland	437,000	93,000	268,600	75,300	21.3	61.5	17.2
North of N. Ireland	287,900	64,300	177,500	46,100	22.3	61.7	16.0
Outer Belfast	386,300	78,900	236,000	71,400	20.4	61.1	18.5
West & South of Northern Ireland	409,300	93,800	253,300	62,200	22.9	61.9	15.2

<sup>1</sup> Children are defined as those in the population aged under 16.

<sup>2</sup> Working age population is defined as the male population aged 16-64 and the female population aged 16-59.

<sup>3</sup> Pensioners are defined as the male population aged 65 and over and the female population aged 60 and over.

## NOTES

1. The Northern Ireland mid-year population estimate relates to the usually resident population of Northern Ireland including Her Majesty's Forces stationed here. Births and deaths recorded are those registered by the General Register Office between mid-2008 and mid-2009.
2. Following international guidelines migration statistics relate only to long-term migrants (i.e. someone who changes their place of residence for a year or more (Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, United Nations, 1998)).
3. Population estimates for 2009 for Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies and NI Assembly Constituency Areas will be published later this year.
4. This information can also be accessed on the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency's website at:  
<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp17.htm>
5. A separate paper with more detailed statistics on measures of long-term migration will be published later this year. This updates analysis undertaken by NISRA last year entitled "International Migration Estimates for Northern Ireland (2007-8) – Sources and Methodology", which can be found at:  
<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp18.htm>
6. Further statistical information can be obtained from NISRA Customer Services:  
Telephone: 028 9034 8160  
Fax: 028 9034 8161  
E-mail: [census.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk](mailto:census.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk)  
Responsible Statistician: Dr David Marshall