

STATISTICS PRESS NOTICE:

DEATHS IN NORTHERN IRELAND (2009)



LOWEST DEATH RATE EVER RECORDED

9:30am – Thursday, 25 March 2010

Last year there were 14,400 deaths registered in Northern Ireland, a decrease of 3% from 2008. Last year also saw the lowest death rate in the history of Northern Ireland.

These findings are contained in provisional 2009 mortality figures released today by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). The fall in mortality witnessed over the last number of decades has helped drive the ageing of the population. One outcome of this is the increasing number of deaths of the very elderly; indeed last year saw the largest number of deaths of centenarians ever (98 deaths).

Whilst over half of deaths are caused by three main diseases; cancer (3,900 deaths), ischaemic heart disease (2,300 deaths) and stroke (1,200 deaths); the ageing of the population has also driven changes in causes of death. Over the last ten years we have seen a 40% increase in deaths due to Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. In 2009, there were 710 deaths due to Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

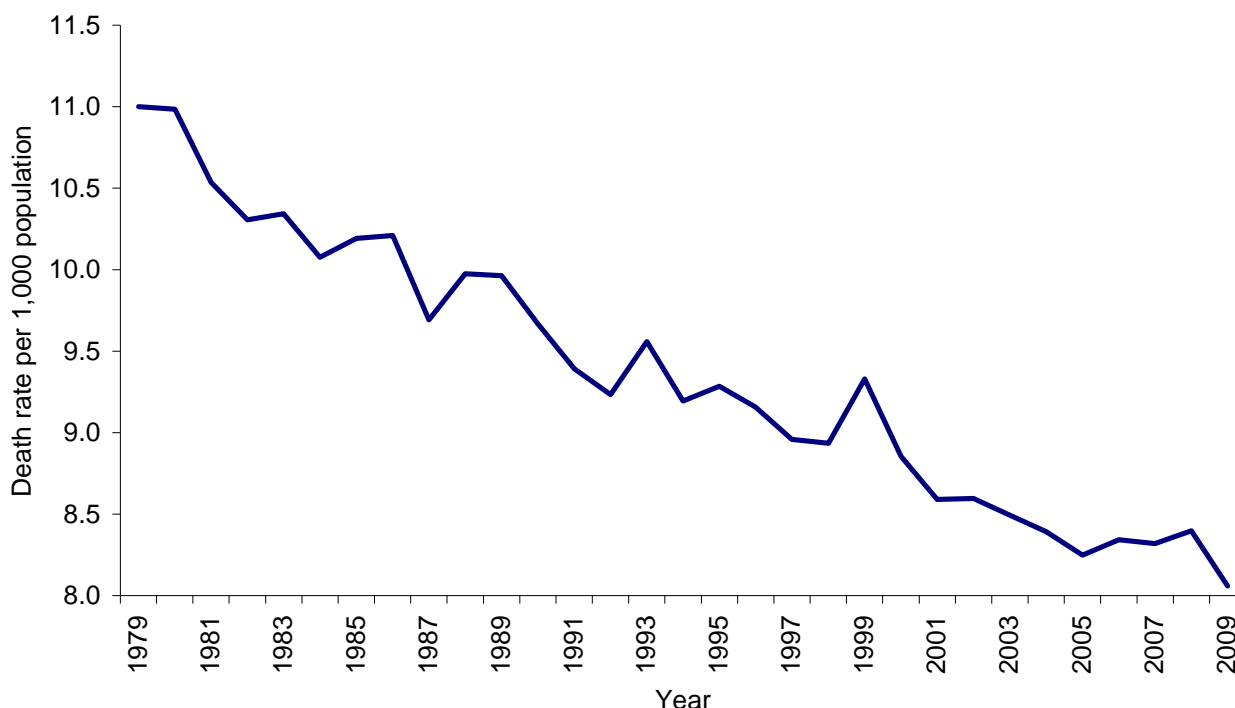
A NISRA spokesperson said that:

"Last year we witnessed the lowest death rate ever recorded in Northern Ireland. Mortality rates today are nearly half of those seen thirty years ago. Cancer continues to be the most common cause of death. However as the population ages we are observing more deaths of the very elderly with increasing numbers caused by Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia."

Summary

- In 2009, there were 14,413 deaths registered in Northern Ireland, a decrease of 494 deaths or 3% on the 14,907 deaths registered in 2008;
- the overall crude death rate in Northern Ireland has fallen significantly over the last thirty years from 11.0 deaths per 1,000 population in 1979 to 8.1 deaths per 1,000 population in 2009; the lowest death rate on record. The crude death rate for Northern Ireland since 1979 is shown in Chart 1a below;

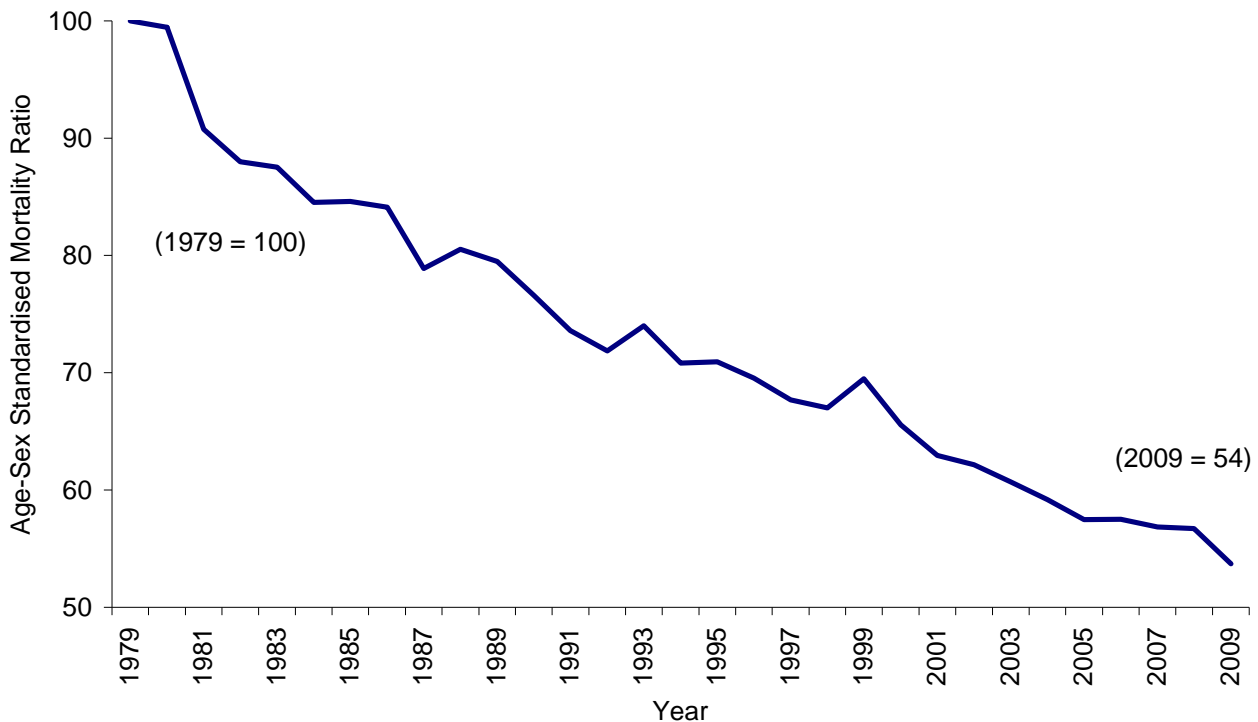
Chart 1a. Crude death rate per 1,000 population (1979 – 2009) – non-zero y-axis



Note: Crude death rate trends do not account for the population today having an older age structure than in the past. Analysis which accounts for the population age structure shows a greater fall (see Chart 1b)

- there has been a marked reduction in age-specific death rates across all age-groups over the last thirty years. Indeed, if the age-specific mortality rates of thirty years ago applied today the number of deaths would have been nearly 27,000. The actual mortality observed is around half this;
- Chart 1b shows the long-term trend in mortality standardised by age and sex. This statistic allows for the fact that over the last thirty years the population has grown in number **and** contains proportionately more older people. The standardised mortality ratio has fallen by nearly 50% over the last three decades (or on average about 1.5% each year);

Chart 1b. Age-sex standardised mortality ratio (1979 = 100) – non-zero y-axis



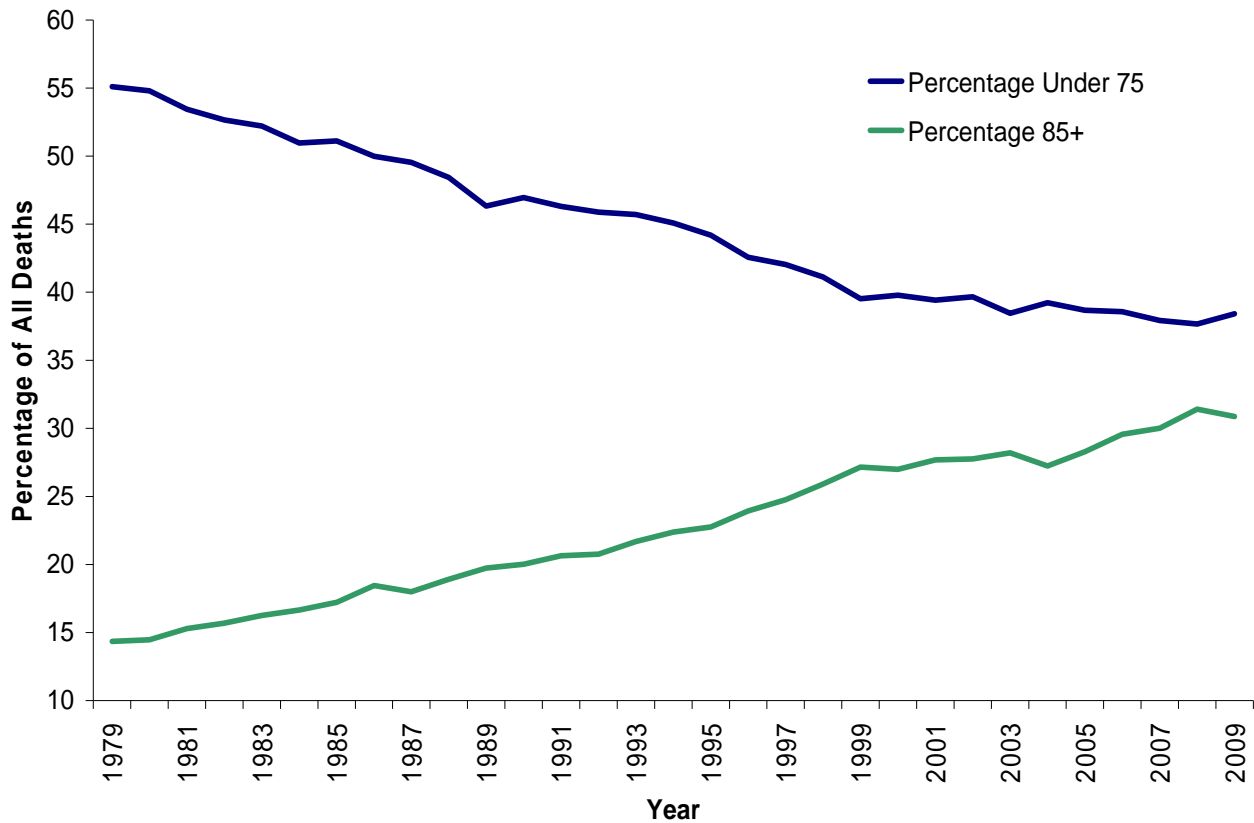
- the majority of people die in hospital; last year 51% of deaths occurred in hospitals with 19% in nursing homes/hospices and the remaining 30% in other places (e.g. at home, at work etc);
- over three-quarters of deaths (77%) last year were certified by the examining doctor, the remaining 23% had either a coroner's certificate issued or in a small number of cases there was an inquest. Deaths which are referred to a coroner can take some time to be registered;
- more deaths occur in the winter with last year higher numbers of deaths occurring in January and December. On average there are over 20% more deaths in the winter months of December and January than the monthly average;
- in contrast there is virtually no variation on the day of the week that people die – with around 2,100 deaths on each day; and
- Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMRs), compare local death rates with death rates in the United Kingdom as a whole, taking account of the different population structure of each area. For the latest year available (2007), Scotland had the highest SMR which was

18% higher than the UK average of 100 and England had the lowest which was 3% below the UK average. Northern Ireland and Wales had Standardised Mortality Ratios which were, respectively, 6% and 4% higher than the UK average.

Age at Death

- in 1979, 3% of all deaths were of children aged 0 to 15; while in 2009 this had reduced to 1% of all deaths. In contrast in 1979, 14% of all deaths were of those aged 85 years and over, while in 2009 this had risen to 31% of all deaths (see chart 2);
- over the last thirty years the reduction in the number of deaths has occurred alongside the population increasing in size and an older age-structure. Last year there were 2,400 fewer deaths than in 1979. However in 2009 there were 17% more people in the population than in 1979 and 77% more people aged 75 and over;
- in 2009 the average age at death was 71.6 years for males and 78.2 years for females. This is an increase of five years for males and six years for females over equivalent figures from 1979;
- there were 98 deaths of centenarians in 2009, of which 16 were males and 82 were females. This is the highest number of deaths of centenarians ever recorded in Northern Ireland. In contrast, there were 25 deaths of centenarians in 1979; and
- the oldest centenarian to die in 2009 was aged 106 (1 female death).

Chart 2. Percentage of deaths of persons aged under 75 and aged 85 and over (1979 - 2009) – non-zero y-axis



Mortality by Gender and Marital Status

- Female deaths (7,499) outnumbered male deaths (6,914) in 2009, giving a ratio of 108 female deaths for every 100 male deaths; and
- of men whose deaths were registered during 2009, 52% were married at the time of death, while 22% were widowed and 21% were single. In contrast, of women whose deaths were registered during 2009, 56% were widows at the time of death, with a further 25% married and 15% single.

Deaths by Area

- At Health and Social Care Trust level, crude death rates ranged from 10.0 deaths per 1,000 population in the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust area to 7.3 deaths per 1,000 population in the Southern Health and Social Care Trust area;
- Belfast Local Government District had the highest crude death rate (10.2 deaths per 1,000 population) of all Local Government Districts while the lowest crude death rate (6.0) was in Magherafelt Local Government District; and

- Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMRs), based on three years data (2007-2009), compare local death rates with death rates in Northern Ireland as a whole, taking account of the different age structure of each area. Belfast Local Government District had the highest rate, 17% higher than the Northern Ireland average, while Coleraine Local Government District had the lowest rate, 11% lower than the Northern Ireland average.

Cause of Death

- Cancer, all circulatory diseases and all respiratory diseases accounted for nearly three-quarters (72%) of all deaths in 2009. Indeed, last year over half of all deaths can be attributed to three specific causes; cancer (3,885 deaths), ischaemic heart disease (2,305 deaths) and stroke (1,175 deaths); and
- external causes which include transport accidents, falls, poisoning, assault and suicide accounted for 6% of all deaths in 2009 (805 deaths).

Cancer

- Prior to 2005 the number of cancer deaths had remained relatively stable at around 3,700 each year, however over recent years there has been an increase. 2008 saw the largest number of cancer deaths with 3,971 deaths being registered. In 2009, the number decreased by 2% to 3,885 deaths;
- cancer is also becoming a bigger factor in overall mortality terms. Last year cancer represented 27% of all deaths compared to 17% in 1979; and
- last year of the 3,885 cancer deaths, 906 were caused by lung cancer, 271 by colon cancer, 308 by breast cancer and 214 by both prostate and pancreatic cancer. People who die from cancer are usually younger than people who die from other natural causes. Last year the average age at death for those who died from cancer was 72 compared to 76 for other natural causes.

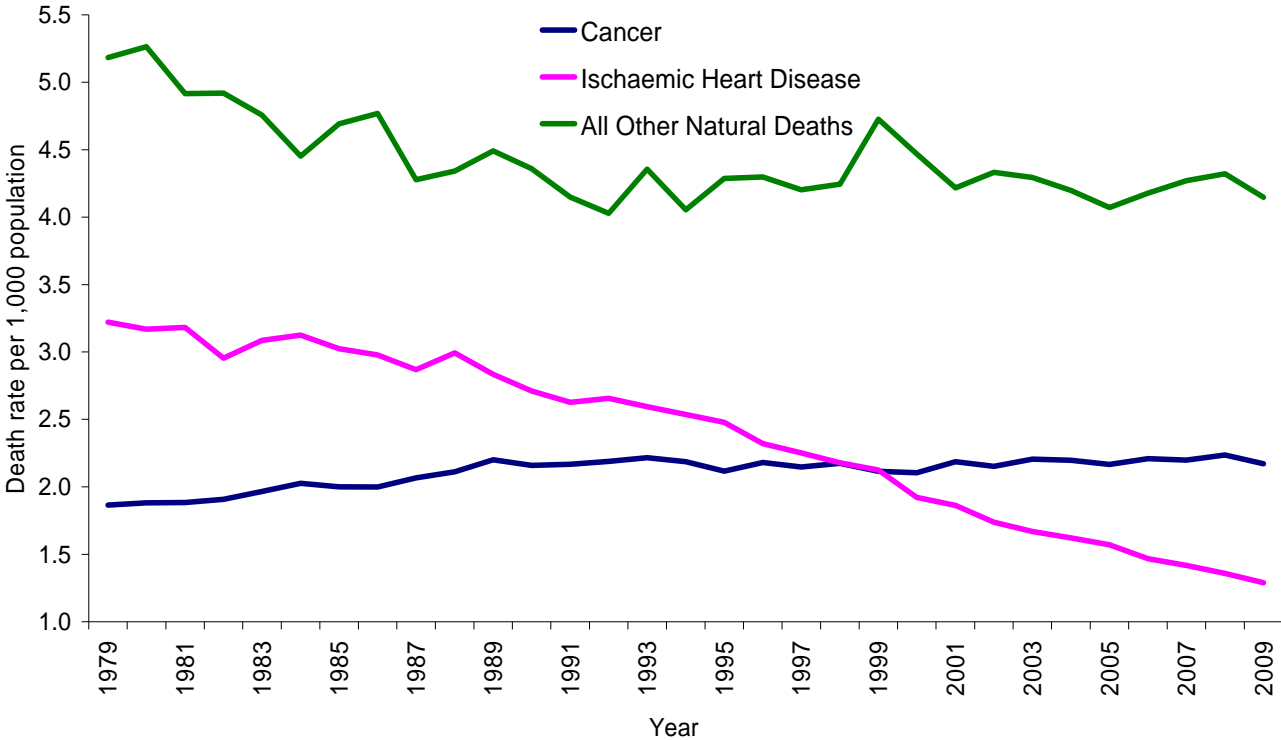
Circulatory Diseases

- In 2009, 2,305 people died from ischaemic heart disease, this continues the long-term fall in deaths due to heart disease. There were more than twice the number of deaths due to ischaemic heart disease (4,923) in 1979 than there were last year; and
- in 2009, 1,175 people died from cerebrovascular disease (stroke). This compares to 2,305 such deaths in 1979. Unlike deaths from ischaemic heart disease, a larger proportion of these deaths affect females; with 739 stroke deaths to females in 2009 and 436 stroke deaths to males.

Respiratory Disease

- In 2009, 2,017 people died from respiratory diseases such as pneumonia, a similar figure to that seen in 1979 (2,029 deaths). During the late 1990s the number of deaths from respiratory diseases had been as high as 3,200 deaths. Part of the drop seen in the numbers since 2001 is associated with a change in the coding rules for pneumonia that were implemented when ICD10 was introduced.

Chart 3: Death rate for cancer, ischaemic heart disease and all other natural causes of death per 1,000 population (1979 to 2009) – non-zero y-axis



Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias

- Deaths due to Alzheimer's disease have increased over recent years, with 241 deaths in 2009 (76 men and 165 women) compared to 211 deaths (68 men and 143 women) in 2001; and
- in 2009, 472 deaths were due to other dementias (130 men and 342 women) this compares to 298 deaths (78 men and 220 women) in 2001.

Diabetes

- Over the past decade, there has been a marked increase in diabetes mortality with 55 deaths in 1998 and 229 deaths last year (108 men and 121 women).

Healthcare-Associated Infections (MRSA and *Clostridium Difficile*)

- In 2009, 50 deaths were registered where MRSA was mentioned on the death certificate. Of these deaths 15 had MRSA as the underlying cause of death;
- this is a decrease from the 84 deaths registered with MRSA mentioned on the death certificate in 2008 and 32 deaths with MRSA as the underlying cause of death;
- in 2009, *Clostridium difficile* was mentioned on 124 death certificates. Of these 39 deaths had *Clostridium difficile* as the underlying cause of death; and
- this is a decrease from the 191 deaths registered with *Clostridium difficile* mentioned on the death certificate in 2008 and 64 deaths with *Clostridium difficile* as the underlying cause of death.

Alcohol related deaths

- In 2009, there were 283 alcohol related deaths; 187 men and 96 women. This is a marked increase from ten years ago when there were 174 alcohol related deaths recorded.

Drug related deaths

- In 2009, there were 84 drug related deaths in Northern Ireland. This is a marked increase from ten years ago when there were 50 drug related deaths recorded.

Suicide

- Deaths classified as 'events of undetermined intent' and 'intentional self-harm' are reported jointly as suicide. In 2009 there were 260 such deaths registered in Northern Ireland, 205 were males and 55 were females;
- all suicides are referred to the coroner and take time to be fully investigated. Therefore there is a period of time between when a suicide occurs and when the death is registered. Of the 260 suicides registered in 2009, only 86 actually occurred in 2009 with the remainder occurring in earlier years; and
- Table 1 below compares the number of suicides registered each year with the number of suicides occurring in those years. There are likely to be a significant number of deaths that occurred after 2007 but which have not yet been registered.

Table 1: Number of suicides registered and actual number occurring (1999-2009)

Year	Suicides (Registered)	Suicides (Occurred)*
1999	154	164
2000	185	186
2001	158	183
2002	183	201
2003	144	161
2004	146	232
2005	213	226
2006	291	211
2007	242	242
2008	282	*
2009	260	*

* See comment above

Accidents

- In 2009, 512 people died from accidents, of which 127 were transport accidents and 155 accidental falls. In contrast in 1979 there were 900 accidental deaths, 327 from transport accidents and 342 from accidental falls.

Stillbirths and Infant Deaths

- There were 119 stillbirths and 130 infant deaths registered in Northern Ireland in 2009. Over the past 30 years the number of stillbirths and infant deaths have fallen by around 50% and 70% respectively; and
- the stillbirth rate has reduced from 8.7 stillbirths per 1,000 births (live and still) in 1979 to 4.8 in 2009. This fall happened despite a change in the definition of stillbirths in 1992, which reduced the minimum period of gestation from 28 weeks to 24 weeks (thus increasing the number of stillbirths). The infant death rate (deaths of children aged under 1) has fallen from 14.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 1979 to 5.1 in 2009.

Also included are a number of tables – these are listed below:

Table 2 Registered deaths and stillbirths 1979, 1989, 1999 to 2009

Table 3 Registered deaths by gender and age, 2009

Table 4 Registered deaths, stillbirths and major cause of death by Area, 2009

Table 5 Registered deaths by major cause of death, 2004 to 2009

Table 6 Registered deaths by Area 1979, 1989, 1999, 2005 to 2009

Table 2: Registered deaths and stillbirths, 1979, 1989, 1999 to 2009^P

Year	Estimated Population	Deaths															
		Stillbirths		Persons		Infant Deaths		Cause of Death ⁴						Age at Death			
								Cancer		Ischaemic Heart Disease		Respiratory Diseases		Male Median	Female Median	% under 75	% aged 85 and over
Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ²	Number	Rate ³	Number	% ⁵	Number	% ⁵	Number	% ⁵	Number	% ⁵				
1979	1,528,300	246	8.7	16,811	11.0	417	14.8	2,851	17.0	4,923	29.3	2,029	12.1	70	76	55.1	14.3
1989	1,590,400	133	5.1	15,844	10.0	180	6.9	3,500	22.1	4,508	28.5	2,885	18.2	72	79	46.3	19.7
1999	1,679,000	132	5.7	15,663	9.3	148	6.4	3,552	22.7	3,568	22.8	3,161	20.2	75	81	39.5	27.1
2000	1,682,900	93	4.3	14,903	8.9	109	5.0	3,541	23.8	3,234	21.7	3,019	20.3	75	80	39.8	27.0
2001	1,689,300	112	5.1	14,513	8.6	134	6.0	3,696	25.5	3,148	21.7	1,975	13.6	75	81	39.4	27.7
2002	1,696,600	122	5.7	14,586	8.6	100	4.6	3,652	25.0	2,948	20.2	1,883	12.9	75	81	39.7	27.8
2003	1,702,600	108	5.0	14,462	8.5	115	5.2	3,757	26.0	2,843	19.7	2,082	14.4	75	81	38.5	28.2
2004	1,710,300	113	5.0	14,354	8.4	122	5.3	3,757	26.2	2,775	19.3	1,950	13.6	75	81	39.2	27.2
2005	1,724,400	89	4.0	14,224	8.2	140	6.1	3,735	26.3	2,708	19.0	1,921	13.5	75	81	38.7	28.3
2006	1,741,600	89	3.8	14,532	8.3	121	5.1	3,848	26.5	2,556	17.6	1,982	13.6	75	81	38.6	29.6
2007	1,759,100	102	4.2	14,649	8.3	123	4.9	3,870	26.4	2,494	17.0	1,992	13.6	75	82	37.9	30.0
2008	1,775,000	115	4.5	14,907	8.4	123	4.7	3,971	26.6	2,410	16.2	2,096	14.1	76	82	37.7	31.4
2009 ^P	1,788,600	119	4.8	14,413	8.1	130	5.1	3,885	27.0	2,305	16.0	2,017	14.0	76	82	38.4	30.9

^P Provisional data

¹ Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths

² Rate per 1,000 population. Rate for 2009 calculated using 2009 projected population

³ Rate per 1,000 live births (including non-residents)

⁴ From 2001 cause of death is classified using the tenth revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death (ICD10). Previous years were coded in the ninth revision (1979-2000) and eighth revision (1970-1978)

⁵ Percentage of all deaths

Table 3: Registered deaths by gender and age, 2009^P

Age	Number of Deaths			Death Rate per 1,000 population ¹		
	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female
All Ages	14,413	6,914	7,499	8.1	7.9	8.2
0	130	69	61	5.1	5.3	4.9
1-4	23	10	13	0.2	0.2	0.3
5-9	16	9	7	0.1	0.2	0.1
10-14	12	8	4	0.1	0.1	0.1
15-19	68	42	26	0.5	0.7	0.4
20-24	87	71	16	0.7	1.0	0.2
25-29	95	67	28	0.8	1.1	0.4
30-34	77	58	19	0.7	1.0	0.3
35-39	139	88	51	1.1	1.4	0.8
40-44	219	139	80	1.7	2.2	1.2
45-49	314	197	117	2.5	3.2	1.8
50-54	419	239	180	3.8	4.4	3.2
55-59	585	354	231	6.0	7.3	4.7
60-64	814	479	335	8.9	10.8	7.1
65-69	1,067	627	440	13.9	17.1	11.0
70-74	1,472	788	684	23.4	27.2	20.2
75-79	1,977	1,052	925	39.5	49.3	32.3
80-84	2,450	1,147	1,303	67.8	84.7	57.6
85-89	2,385	935	1,450	116.7	139.2	105.7
90+	2,064	535	1,529	241.1	244.3	240.0

^P Provisional Data

¹ Rate calculated using 2009 projected population

Table 4: Registered deaths, stillbirths and major cause of death (ICD10) by Health and Social Care Trust and Local Government District, 2009^P

Area	Deaths					Still- births	Cause of Death							
							Malignant Neoplasms (C00-C97)	Circulatory Diseases			Respir- atory Diseases (J00-J99)	External Causes		
								Total (I00- I99)	Ischaemic Heart Disease (I20-I25)	Cerebro- vascular Disease (I60-I69)		Total (V01-Y98)	Transport Accidents (V01-V99)	Suicide, self-inflicted injury & undetermined intent (X60-X84, Y10-Y34, Y87.0, Y87.2)
Northern Ireland	14,413	6,914	7,499	8.1	130	119	3,885	4,485	2,305	1,175	2,017	805	127	260
Belfast HSCT	3,353	1,563	1,790	10.0	24	25	871	1,043	549	264	491	201	15	72
Belfast	2,738	1,270	1,468	10.2	20	20	706	863	457	222	408	169	13	62
Castlereagh	615	293	322	9.3	4	5	165	180	92	42	83	32	2	10
Northern HSCT	3,510	1,717	1,793	7.7	36	32	965	1,115	586	276	479	190	34	54
Antrim	344	160	184	6.5	6	6	88	97	49	23	51	25	7	7
Ballymena	499	234	265	8.0	4	4	130	165	93	39	65	31	6	4
Ballymoney	243	120	123	8.1	3	2	68	82	39	23	28	13	4	4
Carrickfergus	311	155	156	7.8	3	1	79	107	51	27	51	10	-	2
Coleraine	486	236	250	8.5	4	4	135	160	95	29	59	31	4	7
Cookstown	251	128	123	7.0	3	1	67	84	39	26	35	10	2	4
Larne	289	138	151	9.2	-	1	81	102	59	23	40	14	-	5
Magherafelt	262	136	126	6.0	6	5	87	83	44	19	32	15	3	8
Moyle	148	74	74	8.8	3	2	42	39	18	10	28	7	1	4
Newtownabbey	677	336	341	8.2	4	6	188	196	99	57	90	34	7	9
South Eastern HSCT	2,782	1,300	1,482	8.2	24	22	731	859	421	261	376	128	18	32
Ards	642	305	337	8.3	4	5	184	183	103	42	86	20	3	7
Down	519	242	277	7.4	3	2	137	163	64	55	76	22	5	3
Lisburn	848	394	454	7.4	12	9	226	276	136	86	99	51	8	14
North Down	773	359	414	9.8	5	6	184	237	118	78	115	35	2	8
Southern HSCT	2,530	1,235	1,295	7.3	22	26	746	766	384	200	331	136	30	47
Armagh	475	240	235	8.2	4	2	133	147	67	44	63	22	6	8
Banbridge	330	166	164	7.0	4	4	83	108	62	31	53	17	5	4
Craigavon	688	335	353	7.6	3	6	238	210	111	54	82	30	3	12
Dungannon	405	190	215	7.3	3	4	110	130	64	30	63	21	5	10
Newry & Mourne	632	304	328	6.5	8	10	182	171	80	41	70	46	11	13
Western HSCT	2,238	1,099	1,139	7.5	24	14	572	702	365	174	340	150	30	55
Fermanagh	551	282	269	8.9	3	3	135	181	79	61	81	40	10	11
Limavady	210	116	94	6.2	1	2	61	67	36	13	21	23	5	8
Derry	794	387	407	7.3	12	5	204	225	128	47	127	43	8	18
Omagh	390	186	204	7.5	3	3	100	123	66	29	70	28	2	12
Strabane	293	128	165	7.4	5	1	72	106	56	24	41	16	5	6

^P Provisional Data

¹Rate per 1,000 population. Rate for 2009 calculated using 2008 mid year population estimates

Table 5 Registered deaths by major cause of death (ICD10) 2004 to 2009^P

ICD10 Code	Cause of Death	Year					
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 ^P
A00-Y98	All Causes of Death	14,354	14,224	14,532	14,649	14,907	14,413
A00-B99	Certain Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	149	162	188	184	183	164
C00-D48	Neoplasms	3,835	3,826	3,959	3,992	4,086	3,992
C00-C97	<i>Malignant Neoplasms</i>	3,757	3,735	3,848	3,870	3,971	3,885
D50-D89	All Diseases of the Blood and Blood Forming Organs and Certain Disorders Involving the Immune Mechanism	34	36	31	39	36	28
E00-E90	Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases	248	302	281	299	254	319
E10-E14	<i>Diabetes mellitus</i>	189	224	197	210	181	229
F00-F99	Mental and Behavioural Disorders	370	408	418	514	575	525
F00-F07	<i>Dementia</i>	298	316	335	405	520	472
G00-H95	Diseases of the Nervous System and the Sense Organs	487	484	557	588	600	618
G30	<i>Alzheimer's Disease</i>	251	207	265	291	293	241
I00-I99	Disease of the Circulatory System	5,272	5,002	4,879	4,838	4,752	4,485
I20-I25	<i>Ischaemic Heart Disease</i>	2,775	2,708	2,556	2,494	2,410	2,305
I60-I69	<i>Cerebrovascular Disease</i>	1,435	1,307	1,326	1,325	1,329	1,175
J00-J99	Diseases of the Respiratory System	1,950	1,921	1,982	1,992	2,096	2,017
K00-K93	Diseases of the Digestive System	691	584	646	711	682	686
L00-M99	All Diseases of Skin, Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue	85	115	100	102	109	122
N00-N99	Diseases of the Genitourinary System	364	351	359	381	400	367
O00-O99	Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium	1	1	3	-	-	5
P00-P96	Certain Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period	64	81	54	50	67	60
Q00-Q99	Congenital Malformations, Deformations and Chromosomal Abnormalities	61	82	84	61	74	82
R00-R99	Signs, Symptoms and Abnormal Clinical and Laboratory Findings, N.E.C.	100	108	138	125	139	138
V01-Y98	All External Causes of Morbidity and Mortality	643	761	853	773	854	805
V01-V99	<i>Transport Accidents</i>	161	175	187	172	154	127
X60-X84, Y87.0, Y10-Y34, Y87.2	<i>Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury and Events of Undetermined Intent</i>	146	213	291	242	282	260

^P Provisional

Table 6 Deaths by Health and Social Care Trust and Local Government District, 1979, 1989, 1999, 2005 to 2009^P

Area	Deaths								SMR ¹ (2007-2009) ^P
	1979	1989	1999	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 ^P	
Northern Ireland	16,811	15,844	15,663	14,224	14,532	14,649	14,907	14,413	100
Belfast HSCT	4,861	4,558	3,972	3,393	3,383	3,443	3,517	3,353	111
Belfast	4,193	3,856	3,272	2,761	2,803	2,796	2,889	2,738	117
Castlereagh	668	702	700	632	580	647	628	615	93
Northern HSCT	3,655	3,701	3,839	3,543	3,607	3,651	3,684	3,510	94
Antrim	331	381	400	338	367	396	376	344	101
Ballymena	620	583	597	508	533	527	531	499	90
Ballymoney	219	204	225	209	227	228	225	243	93
Carrickfergus	287	323	318	332	340	408	341	311	103
Coleraine	480	521	528	490	456	455	483	486	89
Cookstown	240	233	264	279	284	264	284	251	101
Larne	333	324	286	295	305	269	292	289	98
Magherafelt	311	307	295	285	286	292	289	262	91
Moyle	154	185	165	142	161	123	149	148	90
Newtownabbey	680	640	761	665	648	689	714	677	93
South Eastern HSCT	2,855	2,710	3,101	2,791	2,745	2,872	2,899	2,782	96
Ards	685	612	755	673	661	731	656	642	96
Down	639	578	598	545	548	537	564	519	95
Lisburn	792	762	901	825	828	819	858	848	95
North Down	739	758	847	748	708	785	821	773	97
Southern HSCT	2,893	2,649	2,566	2,370	2,587	2,392	2,630	2,530	97
Armagh	475	472	467	398	474	445	463	475	100
Banbridge	325	300	343	294	322	296	354	330	90
Craigavon	771	687	672	597	654	601	671	688	94
Dungannon	529	424	411	414	409	399	435	405	101
Newry & Mourne	793	766	673	667	728	651	707	632	97
Western HSCT	2,547	2,226	2,185	2,127	2,210	2,291	2,177	2,238	103
Fermanagh	690	535	550	536	540	544	514	551	101
Limavady	225	210	224	228	227	218	222	210	93
Derry	786	731	700	744	776	800	767	794	110
Omagh	514	411	419	360	369	394	345	390	98
Strabane	332	339	292	259	298	335	329	293	106

^P Provisional

¹ Compares the actual number of deaths occurring in an area with the number expected if the age/sex specific death rates of Northern Ireland were applied to the age/sex groups of each Local Government District. The results are expressed as standardised mortality ratios (SMRs) where the standard ratio for Northern Ireland equals 100. Rates are calculated using 3 years deaths data (2007-2009) and the 2007 and 2008 mid year estimates.

NOTE FOR EDITORS

1. Death figures have been compiled from returns to local registrars. All statistics are provisional with final figures published in the Annual Report of the Registrar General. The results are based on analysis of all deaths registered within the 2009 calendar year and some deaths may have occurred prior to this registration year.
2. Northern Ireland level rates for 2009 data are calculated on the projected home population as at 30 June 2009. Sub-Northern Ireland level rates are calculated on the mid year population estimate at 30 June 2008 as 2008-based projections for areas within Northern Ireland are not yet available.
3. Cause of death is classified using the tenth revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death (ICD10). As is convention, deaths classified under ICD10 as 'events of undetermined intent' along with 'intentional self-harm' are jointly reported as 'suicide'.
4. It is not possible to identify all healthcare-associated infections directly from the ICD but it is possible to collate deaths where MRSA or *Clostridium difficile* was mentioned on the death certificate. Further information on MRSA and *Clostridium difficile* mortality can be found at: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp29.htm>
5. This release gives the number of deaths due to cancer. Information is also available on the number of incidences of cancer from the Northern Ireland Cancer Registry. Further information can be found at: <http://www.qub.ac.uk/nicr>.
6. All media inquiries should be directed to the DFP Press Office
Telephone: 028 9052 7374
Fax: 028 9052 7149
7. Further information on the statistics provided in this publication can be obtained from NISRA Customer Services at:
Telephone: 028 9034 8160
Fax: 028 9034 8161
E-mail: census.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk