



## **Census 2011: Population and Household Estimates by Local Government District for Northern Ireland**

**09:30am – Wednesday, 19 September 2012**

### **Census 2011: Population and Household Estimates for Local Government Districts in Northern Ireland**

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency has today released further results from the 2011 Census, which was held on 27 March 2011. The statistics released today provide estimates of the usually resident population of Northern Ireland on Census Day broken down by age and sex, along with information on the number of households. The information is presented for a number of geographical levels based on Northern Ireland's 26 Local Government Districts (LGDs).

The Census is widely acknowledged as playing a fundamental and unique role in the provision of comprehensive and robust population statistics. Census information is needed to form policy, to plan services for specific groups of people and, especially, to make effective use of resources through distributing them to where they are needed most.

Key users of information from the Census include both central and local government, academia, organisations undertaking research, the private, business and voluntary sectors and the general public.

#### **Key Points:**

- The Census Day population of Northern Ireland's Local Government Districts (LGDs) range from 17,100 in Moyle (0.9 per cent of the Northern Ireland population of 1,810,900) to 281,000 in Belfast (15.5 per cent of the Northern Ireland population).
- The Northern Ireland population has increased by 7 per cent since the 2001 Census. Each of the 26 LGDs in Northern Ireland has experienced population growth in the last decade, ranging from 1 per cent in Belfast and Castlereagh to 21 per cent in Dungannon.
- The number of children (people aged 0-15 years) in Northern Ireland has fallen by 18,700 (5 per cent), from 398,100 in 2001 to 379,300 in 2011. This decrease in the number of children can be seen in 19 of the 26 LGDs, with a reduction of over 10 per cent in Belfast,

Castlereagh, Derry, Limavady and Strabane. Of the 7 LGDs with more children in 2011, the greatest increases were in Banbridge (11 per cent) and Dungannon (9 per cent).

- By way of contrast the number of children in Northern Ireland aged 0-3 years has increased by 10 per cent, from 90,900 in 2001 to 100,300 in 2011. The increase in the number of children aged 0-3 years is reflected in 19 out of the 26 LGDs, most notably in Banbridge, Dungannon and Craigavon (all with increases of 25 per cent or more). Conversely, the remaining 7 LGDs have seen reductions in the numbers of children aged 0-3 years since 2001, most noticeably in Strabane and Coleraine (a reduction of 9 per cent and 7 per cent respectively).
- The number of people aged 85 years and over (85+) has increased since the 2001 Census in every LGD, with the increases ranging from 17 per cent in Belfast to 57 per cent in Ballymoney. The number of people aged 85+ has increased by 50 per cent or more in 7 LGDs (Armagh, Ballymoney, Castlereagh, Cookstown, Dungannon, Limavady and Magherafelt).
- North Down has the oldest age profile in that, of all the LGDs, it has the lowest proportion of children (18 per cent) and the highest proportion of people aged 65 and over (18 per cent). Conversely, Newry & Mourne has the youngest age profile in that, of all the LGDs, it has the highest proportion of children (24 per cent) and one of the lowest proportions of people aged 65 and over (12 per cent). In North Down the number of people aged 65 and over is similar to the number of children (both 14,500), whereas in Newry & Mourne people aged 65 and over (12,300) are out-numbered almost 2 to 1 by children (23,500).
- The number of households has increased since 2001 in every LGD, with the proportionate increases ranging from 3 per cent in Castlereagh to 25 per cent in Dungannon.
- Every LGD has exhibited a trend towards smaller households since 2001, with all LGDs having more one or two person households than in 2001 and most having fewer households containing 5 people or more.
- The average household size in 2011 ranged from 2.29 people in Belfast to 2.98 people in Magherafelt.

## NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. Today's release of results from the 2011 Census will be followed by a number of other planned releases. Further information about these is set out in the [Northern Ireland Census 2011 Output Prospectus](#), which will be regularly updated as the release programme proceeds.
2. A number of supporting papers on the 2011 Census, including a more detailed [Statistics Bulletin](#), are also available on the [NISRA website](#). A new supporting paper, that describes the quality assurance of the Local Government District population figures reported here, was also published today. It can be accessed [here](#). The detailed Census statistics underlying this report can be viewed [here](#).
3. Information on the 2011 Census in England and Wales is available from the [ONS website](#).
4. Information on the 2011 Census in Scotland is available from the [NRS website](#).
5. Census statistics for the United Kingdom will be produced when estimates are available for all countries.
6. We welcome feedback from users on the content, format and relevance of this release. Please send feedback to the email address below.
7. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. © Crown copyright 2012.
8. The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

9. Media enquiries should be addressed to the Department of Finance and Personnel Communications Office on Tel: 028 9016 3390. Out of office hours please contact the Duty Press Officer via pager number 07699 715 440 and your call will be returned.

10. 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

Email: [census.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk](mailto:census.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk)

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