

STATISTICS BULLETIN

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Census 2011: Population and Household Results for Northern Ireland

Please NB:

The population figures that underlie this report have been superseded by those in the 19 September 2012 report; however the summary statistics in this bulletin have not been affected.

For more information please see the [19 September Statistics Bulletin \(Page 26\)](#) and [19 September 2012 report: Census 2011 Population and Household Estimates by Local Government District for Northern Ireland](#)

Summary

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency has today released the first results from the 2011 Census, which was held on 27 March 2011. The statistics 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 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 population on Census Day was 1,810,900 – the highest ever recorded in Northern Ireland.
- Since the 2001 Census, the population has increased by 125,600 (7 per cent). This represents the fastest growth in population between consecutive Censuses since the 1960s.
- In 2001, a person aged 35 would have been in the older half of the population in

Northern Ireland. In 2011 a person would need to have been aged 38 to be in the older half of the population.

- Compared to 2001, the population aged 65 and over has increased by 40,400 (18 per cent). Within this group, the numbers of the most elderly have seen the greatest proportionate increase over the last decade – in 2001 there were 23,300 people aged 85 or more, this has now increased to 31,400 (an increase of 35 per cent over the decade). Compared to 2001, the population aged 16 to 64 has increased by 103,900 (10 per cent). In absolute numbers, the biggest increases have been among the older working ages – there are 93,400 more people aged 40 to 64 (19 per cent) than ten years ago.
- Despite the increase in the overall population of 7 per cent, the number of children has fallen by 18,700 (5 per cent) since the 2001 Census. Within this reduction the numbers of primary school age children (aged 4-10) and compulsory secondary school age children (aged 11-15) have both fallen by 9 per cent. In contrast, the number of pre-school children (aged 0-3) has increased by 10 per cent – reflecting recent increases in fertility.
- The demographic structure of the households in which we live has changed dramatically over recent decades. Fifty years ago, in 1961, 50 per cent of the population lived in households containing 5 or more people, in 2011 only 22 per cent of the population lived in such households. Considering the number of households, in 1961, only 34 per cent of households contained up to 2 people, compared with 58 per cent of households in 2011. Single person households now represent 28 per cent of all households.
- This trend towards smaller household sizes means that the number of households is increasing more rapidly than the number of people. Over the last decade, the number of households has increased by 12 per cent compared to population growth of 7 per cent.

CONTENTS

1	Census Day Population Results	4
2	Population Change Over Time.....	4
	Long-term trends.....	4
	The last 100 years – a comparison between 1911 and 2011.....	4
	The last 100 years – trends over time.....	7
	Trends in the ratios of children and older people to people of working age (i.e. 16-64).....	11
	Household structures – a comparison between 1961 and 2011	12
	The last ten years	14
	The Northern Ireland population in an international context.....	16
	Annex 1	20
	Further Information.....	21
	Background Notes	22

1 Census Day Population Results

- 1.1 The usually resident population of Northern Ireland on Census Day (27 March) 2011 was 1,810,900 people. The population comprised of 887,300 males and 923,500 females, representing 49 per cent and 51 per cent of the population respectively.
- 1.2 The vast majority (99 per cent) of the population in Northern Ireland (1,788,300 people) live in 703,300 private households, giving rise to an average household size of 2.54 people per household. The remaining one per cent of the population (22,500 people) live in communal establishments such as university halls of residence and nursing homes.
- 1.3 The 379,300 children in Northern Ireland (i.e. those aged under 16) accounted for 21 per cent of the population, whereas those aged 65 and over (263,700 people) accounted for 15 per cent. The remaining 64 per cent of the population (1,167,800 people) are aged between 16 and 64.

2 Population Change Over Time

Long-term trends

- 2.1 The 2011 Census Day population of 1,810,900 represents the highest population ever in what is today Northern Ireland. The 1841 pre-famine period peak was 1,649,000 after which each decennial Census saw successive population decline with the population in 1891 estimated at 1,236,100. The next census in 1901 suggested population stability with a similar population estimate of 1,237,000. In the twentieth century, successive Censuses all showed the population increasing, albeit at differing rates of increase. This pattern has continued into the twenty-first century.

The last 100 years – a comparison between 1911 and 2011

- 2.2 Table 1 below shows that the usually resident population of Northern Ireland has increased by an estimated 45 per cent between 1911 (1,250,500 people) and 2011 (1,810,900 people) – an increase of 560,300 people.
- 2.3 Despite this growth in the overall population, there are now fewer children in Northern Ireland than was the case 100 years ago (379,300 in 2011 compared

with 404,400 in 1911). In contrast, the number of people aged 16 to 64 has increased by 59 per cent from 735,200 in 1911 to 1,167,800 in 2011. The population in the older age category of 65 to 84 has more than doubled in the past century (rising from 106,900 in 1911 to 232,300 in 2011 – an increase of 117 per cent). Although the absolute number of people is considerably smaller, there are almost eight times as many people in the 85 and over age category than was the case 100 years ago (31,400 in 2011 compared with 4,100 in 1911 – an increase of 669 per cent).

- 2.4 All of this points to an ageing population, with the proportion of children in the population declining from 32 per cent in 1911 to 21 per cent in 2011. In contrast, the proportion of the population aged 65 and over has increased from 9 per cent to 15 per cent over the same time period.

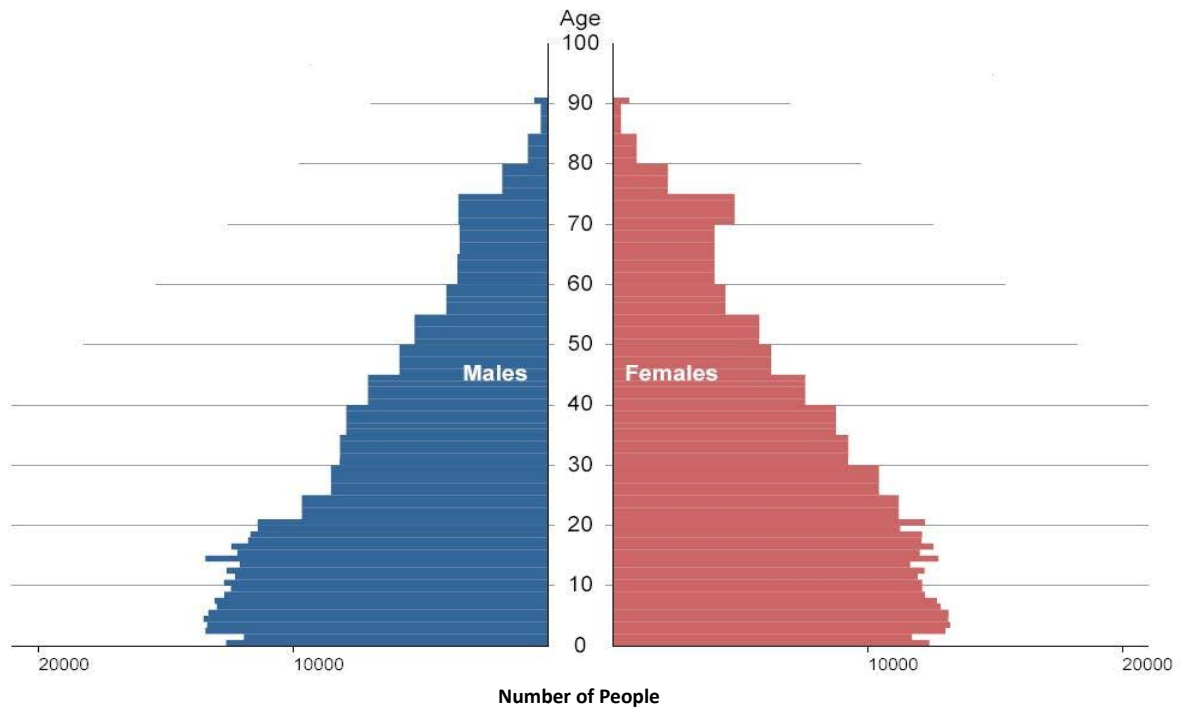
Table 1 – Census Year Population Estimates by Age (1911 and 2011)

Age Group	1911		2011	
	Number	%	Number	%
0-15	404,400	32%	379,300	21%
16-39	467,500	37%	593,800	33%
40-64	267,700	21%	574,000	32%
65-84	106,900	9%	232,300	13%
85+	4,100	0.3%	31,400	1.7%
Total	1,250,500	100%	1,810,900	100%

- 2.5 The population pyramids in Figures 1a and 1b below illustrate how the age structure of the population has changed between 1911 and 2011.
- 2.6 In 1911, the population pyramid for Northern Ireland was indeed a pyramid, with a wide base (proportionately large numbers of very young children) that narrowed almost continuously with increasing age, and proportionately very small numbers of elderly people. The almost continuous narrowing of the 1911 pyramid at all ages reflects high age-specific mortality rates that applied even in childhood at that time. The 2011 population pyramid has a very different shape. The continuous narrowing of the pyramid with increasing age, largely attributable to mortality, starts to become increasingly important from age 50 onwards. Up to the age of 50, the shape of the pyramid now approaches that of a rectangle, with broadly similar numbers at each age. Variability from the basic rectangle, below the age of 50, will be driven by historic fertility and migration

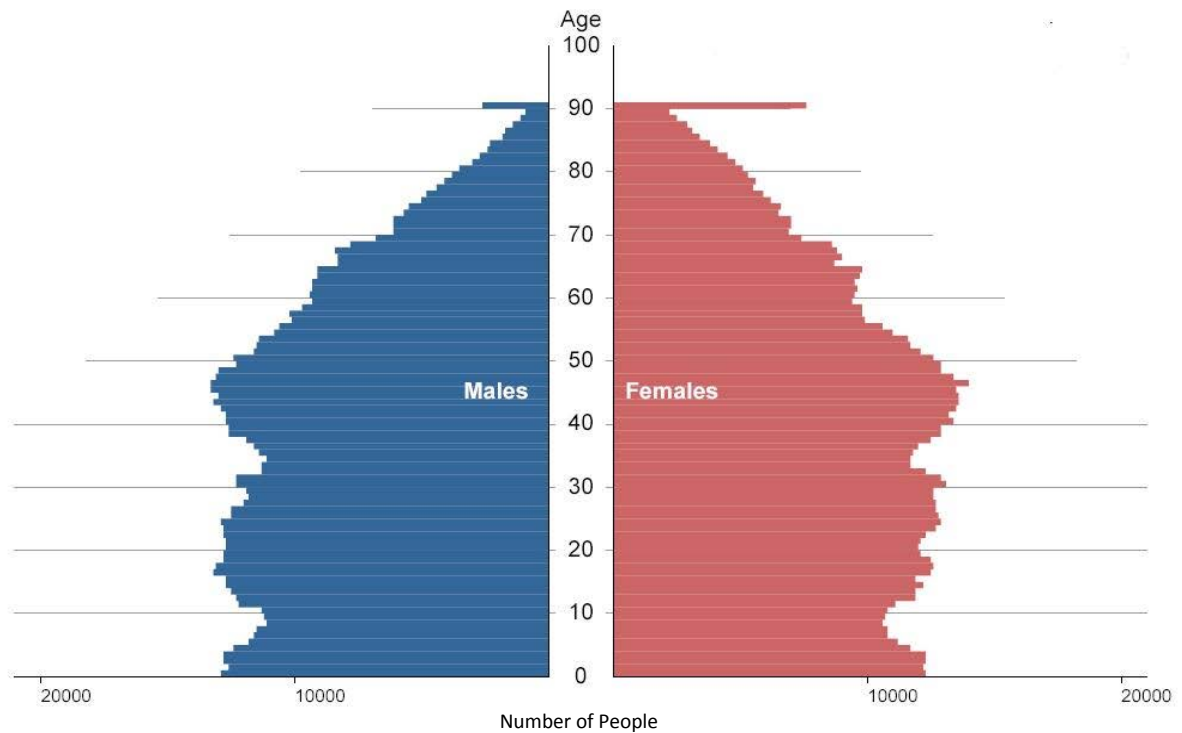
trends. For example, the narrowing of the pyramid (from age 0 to about age 9) and the subsequent widening (to about age 20) reflects the recent increase in fertility seen in the last decade after a period of reducing fertility. The 'sixties baby boom' (a period of high fertility in the 1960s) is still visible with the bulge in the pyramid for people now in their forties. A full series of population pyramids for every Census year since 1911 can be accessed via the following [link](#) and the underlying data can be accessed [here](#).

Figure 1a – Pyramid for 1911 Population Estimates



NB: The 1911 Northern Ireland population is created from aggregating the constituent Counties (Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone) and the Belfast and Londonderry County Boroughs. Population figures by single year of age are available only up to age 20; thereafter, they are grouped for ages 21 to 24 and 5-year age bands thereafter up to the grouped population aged 90 and over. In this pyramid, the population in each age band are distributed evenly over its constituent single years of age.

Figure 1b – Pyramid for 2011 Population Estimates



NB: In this pyramid, the population is displayed by single year of age up to 89 years, thereafter single years of age have been banded to form a 90 and over category.

The last 100 years – trends over time

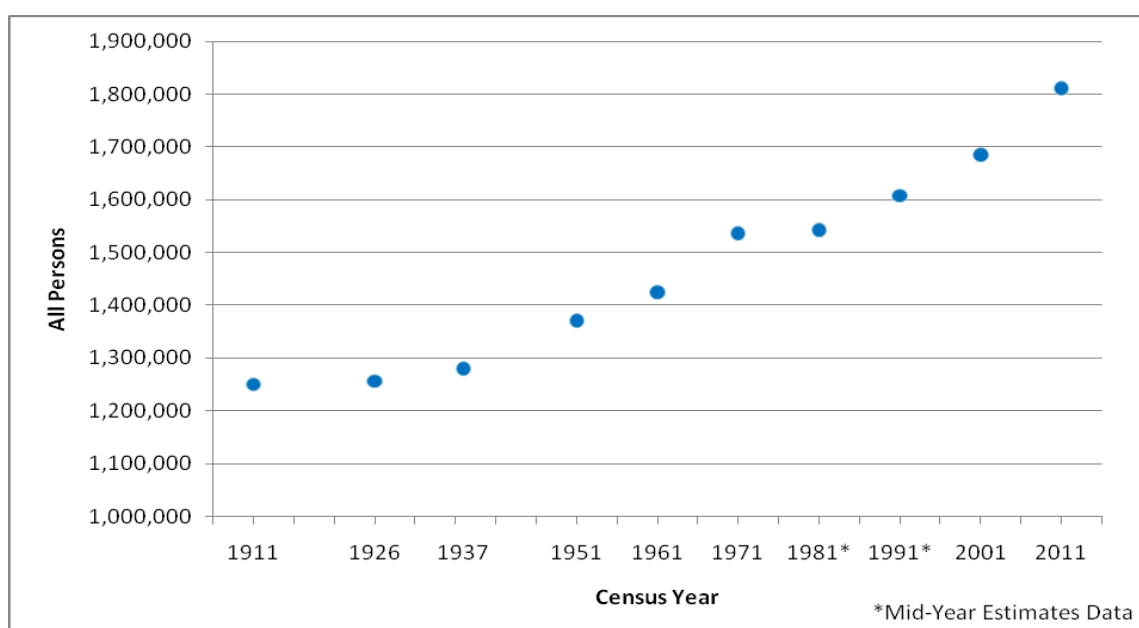
- 2.7 The population of Northern Ireland has increased by 45 per cent over the past 100 years. This section examines how that growth has occurred over the century, and how different age groups have grown or contracted. As shown in Table 2 and Figure 2 below, the rate of increase in the size of the population was fairly stable over the 100 year period although it levelled off slightly in the 1970s, coincident with higher levels of out-migration possibly linked to the troubles.
- 2.8 In the last decade, since the 2001 Census, the population has increased by 125,600 (7 per cent). At an annualised equivalent percentage rate of growth of 0.72 per cent, this represents the fastest inter-censal growth in population since the 1960s (when it was 0.75 per cent per annum).

Table 2 – Census Year Population Estimates (1911 – 2011)

Census Year	All Persons	Annualised Equivalent Percentage Rate of Growth	
1911	1,250,500	-	-
1926	1,256,600	1911-1926	0.03%
1937	1,279,700	1926-1937	0.17%
1951	1,370,900	1937-1951	0.49%
1961	1,425,000	1951-1961	0.39%
1971	1,536,100	1961-1971	0.75%
1981*	1,543,000	1971-1981	0.05%
1991*	1,607,300	1981-1991	0.41%
2001	1,685,300	1991-2001	0.48%
2011	1,810,900	2001-2011	0.72%

*Mid-Year Estimates Data

Figure 2 – Census Year Population Estimates (1911 – 2011)



NB: The base for the Y axis is 1,000,000

2.9 Figures 3a and 3b below show how the age structure of the population has changed between Census years over the last century (supporting information is provided through Tables 6a and 6b in Annex 1).

2.10 The number of children peaked in 1971 at 483,900 (79,500 more than in 1911), representing 31 per cent of the population. Thereafter, the number of children fell in each decade to a low of 379,300 in 2011, when they represented 21 per cent of the population.

2.11 The number of young working-age adults (i.e. those aged 16-39) varied in the first half of the century from a high of 474,200 in 1937 when they represented 37 per cent of the population, to a low of 451,700 in 1961 when they accounted for 32 per cent. In the second half of the century, while the number of young adults progressively increased each decade to a high of 593,800 in 2011, their proportional representation peaked at 36 per cent in 1991.

Figure 3a – Census Year Population Estimates by Age (1911 – 2011)

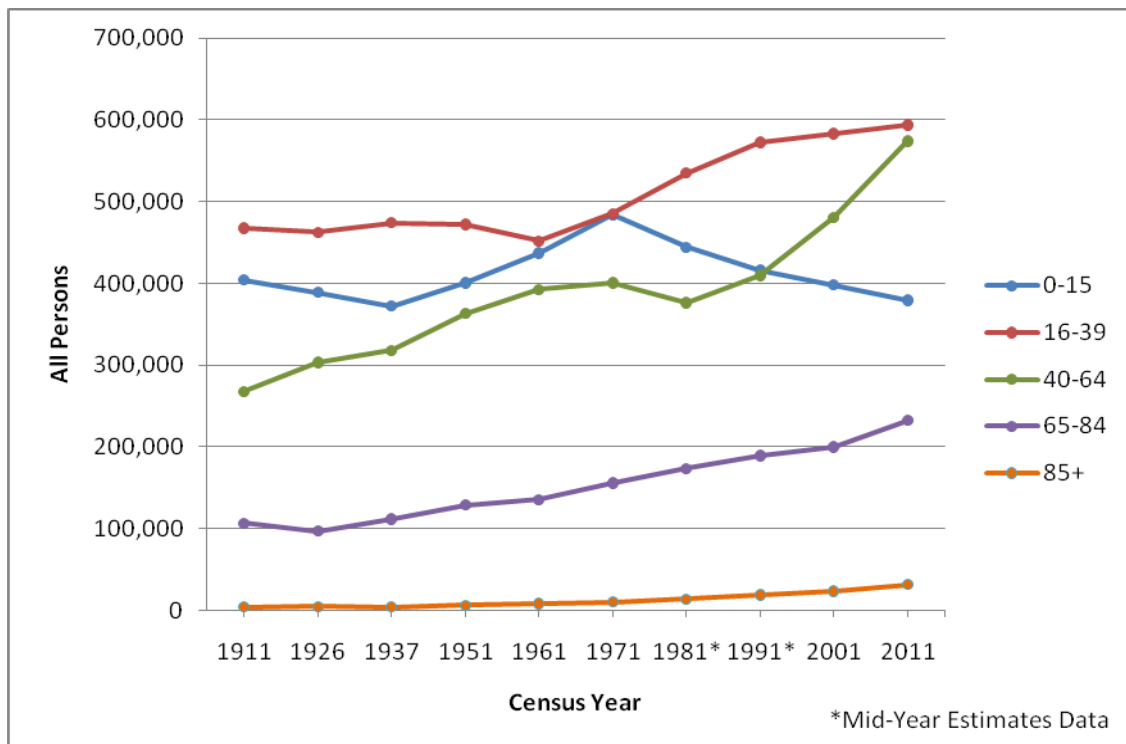
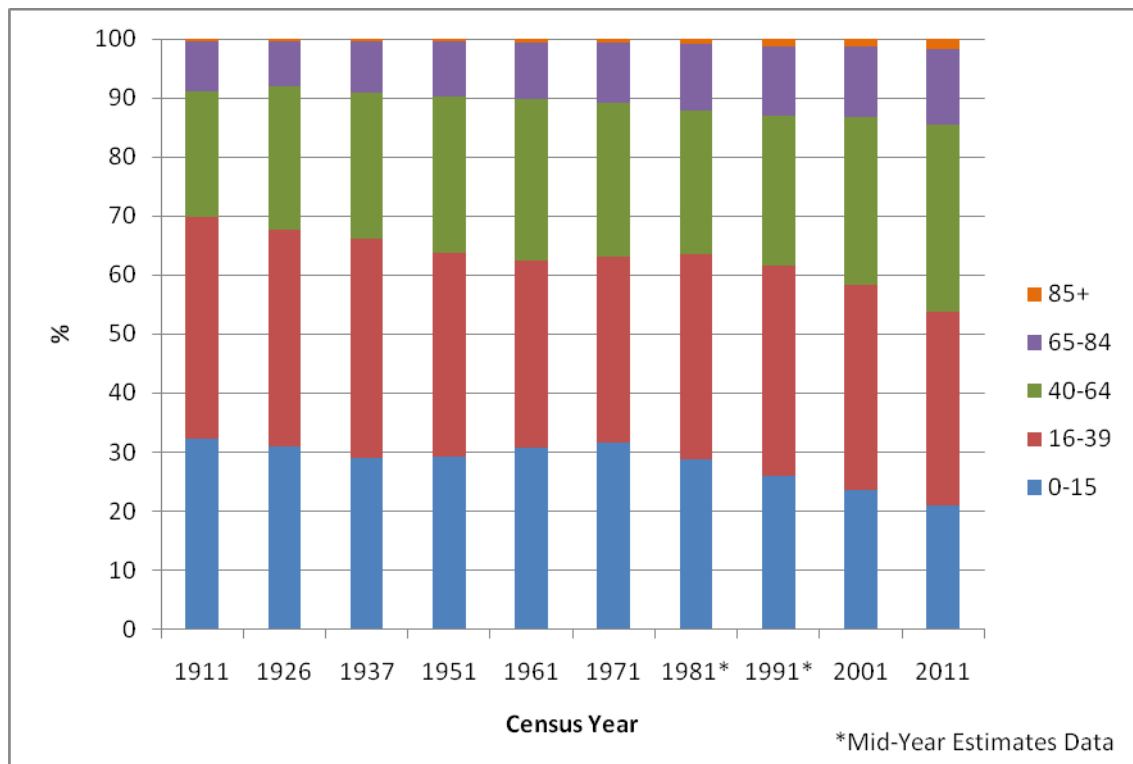


Figure 3b – Census Year Population Proportions by Age (1911 – 2011)



2.12 The number of older working-age adults (i.e. those aged 40-64) has more than doubled over the past 100 years from 267,700 to 574,000 - an increase of 114 per cent. This age group represented 21 per cent of the population in 1911, and now represents 32 per cent of the population. The growth of the population in this age group has been most marked over the last 20 years, rising from 409,900 in 1991 to 574,000 (an increase of 40 per cent) in a relatively short period of time.

2.13 The number of people aged 65 to 84 has also more than doubled over the last 100 years, from 106,900 to 232,300 – an increase of 117 per cent. Apart from a dip in absolute numbers between 1911 and 1926, the numbers of people aged 65 to 84 has increased with every subsequent Census – the increase was most marked between 2001 and 2011 with the number of people increasing by 16 per cent. Proportionately, the representation of people in this age category has increased from 9 per cent to 13 per cent over the course of the century.

2.14 For those aged 85 and over, there was a small drop in absolute numbers between the 1926 (4,800) and 1937 (4,200) Censuses – this may be a similar phenomenon to the drop in those aged 65 to 84 between 1911 and 1926. Since

then the numbers of those aged 85 and over have increased with every Census, rising to 8,400 in 1961 and now to 31,400. Over the last 50 years, the number of people aged 85 and over has doubled approximately every 25 years, leading to a near quadrupling of their numbers over the last 50 years.

2.15 The ageing of the population over the last century can be observed through the median age of the population. The median age is the age about which half of the population are younger and half of the population are older. Table 3 below shows the long-term trend in median age. In 1911, the median age of the population was 25 years of age. Apart from a reduction between 1961 and 1971, the median age of the population has increased at every Census and now stands at 37 years of age.

2.16 Considering the last decade, in 2001 a person aged 35 would have been in the older half of the population – in 2011 a person would need to have been aged 38 to be in the older half of the population.

Table 3 – Median Age of the Population by Sex (1911 – 2011)

Northern Ireland Census Year Population Estimates - Median Age (in years)										
	1911	1926	1937	1951	1961	1971	1981*	1991*	2001	2011
All	25	26	28	29	30	28	29	31	34	37
Male	24	25	27	28	28	26	27	29	33	36
Female	26	27	29	30	31	30	31	32	35	38

*Mid-Year Estimates Data

Trends in the ratios of children and older people to people of working age (i.e. 16-64)

2.17 Figure 4 below shows trends over the last 100 years in two population ratios. The first ratio is the number of children (aged under 16) expressed as a percentage of the number of people of working age (i.e. 16-64).

$$\frac{\text{Number of children (aged under 16)}}{\text{Number of people of working age (aged 16 to 64)}} \times 100$$

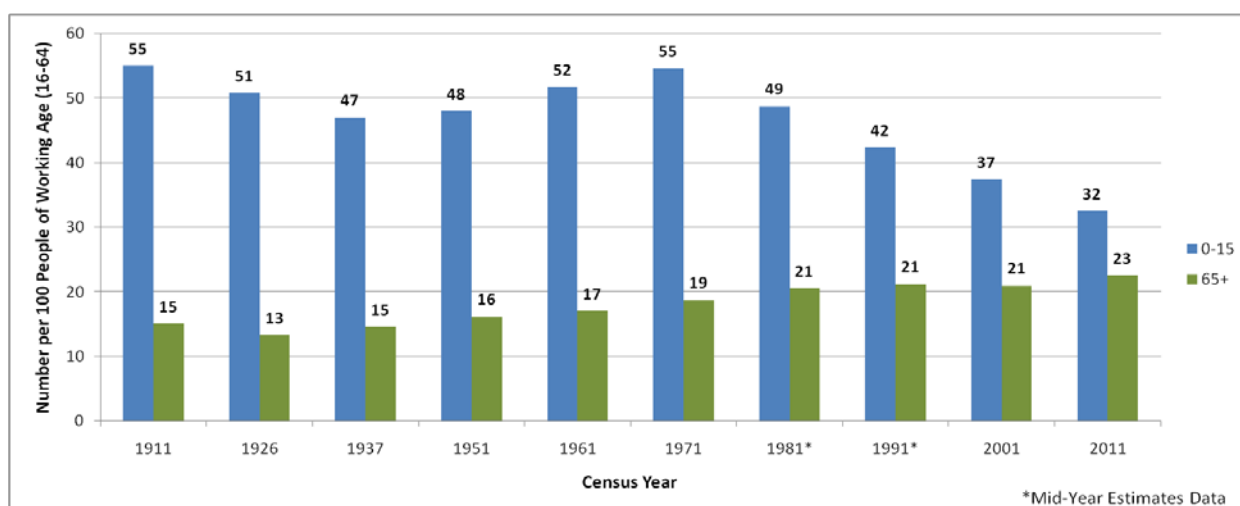
2.18 The second ratio is the number of people aged 65 or more expressed as a percentage of the number of people of working age (i.e. 16-64).

$$\frac{\text{Number of people aged 65 or more}}{\text{Number of people of working age (aged 16 to 64)}} \times 100$$

2.19 These percentages can be re-stated as the number of children or older people per 100 people aged 16 to 64. In a simple way, given that most children and older people are economically inactive, these percentages could be interpreted as the number of children or older people who are 'dependent' on people aged 16 to 64. The reality is of course much more complex, since – to give just a few reasons - many people aged 16 to 64 are unemployed or economically inactive and the age at which people retire varies greatly. However, these 'dependency' ratios are an informative way of examining the population figures.

2.20 Figure 4 below shows that the children 'dependency' ratio has fallen from 55 children per 100 people aged 16 to 64 (1911) to 32 children (2011), with the decline most marked in the last 40 years, since 1971. Conversely the number of people aged over 65 for every 100 people aged 16 to 64 has risen from 15 (1911) to 23 (2011) with near continuous growth since 1937.

Figure 4 – Ratio of Children and People Aged 65 and Over per 100 Adults of Working Age (i.e. 16-64)



Household structures – a comparison between 1961 and 2011

2.21 Table 4 and Figure 5 below show how the household structure of the population has also changed since 1961. There are no comparable statistics from the 1911 Census.

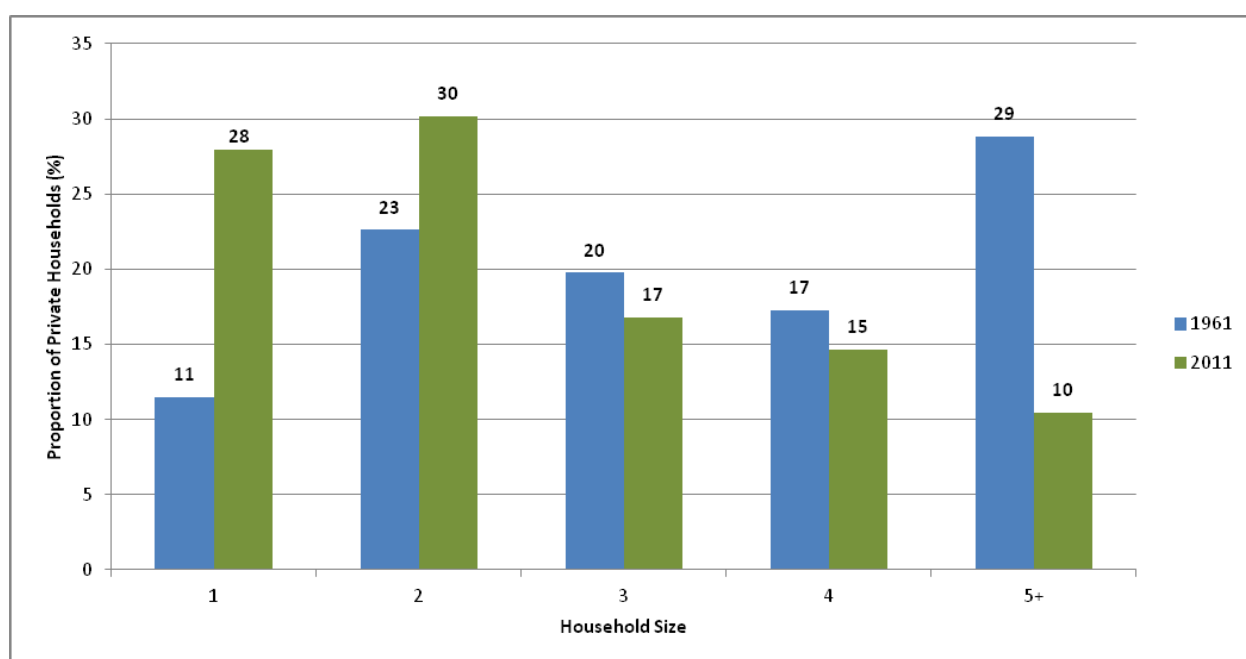
2.22 For example, in 2011 some 28 per cent of households were single occupancy and, at the other end of the scale, approximately 10 per cent were occupied by at least 5 people. In 1961 the reverse was broadly the case with 12 per cent of households having only one usual resident and 29 per cent having 5 or more usual residents.

2.23 In terms of the population, 15 per cent of the population in 1961 were living in one or two person households. This compares with a figure of 35 per cent in 2011. In terms of larger households, half of the population in 1961 (50 per cent) lived in households with 5 or more residents. This compares with a figure of 22 per cent in 2011.

Table 4 – Household Structures in 1961 and 2011

Household Size	1961				2011			
	Usual Residents		Private Households		Usual Residents		Private Households	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1	42,800	3%	42,800	11%	196,400	11%	196,400	28%
2	168,700	12%	84,300	23%	424,600	24%	212,300	30%
3	221,100	16%	73,700	20%	353,800	20%	117,900	17%
4	257,900	19%	64,500	17%	412,500	23%	103,100	15%
5+	688,000	50%	107,500	29%	401,000	22%	73,500	10%
Total	1,378,500	100%	372,800	100%	1,788,300	100%	703,300	100%

Figure 5 – Distribution of Household Size (1961 and 2011)



C Stemming from a rounding issue, some of the 1961 figures originally contained in Table 4 & Figure 5 were incorrect by the equivalent of one percentage point. These were corrected in November 2013.

The last ten years

- 2.24 Focussing on the last decade, since the 2001 Census, the population has increased from 1,685,300 to 1,810,900, an increase of about 125,600 (7 per cent).
- 2.25 The age structure of the population has continued to become older over the past 10 years, and the median age has increased from 34 years to 37 years. The population aged 16 to 64 has increased by 103,900 (10 per cent). However as Figure 6a below shows, the number of people aged 16 to 39 has increased from 583,300 to 593,800 – an increase of 2 per cent. By way of contrast, the number of people aged 40 to 64 has increased from 480,500 to 574,000 – an increase of 19 per cent. The population aged 65 and over has increased by 40,400 (18 per cent). Within this group, while the number of people aged 65 to 84 has increased by 16 per cent, the largest percentage increase in population over the last ten years has been among those aged 85 and over, rising from 23,300 to 31,400 – an increase of 35 per cent.
- 2.26 Figure 6a also shows that since 2001, the number of children (people aged under 16) has declined from 398,100 to 379,300, when the population as a whole has increased by 7 per cent. However Figure 6b shows that while the number of primary school age children (aged 4-10) and the number of compulsory secondary school age children (aged 11-15) have both declined by 9 per cent since 2001, the number of pre-school children (aged 0-3) has increased by 10 per cent (from 90,900 to 100,300).

Figure 6a - Census Year Population Estimates by Age (2001 and 2011)

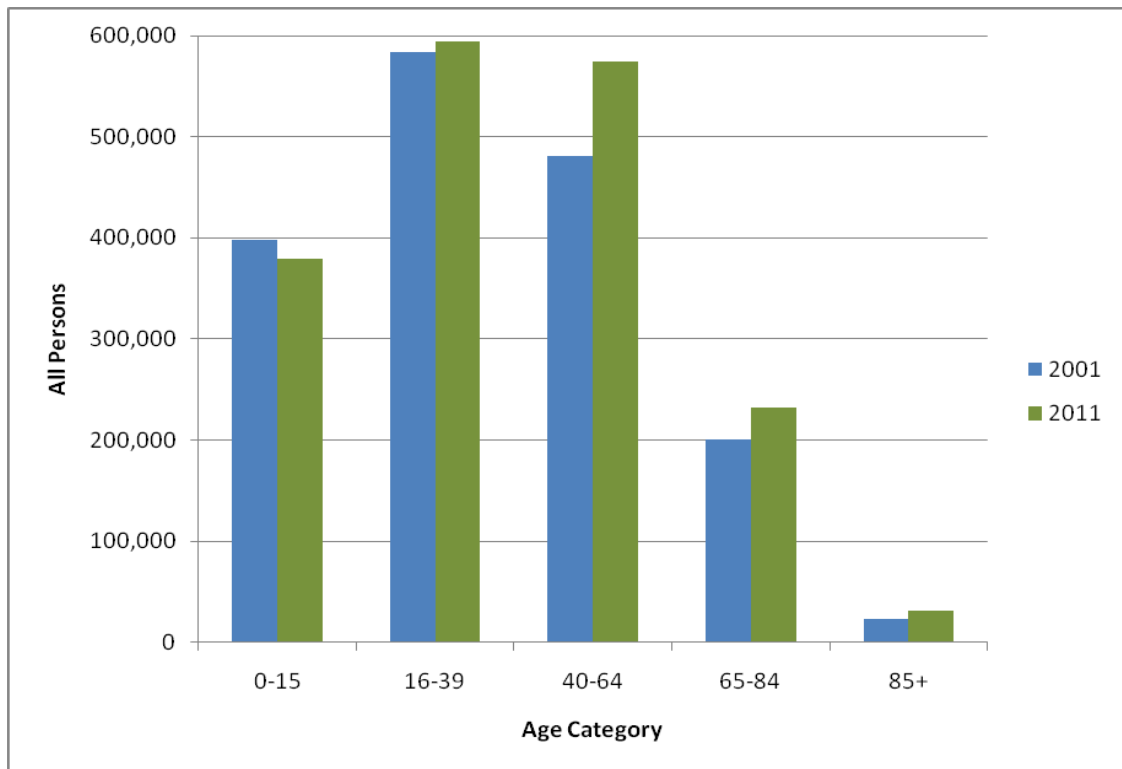
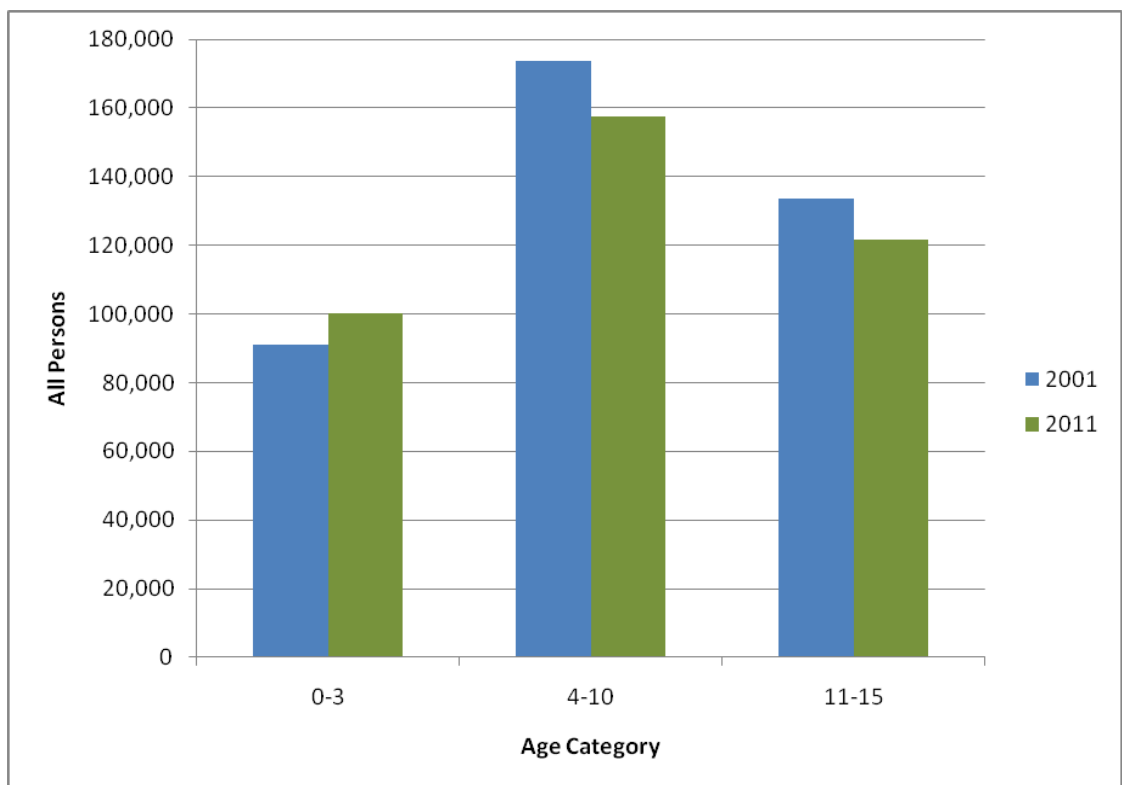


Figure 6b - Census Year Population Estimates of Those Aged 0-15 (2001 and 2011)



2.27 Over the last decade, between the 2001 and 2011 Censuses, there have been 232,100 births registered in Northern Ireland and 142,800 deaths. Thus what is

termed 'natural growth' has contributed 89,300 people to Northern Ireland population growth since the 2001 Census. The remaining growth can be attributed to migration.

- 2.28 The number of households has increased by 12 per cent in the last ten years, compared to an increase in the population of 7 per cent. This faster rate of increase in the number of households compared to the population has implications for the delivery of services to households.

The Northern Ireland population in an international context

- 2.29 This section places the structure of the Northern Ireland population in an international context, using data from the European Union (EU) for three demographic statistics, namely, the percentage of the population that is aged 0 to 14, 15 to 64 and 65+. The information in the body of Table 5 below reflects the position as of 1 January 2010 and as such precedes the 2010/2011 round of Censuses across Europe.
- 2.30 Considering the EU as a whole, Table 5 below shows that Northern Ireland has a relatively young population with 20 per cent of the population aged 0 to 14 compared with 16 per cent for the EU, while 15 per cent of the Northern Ireland population is aged 65 and over, compared with 17 per cent for the EU as a whole. Figures 7a, 7b and 7c show the distribution across the 27 EU member states of these three demographic statistics, with the relevant statistics for Northern Ireland placed within these distributions. They again demonstrate that, in the context of the 27 EU member states, Northern Ireland has a relatively young population.

Table 5 – Population Age Structure in Northern Ireland Compared with EU Countries

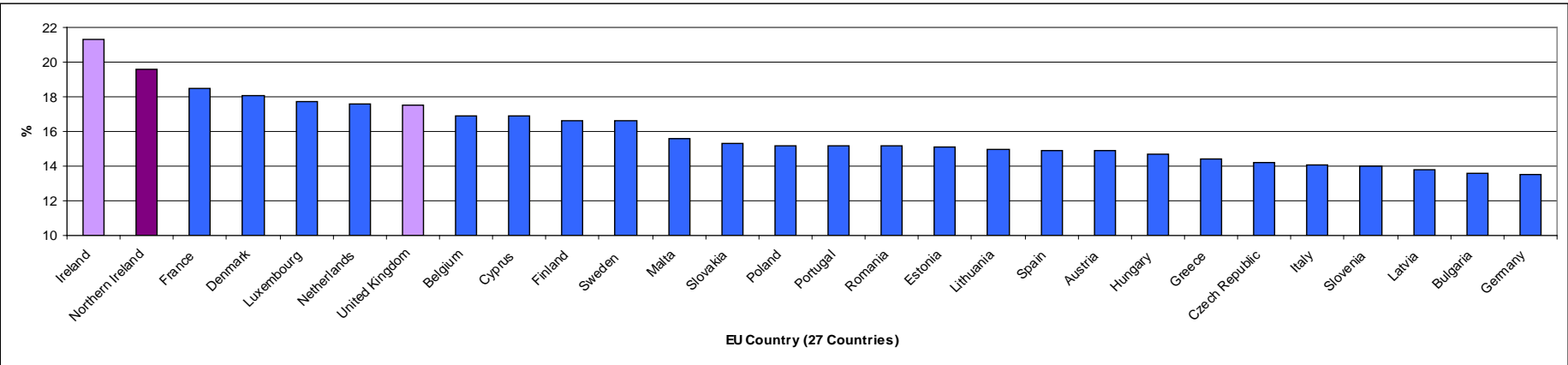
	Population Age Structure (% of the total population)		
	Aged 0-14	Aged 15-64	Aged 65+
<i>Northern Ireland Census 2011 Estimates</i>	20	66	15
<i>EU (27 countries)</i>	16(p)	67(p)	17(p)
Belgium	17	66	17
Bulgaria	14	69	18
Czech Republic	14	71	15
Denmark	18	66	16
Germany	14	66	21
Estonia (1)	15	68	17
Ireland	21	67	11
Greece	14	67	19
Spain	15	68	17
France	19(p)	65(p)	17(p)
Italy	14	66	20
Cyprus	17	70	13
Latvia	14	69	17
Lithuania	15	69	16
Luxembourg	18	68	14
Hungary	15	69	17
Malta	16	70	15
Netherlands	18	67	15
Austria	15	68	18
Poland	15	71	14
Portugal	15	67	18
Romania	15	70	15
Slovenia	14	69	17
Slovakia	15	72	12
Finland	17	66	17
Sweden	17	65	18
United Kingdom	18(p)	66(p)	17(p)

(1) The population of unknown age is redistributed for calculating the age structure

(p): Provisional

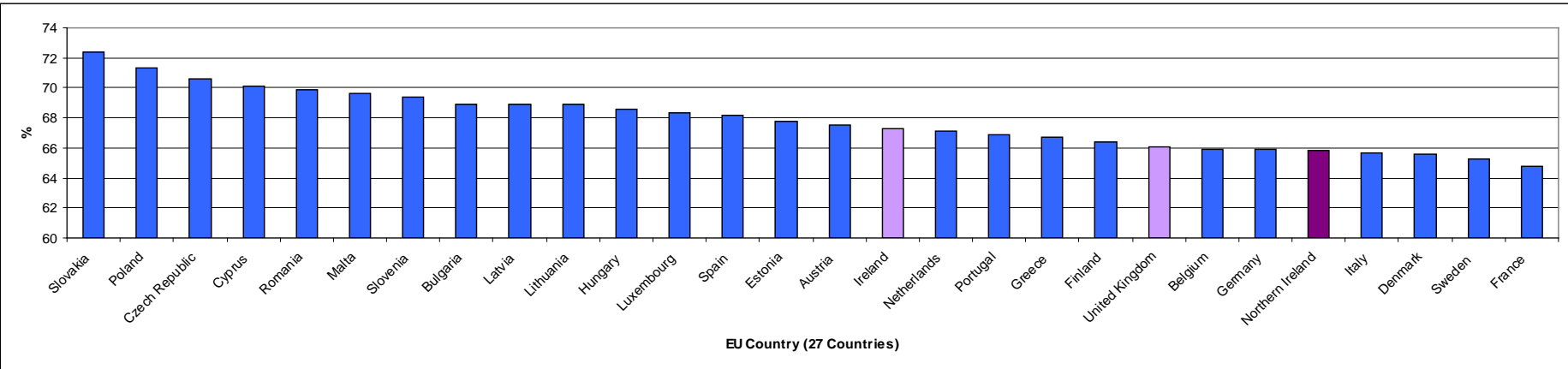
Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_pjanind) - 2010 Data, as of 1 January 2010

Figure 7a – Proportion of Those Aged 0-14 in Northern Ireland and EU Countries



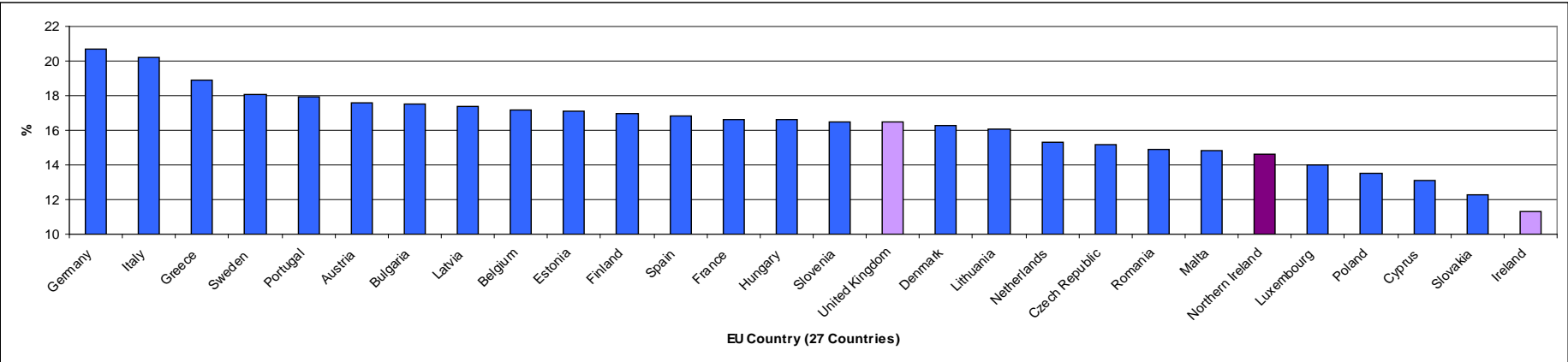
NB: The base for the Y axis is 10%
 Source for Northern Ireland data: Northern Ireland Census 2011 Population Estimates
 Source for EU data: Eurostat 2010 Population Estimates as of 1 January 2010.

Figure 7b – Proportion of Those Aged 15-64 in Northern Ireland and EU Countries



NB: The base for the Y axis is 60%
 Source for Northern Ireland data: Northern Ireland Census 2011 Population Estimates
 Source for EU data: Eurostat 2010 Population Estimates as of 1 January 2010.

Figure 7c – Proportion of Those Aged 65 and over in Northern Ireland and EU Countries



NB: The base for the Y axis is 10%
 Source for Northern Ireland data: Northern Ireland Census 2011 Population Estimates
 Source for EU data: Eurostat 2010 Population Estimates as of 1 January 2010.

Annex 1

Table 6a – Census Year Population Estimates by Age (1911 – 2011)

Northern Ireland Census Population Estimates										
	1911	1926	1937	1951	1961	1971	1981*	1991*	2001	2011
0-15	404,400	388,900	372,100	400,700	437,000	483,900	444,100	416,500	398,100	379,300
16-39	467,500	462,300	474,200	472,300	451,700	485,400	534,900	572,600	583,300	593,800
40-64	267,700	303,600	317,900	363,000	392,400	400,800	376,400	409,900	480,500	574,000
65-84	106,900	97,000	111,500	128,900	135,500	155,600	173,500	189,100	200,000	232,300
85+	4,100	4,800	4,200	6,100	8,400	10,400	14,100	19,200	23,300	31,400
All Persons	1,250,500	1,256,600	1,279,700	1,370,900	1,425,000	1,536,100	1,543,000	1,607,300	1,685,300	1,810,900

*Mid-Year Estimates Data

Table 6b – Census Year Population Proportions by Age (1911 – 2011)

Northern Ireland Census Population Estimates – Proportions										
	1911	1926	1937	1951	1961	1971	1981*	1991*	2001	2011
0-15	32%	31%	29%	29%	31%	31%	29%	26%	24%	21%
16-39	37%	37%	37%	34%	32%	32%	35%	36%	35%	33%
40-64	21%	24%	25%	26%	28%	26%	24%	26%	29%	32%
65-84	9%	8%	9%	9%	10%	10%	11%	12%	12%	13%
85+	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%	0.7%	0.9%	1.2%	1.4%	1.7%
All Persons	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

*Mid-Year Estimates Data

Further Information

This first release of results from the 2011 Census will be followed by a number of other planned releases. Further information about these are set out in the [Northern Ireland 2011 Census prospectus](#), which will be regularly updated as the release programme unfolds. Phase 2 of the first release is currently scheduled for September 2012, and will provide an estimate of the number of people (by single year of age and sex) for Northern Ireland at the following levels: Local Government District, Health and Social Care Trust and Education and Library Board.

A number of technical papers on the 2011 Census methodology are also published today. They are available on the [NISRA website](#). These include:

- [Quality Assurance Report](#)
- [Methodology Overview Paper](#)
- [Census Report laid before the Assembly](#)
- [Population Pyramids – 1911 to 2011](#) (visualisation)

Information on the 2011 Census in England and Wales is available from the [ONS website](#).

Information on the 2011 Census in Scotland is available from the [NRS website](#).

Census statistics for the United Kingdom will be produced when estimates are available for all countries.

Background Notes

1. The Mid-Year Estimates (MYEs) are an annual series of population estimates. They are on a consistent basis and, accordingly, population change over time should be measured through the MYEs. Up to 1971, the Census statistics are the MYEs for the relevant Census years. In recent years, it has become acknowledged that the Census may not include every person and hence subsequent MYEs, while based on the Census, have incorporated adjustments to the Census. Thus, in particular, the MYEs for 1981 and 1991 differ from the Census statistics to allow for estimated Census under-enumeration. In 1991, this amounted to 30,000 people. Accordingly, the information presented in this report for the 1981 and 1991 Census years are the MYEs rather than the Census results.
2. In 2001, adjustments for Census under-enumeration were built into the Census process and as such the 2001 Census statistics represent the full population. The difference between the 2001 MYE and 2001 Census count (about 4,000 people) is largely explained by the timing difference between Census Day (29 April) and the mid-year date (30 June). Similarly, the 2011 Census statistics have been adjusted for Census under-enumeration and reflect the full population.
3. When the MYEs for 2011 become available, it will be recommended that population change between 2001 and 2011 is addressed through the MYEs. In the interim, the adjustments made to the 2001 and 2011 Censuses for under-enumeration, mean that population change over the decade can be examined robustly through comparison of the 2001 and 2011 Censuses.
4. The numbers presented in this report may not sum to the total as all figures have been rounded to the nearest 100. Similarly, percentages have generally been rounded to the nearest whole number to ease readership. The data from the 2011 Census have yet to be subjected to further processes to ensure respondent confidentiality in future releases. Any changes introduced by these processes are likely to be small and within the limits of the rounding that has been applied.
5. One of the key uses of the decennial Census is to provide a benchmark for the estimated population. NISRA plans to re-calibrate the 2001 Census based mid-

year population estimates series on the basis of the 2011 Census data, which is particularly useful to track population change over time. The results of this will be published in due course.

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 review to ensure they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. © Crown copyright 2012.
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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:

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