

**census**  
2021

# **2021 Census Outputs: Dissemination Approach, Release Phases, and Content Design**

**CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

**CENSUS OFFICE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Consultation will close midnight on 26 November 2021**

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## 1. Introduction

Census Office within the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) is statutorily responsible for conducting the local census of population and housing. This consultation will allow NISRA to gather the views of users on the proposed strategy for disseminating 2021 Census results, including the proposals for the content design and release phases. NISRA want to build on the success of the data collection phase of the 2021 Census to ensure that the statistical outputs reflect the needs of users.

This document outlines our proposed design for 2021 Census statistical outputs. Specifically, the order in which we propose to release the census statistics, and the way statistics will be made available to users. Further detail on the consultation topics are included in Section 2 of this document. Your response to this consultation is important and feedback will help us finalise the development of the 2021 Census outputs plan.

The outputs plan is based on:

- The evaluation of the design and delivery of 2011 Census output content;
- The evaluation of the responses received from the previous Outputs Strategy Consultation in 2018;
- Our current knowledge and understanding of potential technological and methodological solutions;
- Our current understanding of affordability; and
- Our aspirations for linking administrative data with the 2021 Census data to produce enhanced census outputs.

Final plans will reflect thorough review of responses to this consultation but will also have to take cognisance of available resource and feasibility.

The information presented in this document specifically refers to the design of the census in Northern Ireland, unless otherwise stated.

Census Office are working closely with the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the National Records of Scotland (NRS) to ensure UK comparability of and access to results, where possible and appropriate. Census Office are also working with colleagues in the Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ireland, to produce, where possible and appropriate, key statistics for the island of Ireland.

### 1.1. Consultation – how we would like you to respond

The consultation questionnaire is structured into sections in the same way as this document. As a result, if you only wish to consult on certain aspects of the proposals, you can easily find the corresponding sections of the questionnaire.

**NISRA's preferred method for you to respond to this consultation is [online](#).** If you wish to respond on paper or by email, please download and complete the 2021 Census Outputs Consultation Questionnaire from the NISRA website ([PDF](#) or [Microsoft Word](#) version).

If you wish to respond to this consultation using a paper questionnaire, responses can be scanned and returned to the email or posted to the addresses cited below:

Email: [2021census.consultation@nisra.gov.uk](mailto:2021census.consultation@nisra.gov.uk)

Post: Census Office  
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency  
Colby House  
Stranmillis Court  
Belfast  
BT9 5RR

**Responses to this consultation are invited until midnight on 26 November 2021.**

### 1.2. Moderation policy

In the interests of transparency, NISRA will publish all responses to the 2021 Census Outputs consultation. This will include the name of the responding organisation or individual, but only if you have provided consent for your name or organisation name to be published. We will not publish personal contact details.

Responses to this consultation will remain publicly available; therefore, NISRA will implement a moderation policy to ensure that responses are appropriate and not harmful to others. Moderation will occur in accordance with the terms below.

Responses which include any of the following may be deleted:

- Threats or incitements to violence;
- Use of obscenity;
- Sectarian language;
- Duplicative or substantially duplicative postings by the same person or entity;

- Postings seeking employment or containing advertisements for a commercial product or service; or
- Information posted in violation of law, including libel, condoning or encouraging illegal activity, revealing classified information, or infringing on a copyright or trademark.

Moderators reserve the right to remove responses which do not address some aspect of the purpose of this consultation. We deeply value your time and input, and our desire is to remove as few responses as possible while ensuring that a focused, constructive consultation takes place.

This moderation policy may be subject to change to address additional matters as may be warranted. If you have a complaint about any user comments that have been published on this site, or if you feel that your own content was removed in error, please contact us at [2021census.consultation@nisra.gov.uk](mailto:2021census.consultation@nisra.gov.uk) or call 0800 328 2021.

### 1.3. Future user engagement

We are actively engaging with users on all aspects of census output content and dissemination mechanisms throughout the design phases until the publication of outputs following the 2021 Census. In the future, we will ask users to reflect on the utility of 2021 Census data after its release.

#### **UK 2021/22 census data**

A user working group has been set up for UK Census data for 2021 and 2022. The purpose of this group is to provide a forum for sharing information and feedback between the three UK Census Offices and UK Census data users.

This group is looking for UK Census data users, from Northern Ireland in particular, to understand what UK data they are using and what UK data would be useful. If you use UK Census data and wish to contribute to this group or you know of any individual or organisation in Northern Ireland that currently use such data and may be interested in participating in this group, please get in touch with [census@nisra.gov.uk](mailto:census@nisra.gov.uk).

Being part of this working group will help shape the provision of future UK Census data. For users in Northern Ireland this resource could enhance their research, provide greater insight and inform better decision making. More information on UK census data can be found on the [NISRA website](#).

## 2. Consultation topics

This section details the consultative topics and is split in to eight different sub-sections.

### 2.1. Methods of dissemination

When planning the shape of the outputs dissemination, we considered feedback that we received from users following the [2018 consultation](#).

The standard results from the 2021 Census will be provided via two main methods, described below. Data extracts from both these systems will be mainly “flat files” of the information; these are readily imported into analysis software (open office, excel etc.).

#### Pre-defined tables

A phased release of a core set of pre-defined tables, similar to the standard tables in 2011 ([Key Statistics](#), [Quick Statistics](#), [Detailed Characteristics](#) and [Local Characteristics](#)), will be freely available online in the PxStat system. PxStat is a new data dissemination system [developed by CSO, Ireland](#) with the support of the PC-Axis Reference Group and the collaboration of the Open Source community. It originates from the PC-Axis software [developed in Statistics Sweden](#).

PxStat will allow for an element of flexibility within each of the pre-defined tables, with users able to filter using the variables in the table and/or particular geographic areas (if the table includes geographies) to best suit their needs.

A video demonstrating this system is planned to be made available on the main consultation page after the main consultation event.

#### Flexible table builder

Alongside the pre-defined tables, Census Office plan to introduce a safe and secure flexible dissemination system. To achieve this, Census Office are working with the ONS to develop an interactive table builder that will allow users to define their own tables, with the flexibility to select the geography, population base, and variables required.

This ‘build-your-own’ tables system will collect user requests, create the outputs, and apply disclosure control to the final table. Concurrently, it will run checks to determine whether the resulting outputs are potentially disclosive and, therefore, whether they can be provided to the user or not.

This means, for any specific request of data, the result may be that the data can be provided for some but not all areas requested. This is more likely to occur where:

- Multiple variables have been combined;
- The most detailed classifications have been requested; or
- The smaller geographical areas have been requested.

The creation of data using this capability will be an iterative process for users. It is expected that users will experiment with what can be provided for each area. It does not mean that users will definitely be able to obtain the data requested. As a guide, as one aspect of a table increases in complexity, another aspect is likely to need to decrease in complexity.

Tables will not include totals or subtotals. It should also be noted that the cell key perturbation method that will be applied to 2021 Census outputs as part of the disclosure control methodology, can lead to slightly different estimates depending on the structure of the table.

The table builder is still undergoing testing for both data load resilience and security, meaning a demonstration of the system is not yet available.

### **Other means of dissemination**

Users who require more specialist products such as microdata (including Secure, Safeguarded and teaching files) may be able to access these via secure mechanisms such as the NISRA Research Support Unit (RSU), and the ONS Secure Research Service.

**Consultation:** We would like views on the main two proposed methods of dissemination: the PxStat system and the flexible table builder. Do the systems meet users' needs?

## **2.2. Release schedule**

The content of the data release phases, and broad timeline, are outlined in this section. The exact timing of the release of outputs will depend upon the processing and quality assurance of census data, and will be announced closer to the time of release.

Respondents to the [2018 consultation](#) were largely in favour of the proposal to publish a first release of Population and Household estimates by summer 2022, with all other planned releases being published by summer 2023. The proposals represent a significant improvement from 2011, when the equivalent releases spanned nearly three years.

### **Pre-defined tables**

The first three releases comprise pre-defined univariate tables, similar to the [Key Statistics](#) and [Quick Statistics](#) tables in 2011, and will be available in the PxStat system.

A spreadsheet of the [proposed ready-made tables](#) accompanies this document. The tables for the first three releases are found on the sheet entitled “Univariate tables”.

The **first release**, planned for July 2022 or before, will be headline population statistics:

- The population of Northern Ireland and the 11 Local Government Districts;
- The population broken down by age and sex for the same areas;
- The number of households with usual residents for the same areas; and
- The communal establishment population for the same areas.

The **second release**, planned for autumn 2022, will be all the main equality characteristics for Northern Ireland and the 11 Local Government Districts. Census Office propose to publish all topics in this release simultaneously. This would include:

- Demography
- Religion;
- Religion/Religion brought up in;
- National identity;
- Ethnicity;
- Country of birth;
- Passports held;
- Language (main, and ability in Irish and Ulster-Scots);
- Sexual orientation; and
- Health, disability and unpaid care.

The **third release**, planned for winter 2022/3 would be all the remaining characteristics for Northern Ireland and the 11 Local Government Districts. Census Office propose to publish all topics in this release simultaneously. This would include:

- Highest level of qualifications;
- Labour market data;
- Communal Establishment data; and
- Household data.

### **Flexible table builder**

Census Office aim to have the flexible dissemination system in operation after the first three planned releases of pre-defined tables are complete. This is likely to be winter 2022/3. All standard topics at Local Government District (LGD) level should be available in the flexible table builder at this time, and multivariate table creation



should be possible. Following the initial release, data and geographies will be added to the system as they are published.

### **Final staged releases**

Further releases are planned to begin spring/summer 2023. These will include detailed cross-tabulations, travel to workplace/place of study data, microdata, and all island products. Smaller geographical areas, such as electoral wards etc. will form part of these further releases.

### **Cross-tabulations**

Pre-defined cross-tabulations, similar to the [Detailed Characteristics](#) and [Local Characteristics](#) tables in 2011, will be included in the PxStat system in spring 2023. The model for 2021 will be somewhat different than for 2011, however, due to the planned introduction of the flexible table builder. This system will offer the facility to perform analysis of the data in situ, meaning there will be fewer pre-defined tables created.

A spreadsheet of the [proposed ready-made tables](#) accompanies this document. The tables proposed for this release are found on the sheet entitled “Multivariate tables”.

### **Commissioned table service**

Where it's not possible for users to create the outputs they need themselves, users can request that we produce and supply them. We will do this if the requested data passes statistical disclosure checks. This service is likely to be available in summer 2023.

### **Grid Square**

To allow the examination of trends over time for consistent spatial units, NISRA has made available grid square statistics for every Census since 1971. The geographic base for these outputs is the Irish Grid, and Census statistics are produced for 100 meter and 1 kilometre grids. A 2021 Grid Square product is planned to continue to provide Census statistics for population and household counts for the combination of 1km and 100m grid squares in Northern Ireland.

The variables included in 2011 grid square product are listed in the [variable code book spreadsheet](#).

It is planned to release this dataset in the release phase with the other small area geographies in summer 2023.

### **Workplace/place of study**

The impact of the current pandemic on this data are still to be fully understood (this is further discussed in section 2.6 on page 21). However, it is expected that the proportion of respondents either furloughed or working from home as at 21 March 2021 will have a significant impact on this data.

## Microdata

It is planned to produce, as a minimum, the same microdata products as 2011:

- Microdata teaching file – A file containing anonymised records on a limited set of variables for a random sample of 1 per cent of the individuals from the 2021 Census for Northern Ireland.
- Safeguarded microdata – the safeguarded microdata file will consist of a random sample of 5 per cent of individuals from the 2021 Census for Northern Ireland.
- Secure microdata - the secure microdata files will consist of two random samples of 10 per cent, one a sample of the individuals and one a sample of households from the 2021 Census for Northern Ireland.

In the current climate of limited access to institutions due to COVID restrictions, Census Office are investigating additional new approaches to potentially widening access to these datasets, while ensuring existing high levels of security. However, the existing access routes will be maintained where possible.

Additionally, dependent upon user need, Census Office plan to investigate a facility to produce a new microdata product for Ireland and Northern Ireland. If suitable need is identified, the sample size and variables included in such a product would be investigated with Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ireland.

## Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study incorporation of the 2021 Census

The Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study (NILS) provides access to a longitudinal dataset currently incorporating data from Census returns (1981, 1991, 2001 & 2011), Vital Events (births, deaths and marriages), Migration, and Property data. The result is currently over 30 years of longitudinal data. Census Office plan to enhance this resource by carrying out the necessary work to include data from the 2021 Census in this study. This is currently planned to be completed in late 2023.

Further information on the NILS is available on the [research support pages](#) of the NISRA website.

## Administrative Data Research (ADR NI) - availability of 2021 data

ADR NI supports the acquisition, linking and analysis of administrative data sets to improve knowledge, policymaking and public service delivery. Further information on ADR NI is available on the [research support pages](#) of the NISRA website.

NISRA is currently focused on expanding the ADR NI data prospectus through the development of themed datasets from administrative systems. However, Census Office will continue to work with potential users seeking access to de-identified census data and to facilitate linkage of this data to continue to provide opportunities for innovative, policy-relevant research.

In late 2022, following release of the initial outputs, Census Office will undertake detailed engagement with ADR NI users to define how census type data will be used in ADR NI projects.

### **UK 2021/22 census data**

The Registrar General for Northern Ireland, the UK National Statistician and the Registrar General for Scotland released a [Statement of Agreement](#) in October 2015 on the conduct of the 2021 Censuses. In this document they indicated an intention to conduct the next census simultaneously across the UK. However, due to impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the National Records of Scotland moved the census in Scotland to 2022. The impacts of this move for UK statistics are still being evaluated, and planning for UK census data outputs is ongoing. This work is being driven by the UK data group discussed in 1.3 above.

If you use UK Census data and wish to contribute to this group, or you know of any individual or organisation in Northern Ireland that currently use such data and may be interested in participating in this group, please get in touch with [census@nisra.gov.uk](mailto:census@nisra.gov.uk).

### **Ireland and Northern Ireland census report**

Following the 2011 census, NISRA and Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ireland presented a comprehensive census report of results for both Ireland and Northern Ireland in a single [publication](#). This publication drew together results from both censuses and explored both the similarities and differences in the two populations as well as looking at how these populations had changed over time. It presented analysis across a range of topics in areas such as demographics, households, ethnicity, place of birth, religion, health, unpaid care, housing and travel to work, school or college.

An [agreement](#) has been signed by the CSO Director General and the Registrar General for Northern Ireland on consultative arrangements for the 2021 Census. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the different mode of census data collection by CSO, the Government of Ireland decided to postpone the Census of Population of Ireland to April 2022.

Census Office, along with colleagues in CSO, Ireland, plan to develop a census report for the 2021 and 2022 censuses. This report will provide, where possible, key statistics on the island of Ireland. Before embarking on this work, we would like to ask users what information/key statistics they would like included in a 2021/22 census report.

**Consultation:** In the consultation questionnaire, we will seek views on these release proposals, including general views on the content, format and timeline.

### 2.3. Standard variables

In the [2015 Topic Consultation](#), we asked census users for their views on the topics that the 2021 Census questionnaire might cover. The questions in the final 2021 Census questionnaire, agreed by the Assembly, reflect the findings of that public consultation as well as the result of testing and the views of topic experts.

The questionnaire sets out the key data available in the Census and thus gives rise to a set of standard variables. The standard variables used for 2021 Census outputs can be described as follows:

- New variables for the 2021 census (not asked in the 2011 census);
- Those variables that are the same in the 2021 and 2011 censuses; and
- Those variables that have changed from the 2011 census as a result of changes to questions in the 2021 questionnaire.

#### **New variables in 2021**

In this section, we will focus on variables and classifications that are new for 2021, either as a result of a new question asked in the 2021 Census, or because of the availability of administrative data that can be linked to census data. As part of this consultation, users will be asked for their views on the proposed output classifications, and the analysis plans, for these new variables.

#### **Renewable energy systems**

Topic experts agreed that there was a need for data on renewable energies to enable tracking of sustainable housing and fuel poverty. As such, a new household question was added, asking, “What type of renewable energy systems does this accommodation have?”

Question response options:

- Solar panels for electricity;
- Solar panels for heating water;
- Wind turbine;
- Other, write in; and
- No renewable energy systems.

A more detailed classification can be developed using the write-in responses to this question.

In terms of analysis plans for renewable energy systems, we intend to produce cross-tabulations by:

- Type of accommodation;
- Tenure; and
- Central heating.

## **Sexual orientation**

A question on sexual orientation was asked for the first time in 2021. The question was only asked of those aged 16 years of age or older.

Question response options:

- Straight/Heterosexual;
- Gay or Lesbian;
- Bisexual;
- Other sexual orientation, write in; and
- Prefer not to say.

A more detailed classification may be developed using the write-in responses to this question.

For more detailed cross-tabulations with other variables, and more granular geographical analysis, it may be necessary to collapse the sexual orientation output classification similar to the three-way classification below:

- Respondent is straight/heterosexual;
- Respondent is gay, lesbian, bisexual or other; and
- Respondent did not say.

In terms of analysis plans for sexual orientation, we intend to produce cross-tabulations by:

- Demographic characteristics, such as age, sex, marital status, ethnicity, and religion/religion brought up in;
- Employment status, qualifications held, and National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC);
- Household characteristics, such as family structure, tenure, housing type; and
- Health, disability.

## **Frequency of speaking Irish and Ulster-Scots**

In addition to asking respondents whether they can understand, speak, read or write Irish and Ulster-Scots, those who indicated they can speak the languages were asked a second question, “How often do you speak Irish/Ulster-Scots?”

Proposed output classification:

- Daily;
- Weekly;
- Less often; and
- Never.

For 2021, we intend to produce cross-tabulations for knowledge of Irish and Ulster-Scots, and frequency of speaking Irish and Ulster-Scots, in the same way as in 2011:

- Age;
- Sex;
- Religion, and Religion/Religion brought up in;
- National Identity; and
- Passports Held.

### **UK Armed Forces veterans**

There was no question in the 2021 Census questionnaire on UK Armed Forces veterans – see the [topic report](#) for further information. Instead, Census Office agreed to work with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) towards linking administrative data, held by the MoD, with census returns to create limited, census-type statistics on Armed Forces veterans living in Northern Ireland. The current plan is to produce these statistics for persons who previously served in the UK Armed Forces.

Proposed output classification:

- Respondent is a UK Armed Forces veteran; and
- Respondent is not a UK Armed Forces veteran.

UK Armed Forces veteran tables will only be produced at LGD level and above, and only where the cell count exceeds a set threshold of 100 persons. This threshold may impact analysis plans; however where possible, we plan to produce cross-tabulations by:

- Demographic characteristics, such as age, sex, marital and civil partnership status, religion/religion brought up in, ethnicity, sexual orientation;
- Employment status, qualifications held;
- Household characteristics, such as household composition, tenure, housing type; and
- General health, health conditions or disabilities.

This release of ‘census like’ statistics will be the only release for this population.

**Consultation:** In the consultation questionnaire, users will be asked for their views on the output categories for these four new variables. Where applicable, Census Office will aim to develop a more detailed classification using write-in responses; if users have any specific categories in mind, there will be opportunity to let us know. Any final output classifications for new questions will be subject to review based on numbers within each category.

### **Other standard variables**

The remaining standard variables are either the same in 2021 compared to 2011, or have changed slightly because of changes to the questions asked in the 2021

Census. These variables are summarised in Annex 1 for information. The output classifications for the variables are specified in the [proposed ready-made tables](#). While there are no consultation questions on the majority of these, we would like users' views on two particular topics:

- Religion; and
- Full-detail tables.

## Religion

The census has separate questions for 'religion' and 'religion' brought up in'

Equality legislation, in particular [The Northern Ireland Act 1998](#), makes it an offence to discriminate on the grounds of religion, and leads to the requirement, for example, for employers to maintain monitoring information on the religion of their employees. In this respect, [guidance documents](#) from the Equality Commission refer to the 'community background' of employees. The Equality Commission document notes that (with regard to equality monitoring forms): "Regardless of whether we practice religion, most of us in Northern Ireland are seen as either Catholic or Protestant. We are therefore asking you to indicate your community background by ticking the appropriate box below".

Therefore, to aid equality monitoring, and in response to the increasing proportion of the population who indicated that they had no religion or did not reply to the question, an additional question about religion brought up in, asked only of those who indicated that they did not belong to any current religion, was introduced in the 2001 Census, and also asked in the 2011 Census. Further information can be found in the [background report](#) on the religion questions and their analysis in 2001 and 2011.

For the 2021 Census, it is proposed to produce religion outputs in a similar manner to 2011 and 2001. Two sets of outputs associated with religion will be produced. The first output will be based solely on the 'current religion' question. A second output, 'Religion/Religion brought up in', will be produced that combines the responses to the questions on 'current religion' and 'religion brought up in'.

**Consultation:** In the consultation questionnaire, respondents will have the opportunity to let us know whether they would like any further religion outputs.

## Full-detail tables

In 2011, several variables were published in full-detail tables. The tables were produced at Northern Ireland level, and included all responses reported by ten or more respondents. In 2021, we propose to follow the same approach.

The list of full-detail tables in 2011 included:

- Ethnic Group;
- National Identity;
- Country of Birth;
- Passports;
- Religion;
- Main Language;
- Knowledge of Irish; and
- Knowledge of Ulster-Scots.

For 2021, we intend to produce an additional full-detail table for sexual orientation. However, the release of information remains dependant on research, proving the resultant variable is of sufficient quality to meet data users' needs.

**Consultation:** In the consultation questionnaire, respondents will have the opportunity to let us know their views on our proposals to produce full-detail tables in the same way as in 2011, and our proposal for an additional table on sexual orientation.

## 2.4. Proposals for new derived variables

In this section, we will consider how to combine existing data, often from multiple questions, in new ways, to meet a wider range of current user needs. Each of the proposals below is at an early stage of development and we aim to further understand user needs through this consultation. Following the consultation, we will use the feedback to prioritise those for which user need has been evidenced. However, the release of information remains dependant on research, proving the resultant variable is of sufficient quality to meet data users' needs.

Some proposals are about understanding the impact that the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had on different communities and how we all live. Other proposals relate to alternative wider potential data needs, such as better understanding of the student population. We have grouped these into three areas:

- Education and employment;
- Health and living arrangements; and
- Accommodation type.

**Consultation:** In the consultation questionnaire, respondents will have the opportunity to let us know whether they have analytical needs for any of the proposed new variables. Respondents will also have the opportunity to let us know if they have any additional needs for new 2021 Census variables, outside those proposed below.



**Table 2a: Education and employment** – seven new variables proposed

Variable	Variable description
Route to highest level of education	We are investigating the possibility of creating a variable to better understand the qualifications route taken. For example, are the qualifications gained academic, vocational, or a mixture of both?
Adult Students	In the 2011 Census, students were defined as respondents in full-time education aged four years and over. In 2021, an additional variable is proposed, relating more specifically to adult students. This could be all students in full-time education aged 18 years and over. Alternatively, we could include only independent students, by defining them as students in full-time education aged 18 and over and not living with parents.
Not in employment, education or training (NEETs)	This indicator variable would highlight the population aged 16 to 24 years, who are not in employment, education or training. As the 2021 Census questions are harmonised with the Labour Market Survey, the same definitions would apply.
Temporarily away from work	In 2011, the question on activity last week was primarily used to find out if someone was economically active. In 2021, we are exploring the creation of “Temporarily away from work ill, on holiday or temporarily laid off” as an indicator variable. We’re also investigating the production of an “On maternity or paternity leave” indicator.
Key/critical Worker	This proposed indicator would show people whose occupation was critical to the response to the coronavirus pandemic, as defined by the UK government. We’d define this in line with Office for National Statistics <a href="#">publications on critical workers</a> .
Skills mismatch	Skills mismatch is where a person’s educational level is significantly different to the average level of qualification within their occupation. For example, a person would be defined as under employed in their role if their highest level of education is degree level or above and the average qualification for their occupation is at level 3. This could be, for example an NVQ level 3 or one A level. The variable would be derived using highest level of qualification and occupation.
Economic risk created by the coronavirus pandemic indicator	The <a href="#">Business Impacts of COVID Survey</a> has identified industries at most risk in the pandemic. The survey identifies different risks, such as risk of unemployment, for those working in different sectors. The proposed variable will apply the findings of that survey to census data, to identify populations at financial risk because of the pandemic. For example, a person working in hairdressing could be identified as being at financial risk because of the pandemic.

**Table 2b: Health and living arrangements** - four new variables proposed

Variable	Variable description
COVID-19 health risk	We can define an output based on the <a href="#">vaccination priority groups</a> by using the self-reported general health status to identify at-risk groups. For example, <a href="#">previous research</a> in England and Wales has shown that we can take a response to the question on how conditions limit your activities of “limited a lot” to mean “ <a href="#">clinically extremely vulnerable</a> ”.
Houses in multiple occupation (HMO)	According to <a href="#">government guidelines</a> , HMO’s are typically defined as private rented dwellings occupied by three or more people who aren’t in the same family. For 2021, we could design outputs to fit this definition as closely as possible.
Multigenerational households	Multigenerational households are defined as any household with more than two generations resident. For example, when children, parent(s) and grandparent(s) live together. This indicator would identify households that met that definition.
Living together/apart	We are investigating the feasibility of producing a variable indicating the population that live separately to their partners. The population we could identify is: those who are married or in a civil partnership but not living with the person that relationship is with.

**Table 2c: Accommodation type** - one new variable proposed

Variable	Variable description
Care home resident	There is an existing variable on the type of communal establishment a person is resident in. This separate indicator would denote if a person was resident in a care home.

## 2.5. Population base specifications

### **Main population bases**

The main population bases for the 2021 Census are:

- Usual residents;
- Households;
- Usual residents in households; and
- Household reference persons (HRP).

As well as the pre-defined tables available, it is proposed that users will be able to build their own tables using flexible datasets, based on these populations.

Outputs based on the following population bases will also be provided:

- Families;
- Dependent children;

- Communal establishments; and
- Usual residents in communal establishments.

These populations will not initially be available as flexible datasets, either because of their complexity, or because of their small numbers. However, they will be provided as ready-made tables. There may be scope for developing flexible datasets based on these populations as the outputs develop over time.

In all of these population bases, usual residents are counted at their place of residence.

A usual resident of the UK is anyone who, on 21 March 2021:

- Is in the UK and has stayed or intends to stay in the UK for a period of 3 months or more; or
- Has a permanent UK address and is outside the UK and intends to be outside the UK for less than 12 months.

A UK resident's usual place of residence is generally their permanent or family home or the address in the UK at which they spend most of their time.

### **Alternative population bases**

Alternative population bases are those that:

- Move usual residents to different locations based on their characteristics; and/or
- Report on a population that is not usually resident.

The data on alternative population bases made available following the 2011 Census are accessible on the [alternative population results](#) pages of the NISRA website. Each alternative population base is discussed in more detail below. Given the potential for disclosure being higher for alternative population bases, we need to carefully assess what additional information we can publish for the 2021 Census, and for what geographical levels.

### **Workplace population**

The workplace population of an area is defined as "All usual residents aged 16 to 74 who are in employment and whose workplace is in the area". People who work mainly at or from home or do not have a fixed place of work are included in the area of their usual residence.

The following population groups are excluded from the workplace population of an area:

- Those not working the week before 21 March 2021;
- Those living in Northern Ireland but working in England, Wales, Scotland, or outside the UK; and

- Those with a place of work in Northern Ireland but who are not usually resident in Northern Ireland.

This definition remains unchanged from 2011. However, it is anticipated that because of the coronavirus pandemic, more people will be working from home, on furlough or otherwise not working. People stating that they were “temporarily away from work” will still be counted at their workplace address. There is some uncertainty about whether this group will return to their normal place of work. There may also have been an increased number of jobs without fixed workplaces. One example is delivery jobs that are also counted at the respondent’s home address.

We are proposing to produce the majority of outputs on the workplace population at Super Output Area (SOA) level (or 2021 equivalent) and above. These will include some information on basic characteristics of the population. Depending on the level of detail in the table, it may be necessary to restrict the geography to LGD and above.

### **Daytime population**

The daytime population is an estimate of the population of an area during the working day. It includes all usual residents who are either in employment or full-time students in the area, or are neither in employment nor full-time students and live in the area. People who work or study mainly at or from home, or who do not have a fixed place of work or study, are included in the area containing their home address. This does not include those persons working or studying in the area who live outside Northern Ireland.

This definition remains unchanged from 2011. However, the coronavirus pandemic may have changed the distribution because of larger numbers of people staying at home to work, being on furlough or not working.

We are proposing to produce the majority of outputs on the daytime population at Small Area (SA) level (or 2021 equivalent) and above. These will include some information on basic characteristics of the population. Depending on the level of detail in the table, it may be necessary to restrict the geography to SOA (or 2021 equivalent) or LGD and above.

### **Out-of-term population**

Data for this population base was not available in 2011. We are trialling its development for 2021.

The out-of-term population is the usually resident population redistributed to their out of term address if they have one, so the difference relates to the location of some students and schoolchildren.

Because of the pandemic, there may be more students without term-time addresses and fewer students entering or leaving Northern Ireland to study. This will potentially

lead to less difference between the usual resident and out-of-term population than would otherwise be the case.

We are proposing SOA-level (or 2021 equivalent) outputs. These will include some information on basic characteristics, and depending on the level of detail in the table, it may be necessary to restrict the geography to LGD and above.

**Consultation:** In the consultation questionnaire, respondents will have the opportunity to let us know whether our proposals for alternative population bases meet their analytical needs.

### **Small populations**

For the 2021 Census, it may be possible to offer small population tables that provide information on population groups based on key characteristics of people, defined by a cultural background, for example:

- An ethnic group;
- A country of birth;
- A religion;
- A national identity; or
- A main language.

These small population data would be produced only for geographic areas in which the small population being counted exceeded a set threshold. And, because of potential for disclosure being higher for small populations, we also need to carefully assess what additional information we could publish.

A sample set of table layouts for small populations, using “Country of Birth: Poland” as the example, is available at Annex 2. For these data, the majority of tables are proposed at LGD level. However, if numbers are very small, and depending on the number of variables included, it may be necessary to restrict the tables to Northern Ireland level.

**Consultation:** We would like to know if users have analytical needs for small populations such as the country of birth example. We would also like to know the analytical needs for these small population groups.

## **2.6. Taking a census during a period of change**

We are currently in a period of significant economic and societal change. This change is not only because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but also resulting from the UK leaving the European Union. In this section, we discuss the impacts of taking a census in such a period of change.

We considered if running a census during a pandemic would result in the data that users need. We concluded that up-to-date data on the population is needed to

provide a baseline from which to monitor recovery from the pandemic. The 2021 Census data will also enable policy makers to make evidence-based decisions on what steps to take to enable that recovery. This will help shape services for years to come.

We assessed the 2021 Census questionnaires to understand the potential impact of the coronavirus pandemic on how respondents answer questions. Where issues were discovered, we made changes to resolve these. As the questions had already been finalised in the census [legislation](#), mitigation was limited to additional guidance on the online form and within the online help pages of the Northern Ireland 2021 Census website. Neither question wording, nor response options could be changed at that point in the development process.

We agreed on the consistent messaging that the census provides a snapshot in time and respondents were asked to answer about their current circumstances across all questions.

Our aim was to ensure respondents understood the questions as intended and therefore answered with reference to their circumstances as of Census Day. Our goal is to ensure that differences in statistics from previous censuses and other surveys represent genuine changes in the lives of people living in Northern Ireland.

The remainder of this section outlines the potential changes to the data collected that we have identified. Through this consultation, we aim to understand how data users' needs have changed and the positive and negative impacts of conducting a census in a period of social and economic change.

### **Place of residence**

There will have been some situations where the pandemic has affected place of residence. This may include people with second residences choosing to reside permanently at that location as they did not need to commute to work. It might also include third level students who may have been studying from their permanent or family home address instead of a term-time address outside Northern Ireland or at a term-time address near to the educational establishment in Northern Ireland.

For the 2021 Census, we updated some collection guidance and statistical methods for students. We aimed to collect data on students at both their term-time address and their "home" address (this data will be resolved to a single usual resident). This was planned to maximise the data collected about students, allowing for better long-term planning and service provision. Thus the impact on this data should be reduced.

### **Economic activity and employment**

Many aspects of employment will have been impacted by the pandemic. Examples include an increase in people who were temporarily away from work because they were furloughed or self-isolating, and a likely increase in respondents who were not in paid employment. There will also be a change in characteristics of those looking for work, for example, those made redundant during the pandemic, or those who were self-isolating or extremely clinically vulnerable, and therefore not able to start a job outside of the home.

In addition, people might be working different hours because of the coronavirus pandemic. Alternatively, the nature of their jobs and industries may have changed either temporarily or permanently, such as retail and hospitality switching to home delivery.

### **Travel to work/school**

Census provides a snapshot in time, and so captured travel to work and place of study patterns as they were on Census Day.

We do not know how travel to work or study patterns will evolve following the pandemic. We expect that greater levels of home working will remain to some extent, but other aspects, such as reduced use of public transport and car sharing, may not.

The changes impact a wide range of products, including statistics on method of travel to work or study, the workplace and daytime population bases, and origin-destination outputs for commuter flows. The level of detail that we can provide is also impacted. For example, as a result of the reduced number of people commuting, the origin-destination data are likely to be presented in more aggregated categories across all variables it is produced by.

Therefore, it is likely this data on its own may not fully meet the user needs of understanding commuting patterns and methods, for the purposes of decision making and service provision in 2022, 2023 and beyond.

As a result, work will be carried out, in conjunction with the ONS and NRS, to identify potential additional data sources that could help provide information to supplement the census data and provide a more current picture of travel to work patterns going forwards.

### **Workplace zones**

As in 2011, we are considering the need to produce workplace statistics by workplace zone for use in origin-destination data and other datasets, like the NLS and Microdata. Workplace zones are a small-area geography designed to contain a consistent number of workers, allowing workplace statistics to be released at a more

granular level. The zones provide much greater detail in areas with high numbers of workers and workplaces, for example, city centres, retail districts and business parks.

If we keep the workplace zones methodology unchanged, then we will see fewer and larger (in area) workplace zones in major centres of employment, such as city and town centres. We will also see more and smaller workplace zones covering traditional residential areas.

### **Impacts on other outputs**

Other potential areas of change due to the coronavirus pandemic include:

- Migration - the uncertainty of the coronavirus pandemic situation and restrictions on international travel might have impacted internal and international migration patterns, including international students;
- General health and disability – there is likely to be change in health patterns by having had coronavirus or resulting from the mental and physical health impacts of the virus itself, or of lockdown restrictions. In addition, long-term health problems and disabilities that might not have previously restricted a person’s activities, may now do so, if they are considered extremely clinically vulnerable and were told to shield; and
- Unpaid care – people who may not have needed unpaid care previously, may have needed care because they were shielding. Others, who may have provided care previously, may have been unable to do so because of coronavirus restrictions.

This is not a comprehensive list of recent societal changes. It is included to illustrate the range of ways the coronavirus has impacted society. 2021 Census data will indicate the scale of these changes, therefore realising new benefits.

**Consultation:** We would like to know your information needs for each of the specific data mentioned in this section on conducting a census in a period change. In addition, we would like to know your needs for understanding how the pandemic may have impacted the data, or if any additional data may be needed for future planning. Finally, we would also like to know how you will use this data in new ways to understand societal change.

## **2.7. Paradata**

Paradata refer to information about how we collected the census. They are separate from the statistical data that we produce from the census. In line with 2011 and previous censuses, we will publish a [General Report](#) that will provide an overview of the complete census operation. Ahead of that, we propose to publish some high-level paradata about how people completed their census returns. We aim to make this available in a few months’ time, in winter 2021.



Proposals for paradata include:

- Household return rate;
- Individual response rate;
- Proportion of returns made by mode - online, paper, telephone; and
- Language of completion.

Return rates can be defined as the number of household questionnaires returned as a proportion of the total valid household addresses that were not identified as vacant. Return rates were used during the census field operation to target field staff and other resources to the lowest responding areas.

The individual response rate can be defined as the total number of usual residents whose details were completed on a returned questionnaire, divided by the estimate of the total number of usual residents.

**Consultation:** We'd like to further understand data users' need for paradata, particularly relating to response rates, mode and language of response, and what geographies they would be required at.

## 2.8. Statistical Output Geography

In 2001 NISRA released census outputs for a range of administrative and statistical geographies. This included small levels of geography known as Census Output Areas and Super Output Areas which, due to their hierarchical nature, were used to create larger geographies such as Wards and Local Government Districts.

By and large the same geographies were used again in 2011. This use of the same geographic base for reporting the 2001 Census and the 2011 Census, the 1992 local government boundaries, was unusual; the 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001 Censuses were each reported on a separate set of local government boundaries.

In 2015, following the revision of local government boundaries, a new set of Local Government Districts, District Electoral Areas and Electoral Wards were introduced. By law, Census Office is bound to use an output geography based upon the current Local Government Districts. Consequently for 2021, to efficiently and safely meet this requirement, Census Office has concluded that the output geography must be revised. This is in line with the view expressed by respondents in the previous 2018 user consultation.

2021 Census data will therefore not be made directly available for the old 1992 twenty six local government districts.

For 2021 Census outputs a new small area statistical geography will be produced, consistent with the revised local government boundaries. This new geography, like the current, will consist of two similar geographic levels similar to the current SOA and SA average population levels. This revised geography offers the ability to: improve and update the homogeneity of the areas with respect to housing tenure and accommodation type; improve the alignment of areas by removing intersections with

building/property footprints, especially those built since 2001; and allow better alignment with landscape features such as roads, railways and rivers, due to new GIS techniques.

Census Office will continue to produce a 2021 Census Grid Square product. This will allow users to compare data for every census since 1971. Also, due to the high demand for statistics about towns and villages, Census Office will use Settlement Development Limits (SDLs) provided by the Department for Infrastructure to produce 2021 Census Statistics at settlement level. This will be based on an approximation from grid square statistics.

Census Office is looking into additional methods to produce estimates of outputs for alternative geographies. It is planned that this would allow an element of flexibility with outputs if any further changes to administrative geographies occur before a future census is taken.

Further information, discussing the need to update Census statistical output geographies, is available on the [NISRA Website](#).

**Consultation:** Users are invited to consider this update to census statistical output geographies and provide any views in the consultation questionnaire.

### 3. Next steps

The responses you provide to this consultation will be considered in the development of final plans for the delivery of 2021 Census Outputs. We'll only evaluate the evidence provided in responses to this consultation. Please provide as much detail as possible in your responses, including reference to specific policies, projects or research, if applicable.

Consultation responses will be evaluated to inform decisions on the final design of the 2021 Census outputs for Northern Ireland. When making these decisions, factors such as data quality, the risk of disclosure of personal information, and how the publication of the data will serve the public good, will be considered.

We aim to publish a response to the consultation as soon as possible after the consultation closes. A 2021 Census Outputs Prospectus, including the final design of the 2021 Census outputs, and more detail on the planned release schedule, will be published by end January 2022.

We value your input and thank you for your contribution.

## Annex 1: Main changes to the 2021 Census questions compared to the 2011 Census

Table 1a highlights where detail has been added to questions, which will result in additional categories within the output classifications. In most cases, they can be collapsed so that users can still get equivalents to 2011 data.

**Table 1a: Questions with detail added – for information**

Topic	Description of change
Household adaptations	The 2011 tick-box option for “wheelchair usage” has been split in two – “internal wheelchair usage” and “external wheelchair access”.
Central heating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new tick-box, “Renewable heating system” has been added;</li> <li>• The category “Gas” has been split into “Mains gas” and “Tank or bottled gas”; and</li> <li>• The category “Solid fuel (for example, wood, coal)” has been split into “Wood (for example logs or waste wood)” and “Solid fuel (for example coal)”.</li> </ul>
Housing Tenure	The tick-box, “Private landlord or letting agency” has been split in two – “Private landlord” and “Private renting with a letting agent.
Health condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tick-box, “A mobility or dexterity difficulty (a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying)” has been split in two – “A mobility or dexterity difficulty that requires the use of a wheelchair” and “A mobility or dexterity difficulty that limits basic physical activities (for example walking or dressing)”; and</li> <li>• The tick-box, “A learning difficulty, an intellectual difficulty, or a social or behavioural difficulty” has been split in three – “An intellectual or learning disability (for example Down syndrome)”, “A learning difficulty (for example dyslexia)”, and “Autism or Asperger syndrome”.</li> </ul> <p>To offset the space required for additional tick-boxes in 2021, some detail has been removed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tick-box, “Communication difficulty (a difficulty with speaking or making yourself understood)” was removed; and</li> <li>• The tick-boxes, “A chronic illness (such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, heart disease or epilepsy)” and “Other condition” were combined in to one – “Other condition (for example cancer, diabetes or heart disease).</li> </ul>
Unpaid care	The range of response options were increased in 2021, with the tick-box, “Yes, 20 to 49 hours a week” being split into two categories: “Yes, 20 to 34 hours a week” and “Yes, 35 to 49 hours a week”.

In a number of cases, questions have been changed which resulted in less detail being collected. These are shown in Table 1b. The reductions serve to offset the increased burden put on respondents to provide additional detail in other questions. In all cases where the detail has decreased, it was assessed that there was insufficient user need to continue to collect this information.

**Table 1b: Questions with detail removed – for information**

Topic	Description of change
Self-contained accommodation	In 2011, this question was used to determine shared and unshared dwellings. However, due to the very small numbers of shared dwellings reported, the question was removed for 2021. Instead, we intend to see if the data can be derived by determining addresses from which multiple census returns have been made.
Number of rooms	This question was removed. Instead, the data will be sourced from Land & Property Service (LPS).
Marital and Civil Partnership Status	<p>In January 2020, civil partnerships became available to opposite-sex couples in Northern Ireland. At the same time, regulations were issued extending same-sex marriage to Northern Ireland. The marital and civil partnership status question asked in the 2021 Census questionnaire had to reflect these new regulations, with the main change to the question being the removal of the term 'same-sex'.</p> <p>By incorporating data from the relationship matrix and the question on sex, it may be possible to produce data on whether a marriage or civil partnership is between two people of the opposite sex or same sex. However, because of the small numbers of same-sex partnerships, we will need to carefully assess what additional information we could publish.</p>
Migration	A single question asking respondents, “What year did you come to live in Northern Ireland?” is included in 2021, and the remaining questions on intention to stay were removed. Topic experts agreed that the outputs available in 2011 were of limited use, and that the benefits gained from having this information were outweighed by the space needed and the effort required to obtain it.
Voluntary work	This question was removed. There was insufficient space on the 2021 Census questionnaire to ask the type or amount of volunteering; therefore, the benefits gained from retaining the 2011 question were limited. A question related to voluntary work is included in the Continuous Household Survey.

Topic	Description of change
Qualifications	<p>“Professional qualifications”, “Other vocational/work-related qualifications”, and “Qualifications gained outside the UK” tick-boxes were removed for 2021. Instead, guidance for respondents stated that equivalent qualifications achieved anywhere within or outside Northern Ireland should be included. All other 2011 Census categories were collected in 2021, but in a restructured series of questions.</p>
Activity last week	<p>“On a government sponsored training scheme” option was removed because the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of employment has changed since 2011 to exclude unpaid training as a form of economic activity.</p> <p>In 2011, data from this question were incorporated with other data relating to employment to create the "Economic Activity" variable. Despite the minor change to activity last week, the output categories for "Economic Activity" will be unchanged in 2021.</p>
Unemployment history	<p>The option to write in the year last worked was removed. It was replaced with options that separate those who are not in work but have previously worked into two groups. These two groups are the short-term unemployed, who have worked within the last year, and the long-term unemployed, who most recently worked over a year ago.</p>
Workplace address	<p>This question was used for creation of the "Distance travelled to work" variable. The tick-box “Offshore installation” was removed as very few people selected this option in 2011. We will be able to derive the information from the write-in fields; as such the output classification remains unchanged.</p>

### **Variables that are unchanged in 2021 compared to 2011**

This section details the questions which collected the same information in the 2021 Census as in 2011, which in turn means the variable classifications will allow for harmonised output across the two time periods. In a small number of cases, the information was collected through a modified question. Additionally, some output classifications will depend on the numbers reported in 2021; however, a classification harmonised with 2011 is possible if required.

**Table 2: Variables that are unchanged in 2021 compared to 2011**

Topic	Description
Age	Like 2011, data will be produced using a number of different age classifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single year;</li> <li>• 5-year bands; and</li> <li>• Broad age bands.</li> </ul> The broad age bands will vary depending on the level of detail in the table.
Sex	An indicator of whether the respondent is female or male.
Country of birth	While the question asked in 2021 allows for the same classification as 2011, the output categories may need to change slightly. For example, in 2011, 'EU' was 'Other EU', and was split in two: "Member countries prior to 2004 expansion"; and "Ascension countries 2004 onwards". In 2021, it is proposed to group all EU member countries rather than splitting by when they joined the EU.  In the main, tables will be available at three levels: basic, intermediate, and full.
Passports held	As in 2011, there will be two classifications in 2021 for passport held. The categories in the first classification are not mutually exclusive and data will therefore sum to more than 100%. Depending on the level of detail in the table, classifications may need to be collapsed.
National identity	As in 2011, there will be two classifications in 2021 for national identity. The categories in the first classification are not mutually exclusive and data will therefore sum to more than 100%. Depending on the level of detail in the table, classifications may need to be collapsed.
Ethnic Group	The tick-boxes in the 2021 question have changed, reflecting numbers reported in the 2011 Census and admin data sources such as the School Census. "Pakistan", "Bangladeshi" and "Black Caribbean" have been removed, and new tick-boxes "Roma" and "Filipino" have been added.  The output categories for 2021 Census statistics will be dependent on numbers reported, but it is expected that the main classification will follow the questionnaire. However, the facility to write-in means the same information will be available as in 2011, should users require it.

Topic	Description
Religion	<p>For the 2021 Census, it is proposed to produce religion outputs in a similar manner to 2011 and 2001.</p> <p>Two sets of outputs associated with religion will be produced. The first output will be based solely on the ‘current religion’ question. A second output, ‘Religion/Religion brought up in’, will be produced that combines the responses to the questions on ‘current religion’ and ‘religion brought up in’. See Section 2.3 of this consultation document.</p>
Main language	<p>The output categories for 2021 Census statistics will be dependent on numbers reported. In 2011, languages were reported where there were over 1,000 responses.</p> <p>As in 2011, outputs for main language will be restricted to persons aged 3 and over.</p>
General Health	<p>The general health question was unchanged in 2021, and output classifications will therefore be the same as in 2011.</p>
Long-term health problem or disability	<p>The long-term health problem or disability question was unchanged in 2021, and output classifications will therefore be the same as in 2011.</p>
Method of travel to place of work or study	<p>Aside from the reordering of tick-boxes, the method of travel to place of work or study question was unchanged in 2021 compared to 2011. For outputs, the classification will likewise be unchanged.</p> <p>“Table population” will be used to determine whether the table relates to place of work, or to place of work and study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place of work population - All usual residents aged 16-74 (excluding students) in employment and currently working.</li> <li>• Place of work and study population - Primary school age and over in full-time education or aged 16-74 in employment and currently working</li> </ul>

## Annex 2: Example table layouts for small populations - Country of Birth: Poland

**Table SP\_Poland\_1: Broad age bands**

Table population: All usual residents with country of birth in Poland  
 Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents born in Poland</b>	Aged 0-15 years	Aged 16-24 years	Aged 25-34 years	Aged 35-44 years	Aged 45-54 years	Aged 55-64 years	Aged 65-74 years	Aged 75-84 years	Aged 85+ years
<b>Northern Ireland</b>										
Antrim and Newtownabbey										
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon										
Belfast										
Causeway Coast and Glens										
Derry and Strabane										
Fermanagh and Omagh										
Lisburn and Castlereagh										
Mid and East Antrim										
Mid Ulster										
Newry, Mourne and Down										
North Down and Ards										



**Table SP\_Poland\_2: Sex**

Table population: All usual residents with country of birth in Poland

Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents born in Poland</b>	Males	Females
<b>Northern Ireland</b>			
Antrim and Newtownabbey			
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon			
Belfast			
Causeway Coast and Glens			
Derry and Strabane			
Fermanagh and Omagh			
Lisburn and Castlereagh			
Mid and East Antrim			
Mid Ulster			
Newry, Mourne and Down			
North Down and Ards			

**Table SP\_Poland\_3: Marital and civil partnership status**

Table population: All usual residents aged 16 and over with country of birth in Poland  
 Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents aged 16+ years, born in Poland</b>	Single (never married and never in a civil partnership)	Married or in a civil partnership	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a civil partnership)	Divorced or formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	Widowed or surviving partner from a civil partnership
<b>Northern Ireland</b>						
Antrim and Newtownabbey						
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon						
Belfast						
Causeway Coast and Glens						
Derry and Strabane						
Fermanagh and Omagh						
Lisburn and Castlereagh						
Mid and East Antrim						
Mid Ulster						
Newry, Mourne and Down						
North Down and Ards						

**Table SP\_Poland\_4: Religion or Religion Brought Up In**

Table population: All usual residents with country of birth in Poland

Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents born in Poland</b>	Catholic	Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)	Other religions	None
<b>Northern Ireland</b>					
Antrim and Newtownabbey					
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon					
Belfast					
Causeway Coast and Glens					
Derry and Strabane					
Fermanagh and Omagh					
Lisburn and Castlereagh					
Mid and East Antrim					
Mid Ulster					
Newry, Mourne and Down					
North Down and Ards					

**Table SP\_Poland\_5: Sexual Orientation**

Table population: All usual residents aged 16 and over with country of birth in Poland

Geographic level: Northern Ireland

	<b>All usual residents aged 16+ years, born in Poland</b>	Respondent is straight/ heterosexual	Respondent is gay, lesbian, bisexual or other	Respondent did not say
<b>Northern Ireland</b>				

**Table SP\_Poland\_6: Economic Activity**

Table population: All usual residents aged 16-74 years with country of birth in Poland

Geographic level: LGD2014

Note – In first row, 'Ec act' is Economically active and 'Ec in' is Economically inactive

	All usual residents aged 16-74 years, born in Poland	Ec act					Ec in				
		Employee: Part-time	Employee: Full-time	Self-employed	Unemployed	Full-time student	Retired	Student (including full-time students)	Looking after home or family	Long-term sick or disabled	Other
<b>Northern Ireland</b>											
Antrim and Newtownabbey											
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon											
Belfast											
Causeway Coast and Glens											
Derry and Strabane											
Fermanagh and Omagh											
Lisburn and Castlereagh											
Mid and East Antrim											
Mid Ulster											
Newry, Mourne and Down											
North Down and Ards											

**Table SP\_Poland\_7: Highest Level of Qualifications**

Table population: All usual residents aged 16 and over with country of birth in Poland

Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents aged 16+ years, born in Poland</b>	No academic or professional qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Apprenticeship	Level 3	Level 4+	Any other qualifications
<b>Northern Ireland</b>								
Antrim and Newtownabbey								
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon								
Belfast								
Causeway Coast and Glens								
Derry and Strabane								
Fermanagh and Omagh								
Lisburn and Castlereagh								
Mid and East Antrim								
Mid Ulster								
Newry, Mourne and Down								
North Down and Ards								

Notes:

Level 1: 1-4 GCSEs/O levels/CSEs (any grades), NVQ level 1, or equivalent.

Level 2: 5+ GCSEs A\*-C, 9-4), O levels (passes) or CSEs (grade 1), 1 A Level, 2-3 AS Levels, NVQ level 2, BTEC General, City and Guilds Craft, or equivalent.

Level 3: 2+ A Levels, 4+ AS Levels, NVQ Level 3, BTEC National, OND or ONC, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, or equivalent.

Level 4+: Degree level and above (for example degree, foundation degree, HND or HNC, NVQ level 4 and above), Professional qualifications (for example teaching or nursing), or equivalent.

**Table SP\_Poland\_8: Occupation**

Table population: All usual residents aged 16-74 years with country of birth in Poland  
 Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents aged 16-74 years, born in Poland</b>	1. Managers, directors and senior officials	2. Professional occupations	3. Associate professional and technical occupations	4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	5. Skilled trades occupations	6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	7. Sales and customer service occupations	8. Process, plant and machine operatives	9. Elementary occupations	Never worked or occupation not coded
<b>Northern Ireland</b>											
Antrim and Newtownabbey											
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon											
Belfast											
Causeway Coast and Glens											
Derry and Strabane											
Fermanagh and Omagh											
Lisburn and Castlereagh											
Mid and East Antrim											
Mid Ulster											
Newry, Mourne and Down											
North Down and Ards											

**Table SP\_Poland\_9: Long-term Health Problem or Disability**

Table population: All usual residents with country of birth in Poland  
 Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents born in Poland</b>	Day-to-day activities limited a lot	Day-to-day activities limited a little	Day-to-day activities not limited
<b>Northern Ireland</b>				
Antrim and Newtownabbey				
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon				
Belfast				
Causeway Coast and Glens				
Derry and Strabane				
Fermanagh and Omagh				
Lisburn and Castlereagh				
Mid and East Antrim				
Mid Ulster				
Newry, Mourne and Down				
North Down and Ards				

**Notes:**

'Day-to-day activities limited' covers any health problem or disability (including problems related to old age) which has lasted or is expected to last for at least 12 months.

**Table SP\_Poland\_10: Proficiency in English**

Table population: All usual residents aged 3 and over with country of birth in Poland  
 Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents aged 3+ years, born in Poland</b>	Main language is English	Main language is not English: Can speak English very well	Main language is not English: Can speak English well	Main language is not English: Cannot speak English well	Main language is not English: Cannot speak English
<b>Northern Ireland</b>						
Antrim and Newtownabbey						
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon						
Belfast						
Causeway Coast and Glens						
Derry and Strabane						
Fermanagh and Omagh						
Lisburn and Castlereagh						
Mid and East Antrim						
Mid Ulster						
Newry, Mourne and Down						
North Down and Ards						



**Table SP\_Poland\_11: Tenure**

Table population: All usual residents in households and with country of birth in Poland  
 Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents in households and with country of birth in Poland</b>	Owner occupied	Social rented	Private rented
<b>Northern Ireland</b>				
Antrim and Newtownabbey				
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon				
Belfast				
Causeway Coast and Glens				
Derry and Strabane				
Fermanagh and Omagh				
Lisburn and Castlereagh				
Mid and East Antrim				
Mid Ulster				
Newry, Mourne and Down				
North Down and Ards				

Notes:

The terms used to describe tenure are defined as:

Owner occupied: either owns outright or owns with a mortgage or loan and includes Shared ownership: pays part rent and part mortgage for this table.

Social rented: rented from Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Housing Association or Charitable Trust.

Private rented: rented from a private landlord or letting agency, employer of a household member, or relative or friend of a household member or other person and includes lives rent free for this table.

**Table SP\_Poland\_12: Household Composition**

Table population: All usual residents in households and with country of birth in Poland

Geographic level: LGD2014

	<b>All usual residents in households and with country of birth in Poland</b>	One person household	One family and no other people – Married couple and civil partnership couple	One family and no other people – Lone parent	One family and no other people – Other 'one family and no other people'	Other household types
<b>Northern Ireland</b>						
Antrim and Newtownabbey						
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon						
Belfast						
Causeway Coast and Glens						
Derry and Strabane						
Fermanagh and Omagh						
Lisburn and Castlereagh						
Mid and East Antrim						
Mid Ulster						
Newry, Mourne and Down						
North Down and Ards						

Notes:

1. Family - A family consists of a couple (married, civil partnership or cohabiting) with or without children, or a lone parent and their children. It also includes a married, civil partnership or cohabiting couple with their grandchildren or a lone grandparent with his or her grandchildren, if there is no parent in the intervening generation in the household. A family will also include step-children when their parent is part of the couple.

2. 'Other one family and no other people' includes 'cohabiting couples with no children, or one or two or more dependent children or all children non-dependent' and 'One family only: All aged 65 and over'.
3. 'Other household types' includes 'with one, or two or more dependent children', 'all full-time students', 'all aged 65 and over' and 'Other'.

### Annex 3: References

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2021 Census page:

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<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/statistical-disclosure-control-methodology-for-2021-census.pdf>

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<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/future-provision-census-population-information-northern-ireland>

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<https://www.cso.ie/en/media/csoie/census/documents/north-south-spreadsheets/Census2011IrelandandNorthernIrelandwebversion1.pdf>

Comparisons of census outputs from the 2001 and 2011 censuses for geographic areas within Northern Ireland:

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/comparison-census-outputs-from-2001-and-2011-for-geographic-areas.pdf>

2011 Census General Report:

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/2011-census-general-report>

NISRA Privacy Notice:

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/nisra-privacy-notice>

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<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/dof-confidentiality-statement>

Statistical protocols and compliance:

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NILS –RSU project:

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