



Northern Ireland
**Statistics &
Research**
Agency

Registrar General Northern Ireland Annual Report 2012

November 2013



An Agency within the Department of

**Finance and
Personnel**

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The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) is an Executive Agency within the Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP) and has been in existence since April 1996. The Agency also incorporates the General Register Office (GRO) for Northern Ireland. NISRA's core purpose is to provide a high quality, cost effective, statistics, research and registration service that informs policy making and the democratic process and the wider public.

The overall corporate aims of NISRA are to:

- provide a statistical and research service to support decision making by Northern Ireland Ministers and Departments and to inform elected representatives and the wider community through the dissemination of reliable official statistics; and
- administer the marriage laws and to provide a system for the civil registration of births, marriages, civil partnerships, adoptions and deaths in Northern Ireland.

NISRA can be found on the internet at www.nisra.gov.uk

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of the
Registrar General
2012

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Foreword

I have pleasure in presenting my 2012 Annual Report to the Northern Ireland Assembly. The report outlines the work of the General Register Office and presents detailed information on the demography of Northern Ireland. Detailed statistical tables are presented as a supplement to the report on the attached compact disc and on the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency website (www.nisra.gov.uk).

Last year, the General Register Office registered nearly 50,000 key events relating to people from across Northern Ireland. Registration is a vital service in establishing identity, providing information to support the delivery of public services and a host of other applications. The Office has taken forward a range of modernisation initiatives and will in the next year move towards providing online access to historic civil registration records for genealogical and family history research.

Clearly, modernisation is important in the continuing delivery of high quality public services. In 2012 the Assembly passed data sharing legislation enabling the reuse of detailed information from the National Insurance Register in future population statistics. This initiative forms one part of the future delivery of population statistics in Northern Ireland.

In 2011, the Agency ran the largest statistical exercise in Northern Ireland – the Census – which provides a unique and comprehensive picture of the population on Census day. The first results of the 2011 Census were published last year and this year my report includes a special article on the 2011 Census and its key findings. One of the key purposes of the Census is to provide a new benchmark estimate of the number of people who live in Northern Ireland. The statistics provided in this report all incorporate the new information provided by the Census.

I welcome comments on the format and content of the Annual Report. I hope you will find it informative and useful.



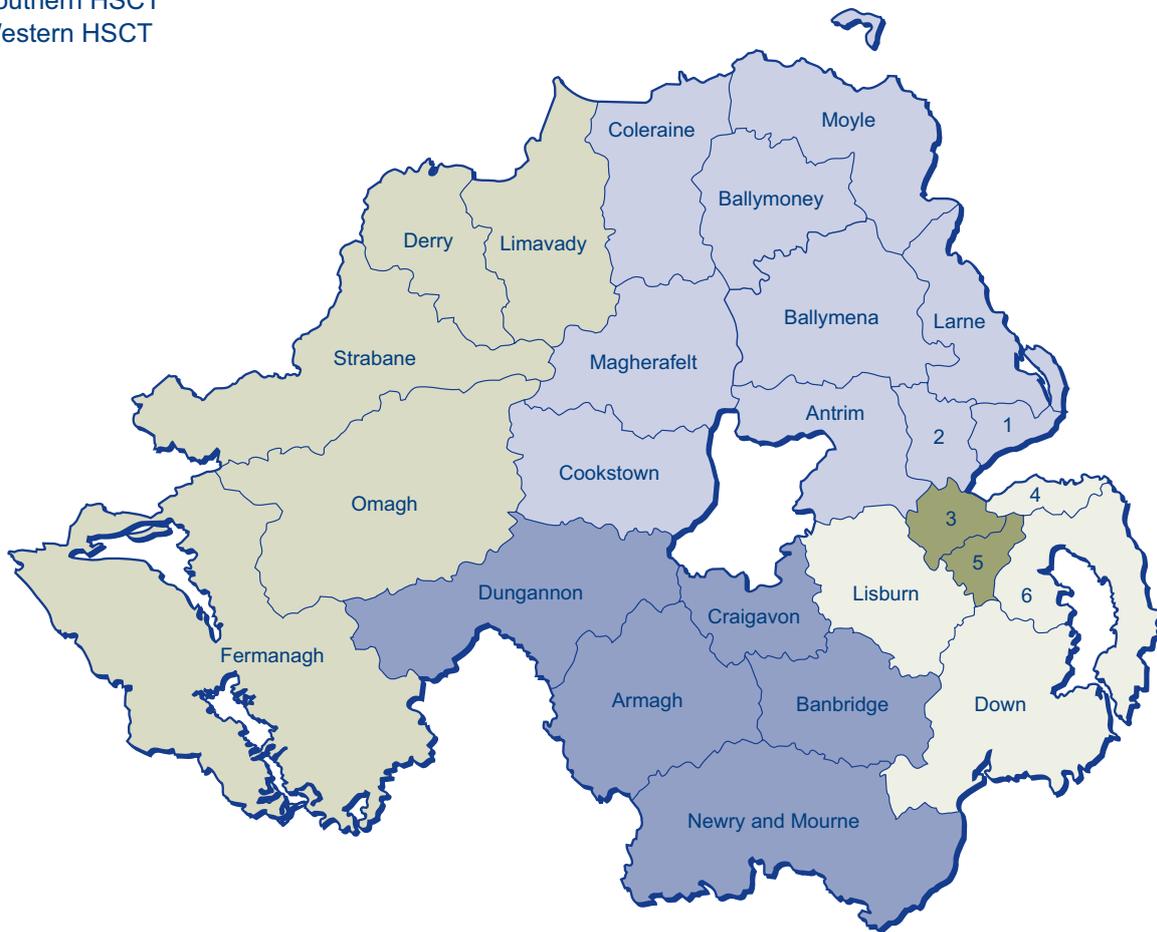
Norman Caven

Registrar General for Northern Ireland

November 2013

Northern Ireland's Health & Social Care Trusts and Local Government Districts

- Belfast HSCT
- Northern HSCT
- South Eastern HSCT
- Southern HSCT
- Western HSCT



- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Carrickfergus | 4. North Down |
| 2. Newtownabbey | 5. Castlereagh |
| 3. Belfast | 6. Ards |

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Chapter 1

Demographic Overview of Northern Ireland



1.1 Introduction

1.1.1. The first results of the 2011 Census were released in July 2012¹. The 2011 Census showed that 1.81 million people (1,810,900) were resident in Northern Ireland on 27 March 2011. The release of 2011 Census results has led to a small revision of population estimates for the period 2001 to 2011, and has become the starting position for the 2012 mid-year population estimates.

1.1.2. Revised estimates of the Northern Ireland population in each year between 2001 and 2011 were published on 30th April 2013, followed by rebased local mid-year population estimates on 26 June 2013 together with new estimates for mid-2012². Subsequent releases included further detail for the population aged 85 and over (27 September 2013) and 2012 based population projections (6 November 2013)³. Rebased population estimates for smaller geographies will also be updated in early 2014. NISRA has published a guidance document⁴ for using the available small area population estimates until the rebasing of all population outputs is complete.

1.1.3. The number of people living in Northern Ireland continues to rise. The estimate of the population resident in Northern Ireland at 30 June 2012 was 1,823,600.

1.1.4. The mid-2012 figure is an increase in population over the preceding twelve months of 9,300 people or 0.5 per cent of the population. This increase in population was due to significantly more births (25,300) than deaths (14,200) in the period mid 2011 to mid 2012, giving a natural increase in population of 11,100 people. Additionally, migration into Northern Ireland was smaller than migration out of Northern Ireland,

leading to a net loss of 1,300 people. There was also a net loss of 500 due to changes in Her Majesty's Armed Forces stationed in Northern Ireland.

1.1.5. The annual rate of population increase has not been uniform over the last decade. In the period between mid-2004 and mid-2009, the average annual rate of population increase was 0.9 per cent, due to large flows of people into Northern Ireland, particularly from the A8⁵ countries. This was nearly double the annual rate of increase in the period mid-2001 to mid-2004 (0.5 per cent). Population change between mid-2010 and mid-2012 has been dominated by natural change and a return to a position of net out migration, similar to that seen in the period between mid-1996 and mid-2001.

1.1.6. In terms of civilian migration, it is estimated that in the year to mid-2012, 23,300 people came to live here and 24,600 people left Northern Ireland to live elsewhere; thus giving a net out migration of 1,300 people.

1.1.7. In 2012, there were 25,269 births registered to Northern Ireland mothers, a decrease of four on the 2011 figure of 25,273 births.

1.1.8. Despite this small decrease in 2012 (and previously in 2011), the general trend in births over the past decade has been one of increasing birth registrations, from a record low in 2002 (21,385 births). The current figure (25,269) is, however, still lower than the numbers of births registered thirty or forty years ago. As a comparison, the number of births registered in Northern Ireland in 1982 was 26,872 births. This figure has fallen by six per cent to current levels. Moreover the peak during the baby boom was 34,345 births registered in 1964; 9,076 higher than the 2012 figure.

1 Census results available at http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/2011_results_population.html

2 Further detail available at <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp17.htm>

3 Further detail available at <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp134.htm> and <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp20.htm>

4 Guidance document available at <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/midyear/guidance.pdf>

5 The A8 countries are the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. Malta and Cyprus also joined the EU on 1 May 2004 but are considered separately from the A8 countries as they have full free movement rights to work throughout the EU.

1.1.9. In 2012 there were 14,756 deaths registered in Northern Ireland, an increase of 552 deaths or 3.9 per cent on the 14,204 deaths registered in 2011. The lowest death rate in the history of Northern Ireland was seen in 2011 (7.8 deaths per 1,000 population). In 2012 this rate increased slightly to 8.1 deaths per 1,000 population.

1.1.10. In 2012 there were 8,480 marriages celebrated, an increase of 114 marriages or 1.4 per cent on the 2011 figure of 8,366 marriages. The highest number of marriages ever recorded in Northern Ireland was in 1970 (12,297 marriages).

1.1.11. There were 2,444 divorces granted in 2012, this is an increase of 101 divorces or 4.3 per cent from the 2011 figure of 2,343 divorces. The number of divorces recorded in 2007 (2,913) was the largest on record for Northern Ireland.

1.1.12. On 5 December 2005 the Civil Partnership Act came into force across the United Kingdom. The new legislation enabled same-sex couples to obtain legal recognition of their relationship. Between December 2005 and the end of 2012, 727 civil partnerships were registered in Northern Ireland.

1.1.13. During 2012 there were 101 civil partnerships registered in Northern Ireland, 51 male civil partnerships and 50 female civil partnerships. This is an increase from the 2011 figure of 89 civil partnerships. In 2012, as in 2011, there were more male than female civil partnerships registered.

1.1.14. Whilst legislation has been in place in Northern Ireland since late 2005 to dissolve a civil partnership through The Civil Partnership Act, there were no dissolutions registered in Northern Ireland until 2010. During 2012 there were 10 civil partnership dissolutions registered in Northern Ireland, six more than in 2011. Six civil partnership dissolutions were to female partners in 2012, compared to four male civil partnership dissolutions.

Key Points

Population and Migration

- The size of the Northern Ireland resident population rose in the year to 30 June 2012 by 9,300 people or 0.5 per cent to 1,823,600.
- Between 2001 and 2004 the population of Northern Ireland grew on average by 8,400 people (0.5 per cent) each year. This increase was due to natural change (more births than deaths) with little change in the size of the population due to migration.
- The European Union expansion in 2004 resulted in increased migration to Northern Ireland, reaching a peak in 2007 with a net migration of 10,900 people to Northern Ireland. Since then, net migration has gradually reduced and arrived at a position of net out migration in mid-2011 and mid-2012. In the year ending mid-2012, other changes resulted in a further reduction of 500 people to the population⁶.
- In terms of civilian migration, the number of people coming to Northern Ireland (23,300 people) was smaller than the number of people leaving Northern Ireland (24,600 people), in the year to mid-2012.

Births

- There were 25,269 births registered in 2012, a similar number to the 2011 figure of 25,273 births and 1,603 (six per cent) fewer than the number of births registered in 1982 (26,872).
- In 2012, the average age of women at childbirth was 30.1 years compared with 29.5 years in 2002, 28.1 years in 1992 and 27.6 years in 1982. Over half (52.4 per cent) of all babies born in 2012 were to mothers aged 30 or more.
- With population estimates for 2001-2011 being revised in light of the 2011 Census, fertility has not reached replacement level (2.10 children per "average woman") since 1991. In 2012 fertility levels rose slightly on the 2011 figure

⁶ This includes Her Majesty's Forces stationed in Northern Ireland.

(reaching 2.03); however this is still below the replacement level.

- In 2012 the percentage of maternities resulting in a multiple birth was 1.5 per cent. There were 371 sets of twins and six sets of triplets registered in 2012.
- The number of births to teenage mothers reached a record low for Northern Ireland in 2012, at 1,100 births.
- In 2012, 42.6 per cent of births were to unmarried parents, the highest figure ever recorded.
- Dungannon had the highest birth rate (16.9) of all the Local Government Districts in 2012, while the lowest birth rates were in Larne (10.9).

Deaths/Stillbirths

- In 2012 there were 14,756 deaths registered in Northern Ireland, an increase of 552 deaths or 3.9 per cent on the 14,204 deaths registered in 2011.
- The expectation of life at birth for males and females based on mortality rates of recent years was 77.7 and 82.1 years respectively, with corresponding figures for men and women based on the mortality rates of 1922 of 53.8 and 54.4 years respectively.
- In 2012, the two most common causes of death were cancer and diseases of the circulatory system. Indeed more than two-thirds of all deaths in 2012 can be attributed to three causes; cancer (4,134 deaths – 28.0 per cent of deaths), diseases of the circulatory system (4,001 deaths – 27.1 per cent of deaths) and diseases of the respiratory system (2,023 deaths – 13.7 per cent of deaths).
- There were 4.2 stillbirths per 1,000 births (live and still) in 2012, a substantial reduction from 20.5 stillbirths per 1,000 births in the early 1960s. This fall has happened despite a change in the definition of stillbirths in 1992.

- There was a similar fall in infant deaths from 26.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in the early 1960s to 3.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2012, the lowest infant death rate on record in Northern Ireland.

Marriages/Divorces

- There were 8,480 marriages celebrated in 2012, an increase of 114 marriages on the 2011 figure of 8,366 marriages. This is in contrast to the early 1970s when around 12,000 marriages were celebrated each year.
- In January 2004, marriage legislation was reformed in Northern Ireland. The new law allowed civil marriage ceremonies to be conducted outside Registrar's Offices in a number of approved venues. In 2012, 1,240 civil marriage ceremonies (47.2 per cent of all civil marriage ceremonies) were held in approved venues.
- There were 2,444 divorces granted in 2012, this is an increase of 101 divorces or 4.3 per cent from the 2011 figure of 2,343 divorces. The number of divorces recorded in 2007 (2,913) was the largest on record for Northern Ireland.

Civil Partnerships/Dissolutions

- The Civil Partnership Act came into force in late 2005, enabling same-sex couples to obtain legal recognition of their relationship. Between December 2005 and the end of 2012, 727 civil partnerships were registered in Northern Ireland.
- During 2012 there were 101 civil partnerships registered in Northern Ireland, 51 male civil partnerships and 50 female civil partnerships. This is an increase from the 2011 figure of 89 civil partnerships.
- In 2012, there were 10 dissolutions registered in Northern Ireland compared to four dissolutions in 2011.

1.2 Population

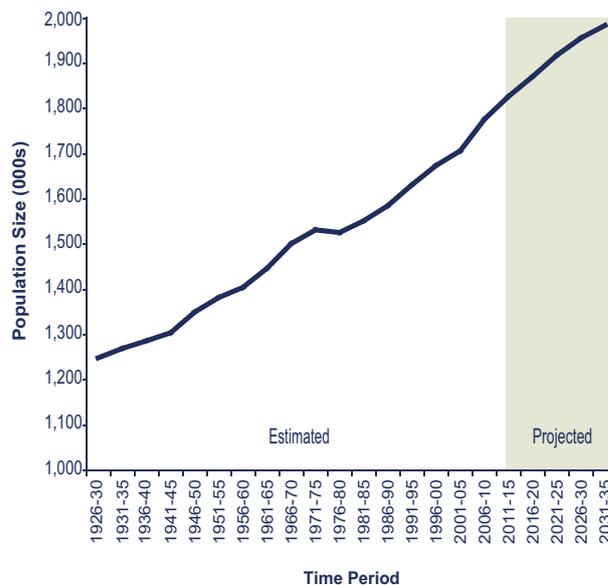
1.2.1. The latest estimate of the size of the Northern Ireland population⁷ (30 June 2012) is 1,823,600 people. Twenty-one per cent of the population were aged under 16 years, 64 per cent were aged 16 to 64, with the remaining 15 per cent of the population aged 65 and over.

1.2.2. In the 12 months to 30 June 2012, Northern Ireland’s population is estimated to have risen by 9,300 persons. Whilst natural growth (i.e. births minus deaths) added 11,100 people to the population, there were more people leaving Northern Ireland than arriving (23,300 versus 24,600), leading to a net loss of population of 1,300 through migration. Other changes, including Her Majesty’s Armed Forces stationed in Northern Ireland, accounted for a further population decrease of 500 persons.

1.2.3. Figure 1.1 shows the long term trend of increasing population, despite a slight decrease in population in the early 1970s as a result of high levels of net outward migration at that time. Latest 2012-based population projections for Northern Ireland show that the population is projected to continue to increase, exceeding 1.9 million in 2020 and 2.0 million persons in 2036.

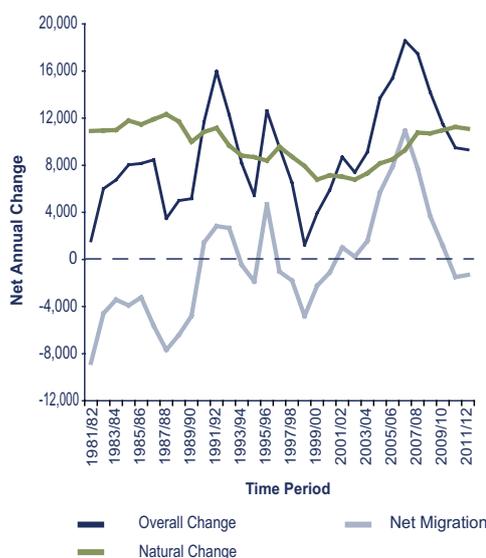
1.2.4. It can be seen from the trends in natural change and net migration presented in Figure 1.2 that, up to 2005, population increase was mostly due to natural change. However, in contrast, in 2006 the contributions to population increase from natural change and migration were of a similar magnitude. In 2007 the contribution from migration was larger than the contribution from natural change. Since then, net migration has gradually reduced and fallen below zero by mid 2011.

Figure 1.1: Population of Northern Ireland (1926 to 2012 estimated – 2013 to 2035 projected) – non-zero y-axis



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

Figure 1.2: Components of population change (1981-82 to 2011-12)



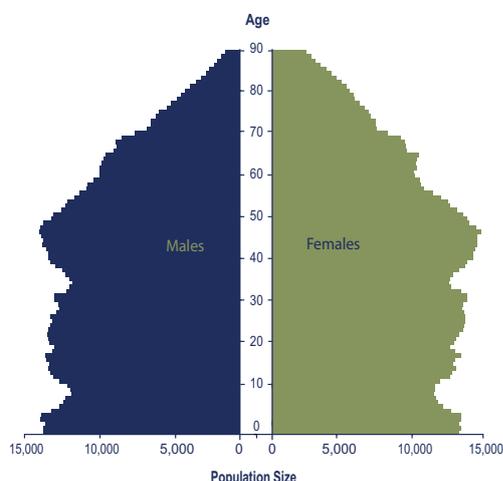
[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 30Kb)

⁷ Reports and statistics are available at <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp17.htm>

Age and Sex Structure

1.2.5. The age structure of Northern Ireland's population continues to get older due to a 20 year period of below replacement level fertility⁸ and continued increasing life expectancy. In mid 2012, there were more females (51 per cent) than males in Northern Ireland. Figure 1.3 shows the age structure of the population in 2012.

Figure 1.3: Northern Ireland population pyramid by sex and age (2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 34Kb)

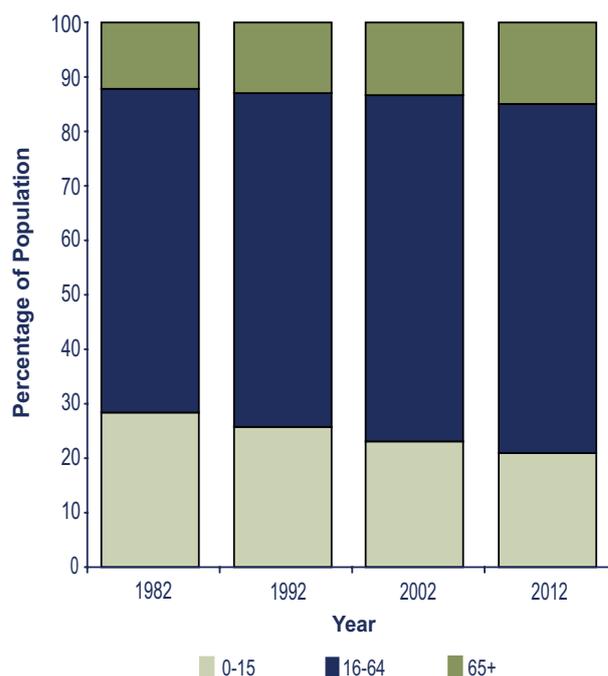
1.2.6. During the twelve months to June 2012, the number of children aged 0 to 15 years increased by 0.4 per cent, the number of people aged 16 to 64 only increased by 0.1 per cent while the older population (65 and over) increased by 2.7 per cent. This compares to an overall population increase of 0.5 per cent. In the decade to 2004, the overall annual rate of population increase was around 7,000 persons (equivalent to 0.4 per cent each year). Between mid-2005 and mid-2009, increases were significantly larger at between 0.8 and 1.1 per cent each year.

1.2.7. Over the past thirty years, lower fertility levels have resulted in a decrease in the number of children aged 0 to 15 years (13 per cent

⁸ In western countries a total period fertility rate of about 2.075 is required to maintain long-term population levels.

decrease). In contrast, the number of people aged 16 to 64 has increased by 27 per cent; and the older population (aged 65 and over) has increased by 45 per cent. The changing age structure of the population since 1982 is illustrated in Figure 1.4.

Figure 1.4: Changing age structure of Northern Ireland population (1982 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 35Kb)

Estimates of the Population aged 85 and over

1.2.8. In June 2012, 32,700 people or just under two per cent of the population were aged 85 years and over. This number has increased by 900 people (+3.0 per cent) in the period between July 2011 and June 2012. Within the population aged 85 and over, women significantly outnumber men at 69 per cent of this population group.

1.2.9. More detailed statistics of the population aged 85 and over in Northern Ireland are available for the period 2001 to 2012⁹, providing estimates by sex and single year of age. It is estimated that

⁹ Estimates of the Population Aged 85 and Over, Northern Ireland 2012 (& Revised 2001-2011) is available at http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/OldestOld/85_Report0112.pdf

in June 2012 there were 241 centenarians (those aged 100 and over) living in Northern Ireland, with the number of centenarians living in Northern Ireland having increased by 91 per cent since June 2002.

Area Comparisons within Northern Ireland

1.2.10. The pattern of continuing population growth is evident within the majority of Northern Ireland's 26 Local Government Districts. All Local Government Districts experienced a natural increase of population (more births than deaths) between mid-2011 and mid-2012. The largest natural increase of population was in Belfast Local Government District, adding 1,400 people, however, this was offset by a population loss of 1,800 persons through migration.

1.2.11. Between 2011 and 2012 Craigavon Local Government District had the greatest increase in population (+1.4 per cent). The population of Dungannon, and Lisburn Local Government Districts increased by +1.2 per cent and +1.0 per cent respectively. These rates of increase are at least twice the Northern Ireland percentage increase (+0.5 per cent).

1.2.12. In 2012, Newry & Mourne was the Local Government District with the highest proportion of children aged 0 to 15 among its population (23.6 per cent), while North Down had the smallest proportion (18.5 per cent). In 2012, North Down Local Government District had the highest proportion of older people aged 65 and over (18.9 per cent) and Derry Local Government District had the smallest proportion (12.3 per cent).

1.3 Migration

1.3.1. Measures of population movement or migration are based on the United Nations definition of a long-term international migrant¹⁰. This definition is in use in population statistics for countries across the European Union. Unlike some other European countries, there is no comprehensive system which registers population movement in the United Kingdom. Therefore, estimates of population movement into, and out of, Northern Ireland are derived from proxy indicators. In Northern Ireland the primary source for estimating this is family doctor registrations. At the Northern Ireland level, the overall effect of population movement is derived from the difference in two “population flows”: the number of people coming to live in Northern Ireland and the number of people leaving Northern Ireland to live elsewhere.

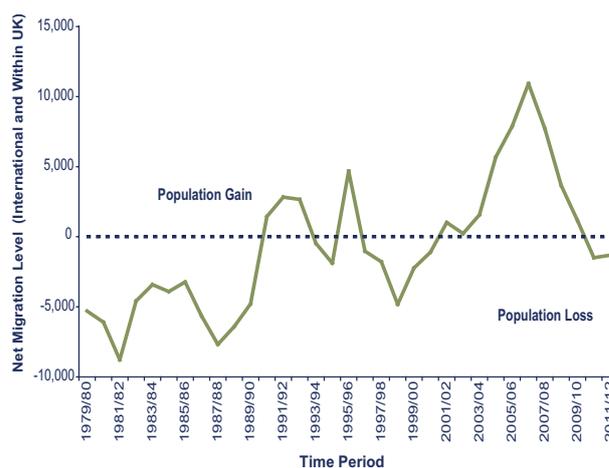
1.3.2. Between July 2011 and June 2012, there were fewer people coming to live in Northern Ireland than leaving (23,300 in and 24,600 out). Since the Second World War it is estimated that around 300,000 more people have left Northern Ireland to live elsewhere than came here to live.

1.3.3. Estimates of net migration for Northern Ireland since the late-1970s are shown in Figure 1.5. The graph can be viewed in terms of three distinct phases of migration. The first phase during the 1970s and 1980s was when Northern Ireland experienced consistently large net population loss due to population movement (or out-migration) approaching 10,000 people in some years. Clearly, the impact of “The Troubles” is significant here.

1.3.4. The second phase from the early 1990s until 2004 shows population movement has been in balance, with broadly the same number of people coming to live in Northern Ireland as leaving. Over this period it is estimated that each year around 20,000 people have come to live in Northern Ireland and 20,000 left. However, in the third

phase since 2004, the number of people estimated to have come here to live rose to, on average, 39,300 persons each year between mid-2004 and mid-2008. This indicates a marked increase in international inflows and is related to the enlargement of the European Union in May 2004, when people from countries in Eastern Europe were allowed to come to work in the United Kingdom and Ireland. The population increase of 0.5 per cent in 2011-12 is dominated by natural change and a return to a position of modest net out migration, similar to that seen in the late 1990s and early 2000s, mainly due to increased migration out of Northern Ireland.

Figure 1.5: Estimated level of net migration (1979-80 to 2011-12)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

Place of Origin/Destination of People Coming to/ Leaving Northern Ireland (2011-12)

1.3.5. Table 1.1 shows where people coming to Northern Ireland last lived. Of the 23,300 people who came to live here during 2011-12, around 56 per cent (12,900) came from outside the United Kingdom. Of this 5,000 came from the Accession countries¹¹ that joined the European Union since May 2004.

¹⁰ “A person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year, so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.” - Taken from “Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration. UN 1998” available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?ID=116>

¹¹ These countries include Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, which joined on 1 May 2004, as well as Bulgaria and Romania (members since 1 January 2007).

Table 1.1: Number of people coming to live in Northern Ireland by country of last residence (2009 to 2012)

Country of Last Residence	Number of people coming to live in Northern Ireland (Mid-2009 to Mid-2010)		Number of people coming to live in Northern Ireland (Mid-2010 to Mid-2011)		Number of people coming to live in Northern Ireland (Mid-2011 to Mid-2012)	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
England and Wales	8,400	34%	8,200	35%	8,300	36%
Scotland	2,200	9%	2,100	9%	2,000	9%
Poland	2,500	10%	2,200	9%	2,100	9%
Republic of Ireland	1,800	7%	1,700	7%	1,600	7%
Lithuania	1,500	6%	1,500	6%	1,400	6%
India	700	3%	700	3%	600	3%
Latvia	700	3%	500	2%	500	2%
China	400	2%	500	2%	400	2%
Slovakia	200	1%	200	1%	400	2%
USA	700	3%	500	2%	400	2%
Portugal	500	2%	500	2%	400	2%
All other EU Accession Countries	800	3%	800	3%	800	3%
All other countries	3,100	13%	3,300	14%	3,300	14%
Unknown	1,000	4%	1,100	5%	1,100	5%
Total Inflow	24,500	100%	23,700	100%	23,300	100%

Source: HSC Business Services Organisation, March 2012, Health Card Registrations

1.3.6. Table 1.1 reflects where people coming to live here last lived not their nationality. Thus some people coming from Great Britain or Ireland will be non-British/Irish nationals, and some people coming from outside the British Isles will be returning British/Irish nationals.

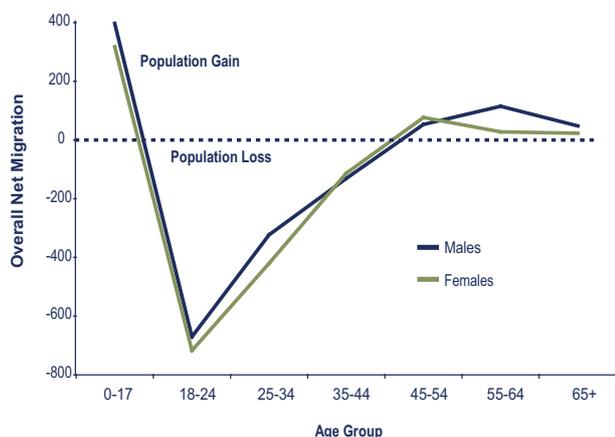
1.3.7. In contrast looking at the 24,600 people who left Northern Ireland to live elsewhere in 2011-12, 49 per cent went to Great Britain and the remainder (51 per cent) to countries outside the UK. Therefore, in total, it is estimated that 1,800 less people moved from Northern Ireland to live in Great Britain, than moved in the opposite direction.

In total, 400 more people came to live here from outside the UK than moved in the opposite direction.

Age-Distribution of Migrants

1.3.8. Figure 1.6 shows the age distribution of net migration in Northern Ireland for 2011-12. There is still a net in migration gain for both males and females in the 0 to 17 age group and also in the 45 and over age group (although to a lesser extent). However, there is a large net outflow of those aged 18 to 44. This is generally speaking the most mobile population group.

Figure 1.6: Net total migration by age group and gender (2011-12)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

Other Data Sources on Migration

1.3.9. As noted earlier, measuring migration is challenging. There are a number of sources available to count people coming to or leaving Northern Ireland. However the sources use different definitions of how, when and where migrants are recorded. That said recent data from all administrative and statistical sources show increased migration from mid-2004 and then slowing down since mid-2007. The sources also give a consistent picture on which parts of Northern Ireland new migrants are working and living in.

1.3.10. From January to December 2012, 2,459 births in Northern Ireland (9.7 per cent of all births) were to mothers born outside the UK and Ireland compared to 690 such births in 2001. Of these, 1,202 births in 2012 were to mothers from the eight Eastern European countries that joined the EU in 2004, compared to 12 such births in 2001.

1.3.11. The School Census (October 2012) shows that about 6,000 primary school children have a language other than English as their ‘first’ language. This is about four per cent of the primary school population, and an increase on the corresponding figure (5,100) for the previous year. For secondary school children, the number of

pupils that have a language other than English as their ‘first’ language remained constant between 2011 and 2012 (2,500 pupils or two per cent of the secondary school population).

1.3.12. There is also spatial variation in migration related statistics for children. In October 2011 about three per cent of primary school children did not have English as their ‘first’ language; however this figure was highest for schools in Dungannon Local Government District at 14 per cent. Similarly, while births to mothers born outside the United Kingdom and Ireland accounted for 10 per cent of all 2012 births, in Dungannon Local Government District the figure was 23 per cent.

1.4 Projected Population – Northern Ireland

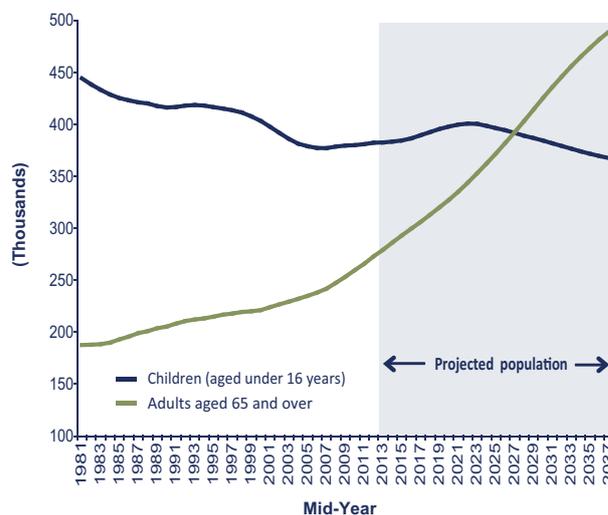
1.4.1. Population projections are produced every other year and the latest projections use 2012 as the base year.

1.4.2. The Northern Ireland population is projected to increase from 1.823 million in 2012 to 1.871 million by 2017. This is equivalent to an average annual rate of growth of 0.5 per cent. Over the longer term the population is projected to reach 1.9 million by 2020.

1.4.3. The projected increase in population is primarily due to natural growth. In the period 2012 to 2017, it is projected that there will be 51,000 more births than deaths. Migration projections in this period show moderate net outflow of 3,000 persons. In the longer term, migration is projected to stabilize at equal flows of persons moving to and leaving Northern Ireland.

1.4.4. Projections indicate a marked increase in the size of the population at older ages, as seen in Figure 1.7. The population aged 65 or more is projected to increase from 273,000 in 2012 to 392,000 by 2027, an increase of 44 per cent. The largest projected population change will occur in the number of people aged 85 and over, doubling within the next 17 years.

Figure 1.7: Children aged under 16 and adults aged 65 and over, actual and projected, 1981 to 2037 – non-zero y-axis



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 30Kb)

1.4.5. Sub-national population projections for Northern Ireland are due for release in Spring 2014¹².

¹² Sub-national population projections will be available at: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp47.htm>
Northern Ireland Population Projections will be available at: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp20.htm>

1.5 Births

Numbers

1.5.1. In 2012, there were 25,269 births registered to Northern Ireland mothers, a similar number to the 2011 figure of 25,273 births. Indeed, the number of births has recovered from an all-time low of 21,385 births registered in 2002. However, the number of births in 2012 is still below corresponding levels of the early 1980s, when almost 26,900 births were registered in 1982.

1.5.2. The number of births registered each year since 1922 is shown in Figure 1.8. This graph shows a noticeable peak after the Second World War. Like many western countries, Northern Ireland experienced a “baby boom” during the second half of the 1950s and early 1960s. Specifically in Northern Ireland, births peaked in 1964 at just over 34,000 live births and then fell dramatically in the early 1970s. The drop in the number of births levelled off in the 1980s at 27,000 births per annum. However, this was mainly a result of the larger number of women, who were born in the baby boom passing through their childbearing years. The decline in births resumed in the 1990s as these women started to complete their families. The mainly increasing number of births since 2002 arrests the recent decline.

Figure 1.8: Number of births registered (1922 to 2012) – non-zero y-axis



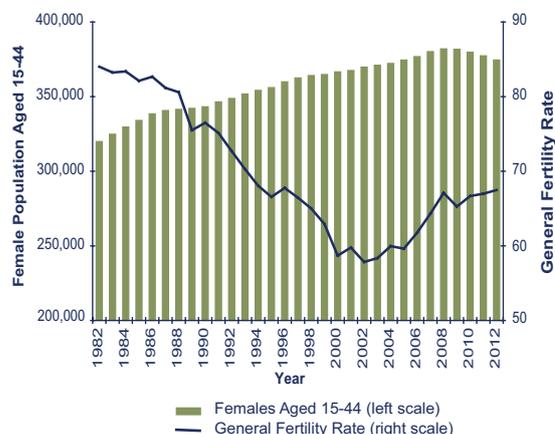
[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

Fertility Rates

1.5.3. The crude birth rate in 2012 has remained unchanged between 2011 and 2012 at 13.9 births per 1,000 population. Over the longer term the birth rate has fallen from its peak in the early 1960s when it was 23.0 births per 1,000 population.

1.5.4. Figure 1.9 shows the general fertility rate (births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 44), along with the number of women aged 15 to 44. The population of females aged 15 to 44 has increased since 1982, however, the general fertility rate has fallen. In 2012, the general fertility rate was 67.5 births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 44. Whilst this is an increase from the record low in 2002 of 57.8 births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 44, it is still well below the general fertility rate in 1982 of 84.0 births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 44.

Figure 1.9: Estimated female population aged 15-44 and general fertility rate (1982 to 2012) - non-zero y-axes



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 30Kb)

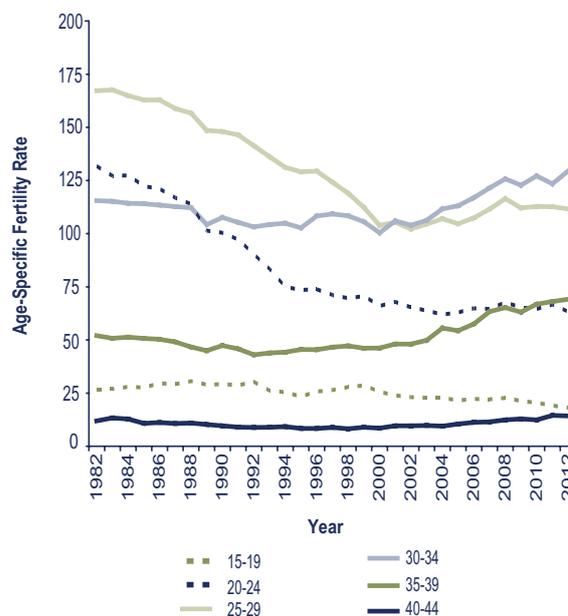
1.5.5. There has been a recent trend towards later childbearing by mothers. In 2012, for all live births, the average age of the mother was 30.1 years, compared with 29.5 in 2002, 28.1 in 1992 and 27.6 in 1982. Just over half (13,235) of all births registered in 2012 were to mothers aged 30 and over; this is a significant increase from 1982 when around 32 per cent of births were to mothers aged 30 and over.

1.5.6. In 2012, for all live births, the average age of the father was 32.7 years compared with 32.4 in 2002. However, six per cent of births in 2012 compared to 10 per cent in 2002 were registered by the mother with no father’s details recorded.

1.5.7. This trend to later childbearing is most apparent in the decline in fertility rates among 20 to 24 year old females. Over the past three decades fertility for this age group has fallen substantially from 132 babies per 1,000 women in 1982 to 63 babies per 1,000 women in 2012. The number of births to teenage mothers has also reached a record low of 1,100 births (4.3 babies per 1,000 women) in 2012.

1.5.8. In 2012, women aged 30-34 years experienced the highest age-specific fertility rate, with 129 babies per 1,000 women, while women aged 25 to 29 years experienced the second highest rate (111 babies per 1,000 women). Figure 1.10 shows the change in age-specific fertility rates by age group over the last 30 years.

Figure 1.10: Live births per 1,000 women by age group of mother (1982 to 2012)

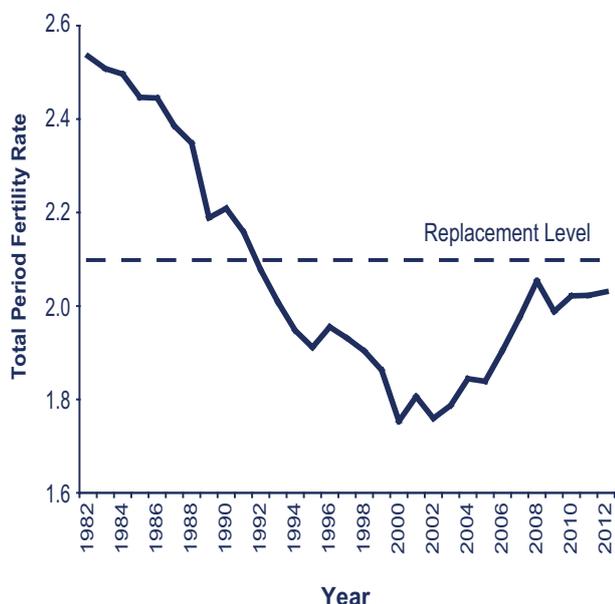


[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 33Kb)

1.5.9. The total period fertility rate is derived from the sum of age-specific fertility rates. It gives the theoretical average number of children who would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the age-specific fertility rates of a given year. A value of 2.1 is generally taken to be the level at which the population would replace itself in the long run, ignoring migration.

1.5.10. The total period fertility rate dropped below replacement level (2.1) in Northern Ireland for the first time in 1992. The total period fertility rate for 2012 was 2.03, which is a recovery from a record low of 1.75 in 2000, but still below the fertility rates in the 1980s. The total period fertility rate for Northern Ireland since 1982 is shown in Figure 1.11.

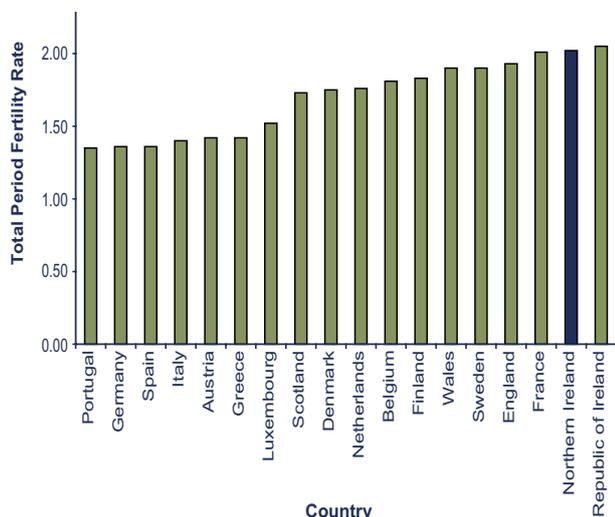
Figure 1.11: Total period fertility rate (1982 to 2012) – non-zero y-axis



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

1.5.11. Figure 1.12 shows the total period fertility rate for Northern Ireland compared to the European Union 15 (EU15) and the other constituent countries of the United Kingdom (UK). Northern Ireland has the highest total period fertility rate of the constituent countries of the UK and the Republic of Ireland is the only EU15 country with a higher total period fertility rate than Northern Ireland. The most recent data for all countries is 2011, as shown in Figure 1.12.

Figure 1.12: Total period fertility rate, EU15 and Constituent Countries of the UK, 2011

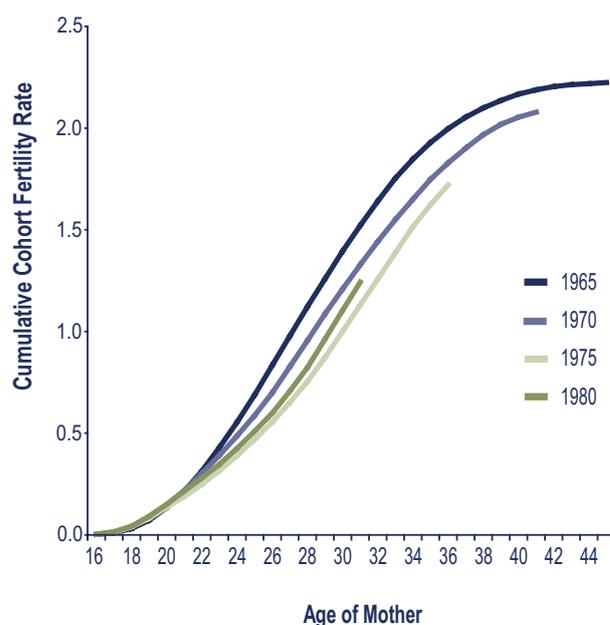


[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

1.5.12. A further measure of fertility is completed family size which is a more accurate picture of fertility for a cohort of women born in a specific year. Figure 1.13 shows the achieved family size, sometimes called cumulative cohort fertility, at specific ages for women born in particular years (or cohorts). Family size at age 45 is taken to represent completed family size. This enables easy comparison between selected cohorts as women pass through the child-bearing ages.

1.5.13. In Northern Ireland those women born in 1965 had attained an average completed family size of 2.2 children by the time they reached 45. Figure 1.13 also permits the comparison of family size at selected ages for the various cohorts as they pass through the childbearing ages. For example, by age 30 the cumulative childbearing of the 1980 cohort is 0.3 children lower than that of the 1965 cohort. A key point in Figure 1.13 is that the 1980 female cohort is ahead in fertility terms of the 1975 cohort at age 30.

Figure 1.13: Cumulative cohort fertility rate for selected birth cohorts



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 40Kb)

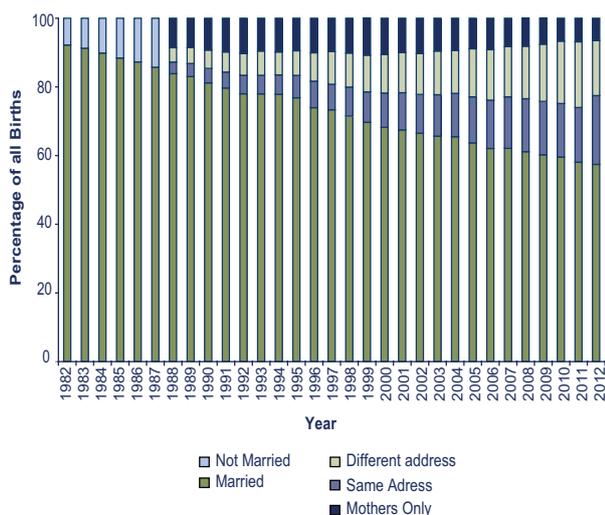
Birth Order

1.5.14. A total of 10,185 births (40 per cent) were to first-time mothers in 2012. Second-time mothers had 8,771 babies (35 per cent) and third-time mothers had 4,143 babies (16 per cent). Only nine per cent of mothers, in 2012, already had three or more live born children reflecting the trend towards smaller family sizes.

Births Outside Marriage

1.5.15. In 2012, 42.6 per cent of all live births occurred outside marriage, the highest figure ever recorded for Northern Ireland. This proportion has been increasing steadily since the early 1960s when the proportion of children born outside marriage was about two per cent. Since 1988, information has been gathered that identifies births registered by married parents, unmarried parents (living at the same address or at different addresses) or by the mother only. In 2012, 84.9 per cent of births outside marriage were jointly registered by both parents. Figure 1.14 shows the change in births by registration status since 1982.

Figure 1.14: Live births by registration status (1982 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 32Kb)

1.5.16. In 2012, 97.5 per cent of births to mothers under the age of 20 were outside marriage, 85.0 per cent of births to mothers aged

between 20 and 24 were outside marriage, while for those aged 25 and over 31.5 per cent of births were outside marriage.

Multiple Births

1.5.17. In 2012, the percentage of maternities resulting in a multiple birth was 1.5 per cent, a decrease on the highest level ever recorded in Northern Ireland in 2011 of 1.7 per cent. There were 371 sets of twins and six sets of triplets registered in 2012.

1.5.18. The percentage of maternities resulting in multiple births has increased from 1.1 per cent in the 1970s to 1.5 per cent in 2012. The percentage of maternities that result in a multiple birth increases with the age of the mother. In 2012, less than one per cent of maternities to mothers aged under 25 resulted in multiple births, while 2.2 per cent of maternities to mothers aged between 35 and 39 resulted in multiple births. As is well known, this difference is related to higher levels of assisted fertility treatment in older mothers.

Place of Birth

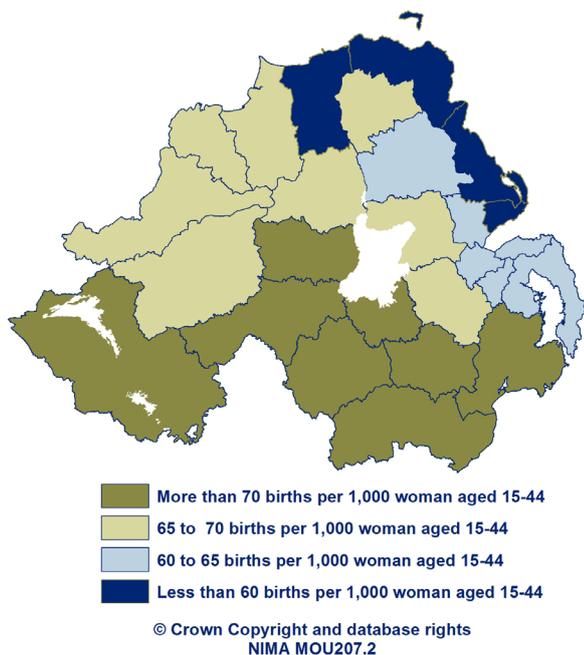
1.5.19. In 2012, 90 babies were born in places other than a hospital; this is similar to the 2011 figure of 89 babies.

Births by Area

1.5.20. Health and Social Care Trust level crude birth rates ranged from 12.8 births per 1,000 population in the Northern Health and Social Care Trust to 15.7 births per 1,000 population in the Southern Health and Social Care Trust. The birth rates in the Belfast, South Eastern and Western Health and Social Care Trusts were 14.2, 12.9 and 14.0 births per 1,000 population respectively.

1.5.21. Dungannon had the highest birth rate (16.9) of all the Local Government Districts in 2012 closely followed by Craigavon (16.0), while the lowest birth rates were in Larne (10.9) and Moyle (11.0). Figure 1.15 shows the 2012 birth rates per 1,000 women of child-bearing age by Local Government District.

Figure 1.15: Live births per 1,000 women aged 15-44, by Local Government District (2012)



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Country of Birth of Parents

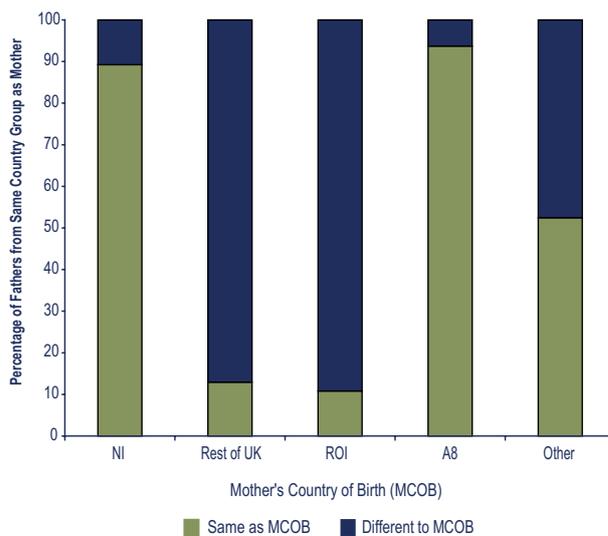
1.5.22. There were 4,450 births registered in Northern Ireland during 2012 where the mother was not born in Northern Ireland (18 per cent of all births). Just under half (45 per cent) of mothers who were not born in Northern Ireland were born either elsewhere in the United Kingdom or in the Republic of Ireland (1,991 births). Ten per cent of all births (2,459 births) were to mothers who themselves were born outside the UK and Ireland. This is a marked rise on previous years, for example, there were just fewer than 700 such births in 2001 or three per cent of all births.

1.5.23. Over recent years, the number of births to mothers born in the A8¹³ countries has increased. The number of births in 2002 to mothers born in the A8 countries was 16. In 2012 the number of such births increased to 1,201.

13 The A8 countries are the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. Malta and Cyprus also joined the EU on 1 May 2004 but are considered separately from the A8 countries as they have full free movement rights to work throughout the EU.

1.5.24. Figure 1.16 shows father's country of birth in relation to the mother's country of birth, where both parents were registered on the birth certificate. Over two-thirds of all children born in Northern Ireland have both parents born in Northern Ireland in 2012. For births where the mother was born in the rest of the UK or the Republic of Ireland, the majority of fathers were born in a different country to the mother, with 75 per cent from Northern Ireland. The trend is different for children whose mother was born in an A8 country, where 82 per cent of these children have an A8 father as well.

Figure 1.16: Live births in Northern Ireland by mother's and father's country of birth (2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 27Kb)

1.6 Stillbirths and Infant Deaths

Numbers

1.6.1. The number of stillbirths in 2012 was 106, an increase of 15 from the 2011 figure of 91. The number of infant deaths in 2012 was 90, a decrease of 20 from the 2011 figure of 110, and the lowest number on record. Deaths in the first week of life accounted for 63 per cent of all infant deaths. The number of infants dying on the first day of life accounted for 32 deaths in 2012, 14 fewer than the number registered in 2011 (46).

1.6.2. Looking further back, the recent infant death figures show a large decrease from the 1920s when over 2,000 infant deaths were registered each year. The number of infant deaths was highest in 1943, with 2,464 infant deaths and lowest in 2012 with 90 infant deaths registered.

1.6.3. As can be seen in Figure 1.17, there have been significant reductions in stillbirth and infant death rates in the period since 1982. The stillbirth rate has reduced from 6.9 stillbirths per 1,000 births (live and still) in 1982 to 4.2 in 2012. This fall has happened despite a change in the definition of a stillbirth in 1992¹⁴. The infant death rate (deaths of children aged under 1 year) has fallen from 13.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 1982 to 3.5 in 2012.

Figure 1.17: Stillbirth and infant death rates (1982 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 31Kb)

1.6.4. As with stillbirths and infant deaths, the numbers of perinatal, neonatal and postneonatal deaths (see Appendix 3 for definitions) have reduced greatly to around one tenth of their values several decades ago. In 2012, the number of perinatal deaths (165), was similar to 2011 (164) and there was a slight decrease in the number of neonatal deaths (80 to 70). The number of postneonatal deaths in 2012 was 20 compared to 22 in 2011. Males accounted for more perinatal, neonatal and infant deaths than females in 2012.

Causes of Infant Deaths and Stillbirths

1.6.5. Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities (ICD10 codes Q00-Q99) were the cause of 46 per cent of all infant deaths. A further 17 per cent were caused by disorders relating to length of gestation and fetal growth (ICD10 codes P05-P08) and 14 per cent of infant deaths were caused by disorders related to respiratory and cardiovascular disorders specific to the perinatal period (ICD10 codes P20-P29).

¹⁴ The Stillbirth (Definition) Act 1992 redefined a stillbirth, from 1 October 1992, as a child which had issued forth from its mother after the 24th week of pregnancy and which did not breathe or show any other sign of life. Prior to 1 October 1992 the statistics related to events occurring after the 28th week of pregnancy.

1.6.6. Two infants died as a result of ill-defined and unknown causes of mortality (ICD10 codes R95-R99). This is a decrease from the nine deaths registered in 2011.

1.6.7. Forty-eight per cent of all stillbirths in 2012 were caused by 'other conditions and disorders originating in the perinatal period' (ICD10 codes P75-P96) while congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities (ICD10 codes Q00-Q99) accounted for a further 17 per cent. Placental and cord conditions (ICD10 code P02) were the cause of 21 per cent of all stillbirths.

Pregnancy, Childbirth and Puerperium

1.6.8. There were no maternal deaths (ICD10 codes O00-O99) in 2012, compared to four in 2011, two in 2010, five in 2009 and none in 2008. There were eight maternal deaths in the period 2003-2007.

1.7 Deaths

Numbers

1.7.1. In 2012, there were 14,756 deaths registered in Northern Ireland, an increase of 552 deaths or 3.9 per cent on the 14,204 deaths registered in 2011. Figure 1.18 shows the number of deaths registered from 1922 to 2012.

1.7.2. The long-term trend in the number of deaths is one of falling death rates. The overall reduction in the number of deaths in recent years has occurred despite the population increasing in size and containing a higher proportion of elderly people. The current population is 18 per cent larger than it was in 1982 and those aged 75 and over represent seven per cent of the population now compared to only five per cent in 1982. Indeed, if the age-specific death rates of 1982 still applied today, the number of deaths registered in 2012 would have been almost 25,000; just over 10,000 higher than the actual number registered. This reduction is reflected in the continuing reduction in mortality rates across all age groups and the corresponding increase in life expectancy.

Figure 1.18: Number of deaths registered (1922 to 2012) – non-zero y-axis



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

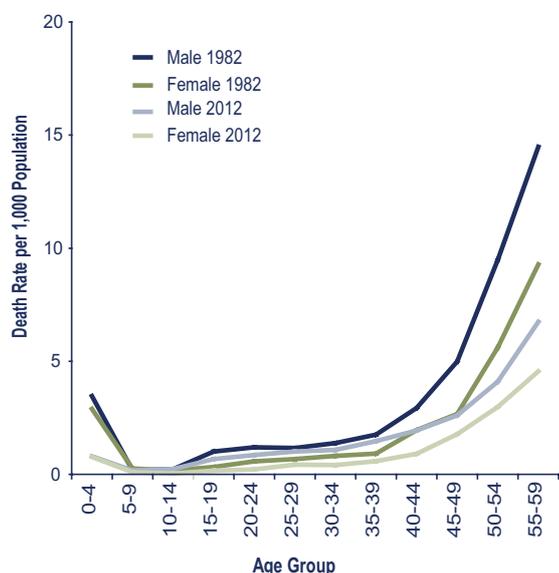
Mortality by Age

1.7.3. In 2012, 65 per cent of deaths were of people aged 75 and over, and a further 22 per cent were of people aged 60 to 74. Children aged under five accounted for one per cent of all deaths.

1.7.4. The average age at death in 2012 was 73 years for males and 80 years for females, an increase of six years on the average age at death for males (67 years) and seven years for females (73 years) in 1982. This reflects the increased survival of males and females over the period and the consequential ageing of the population.

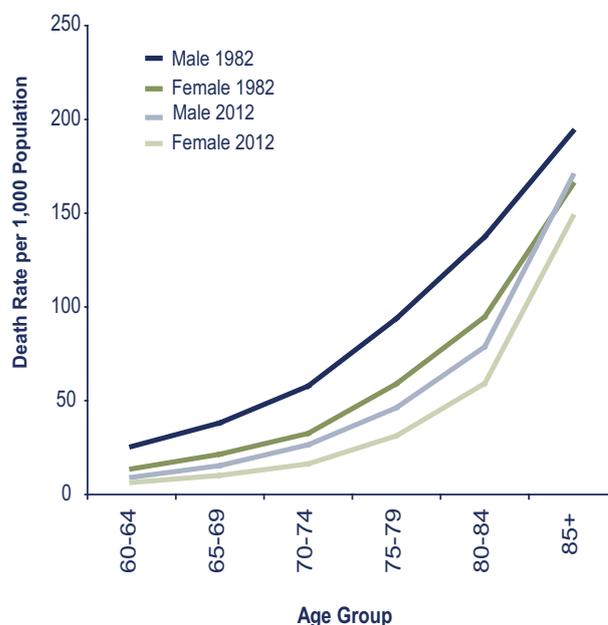
1.7.5. From the relatively high rates of death in infancy, death rates sharply decline through childhood. The lowest age-specific death rates (ASDRs) were experienced by males and females aged 1 to 4 years, 5 to 9 years and 10 to 14 years, with ASDRs of 0.0 to 0.2 per 1,000 population for males and females. ASDRs begin to increase after age 15 years, for both males and females. Throughout the life span, ASDRs are higher for males. However, the difference between males and females becomes more prominent after the age of 60 years. Figures 1.19a and 1.19b show age-specific death rates for males and females by age group for 1982 and 2012.

Figure 1.19a: Age-specific death rates by age group and sex (1982 and 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 36Kb)

Figure 1.19b: Age-specific death rates by age group and sex (1982 and 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 36Kb)

1.7.6. In the past 30 years the annual risk of dying has declined for people of all ages. The largest declines in male age-specific death rates occurred in the 0 to 4 years age group (down 77 per cent), followed by those aged 60 to 64 years (down 64 per cent), and 65 to 69 years (down 60 per cent). Female age-specific death rates declined most substantially for 10 to 14 years (down 79 per cent), 0 to 4 years (down 73 per cent), followed by those aged 5 to 9 years (down 65 per cent).

Mortality by Sex

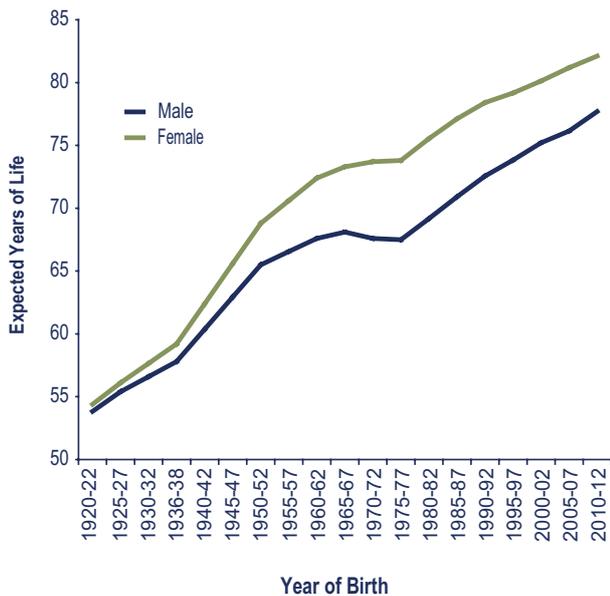
1.7.7. Female deaths (7,662) outnumbered male deaths (7,094) registered in 2012, giving a sex ratio of 108 female deaths for every 100 male deaths. The number of female deaths has outnumbered male deaths for each of the last 24 years.

1.7.8. In 1982, males had a death rate of 10.6 deaths per 1,000 population compared to females with a death rate of 10.0 deaths per 1,000 population. By 2012, the male death rate was 7.9 deaths per 1,000 population and the female rate was higher at 8.2 deaths per 1,000 population.

Life Expectancy

1.7.9. Children born today can expect to have longer lives than children born in the past. Based on current death rates, males born between 2010 and 2012 could expect to live until they are 77.7 years and females could expect to live until they are 82.1 years, with corresponding figures for men and women born around 1920-22 of 53.8 and 54.4 years respectively. While women aged 65 today could expect to live another 20.5 years, their male counterparts could expect to live another 17.8 years. Figure 1.20 shows the change in the expectation of life at birth for males and females since 1920.

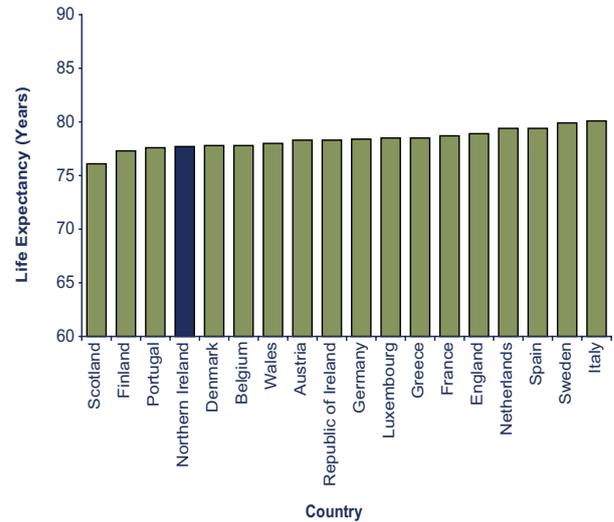
Figure 1.20: Period expectation of life at birth, by sex (1920-22 to 2010-12) - non-zero y-axis



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 28Kb)

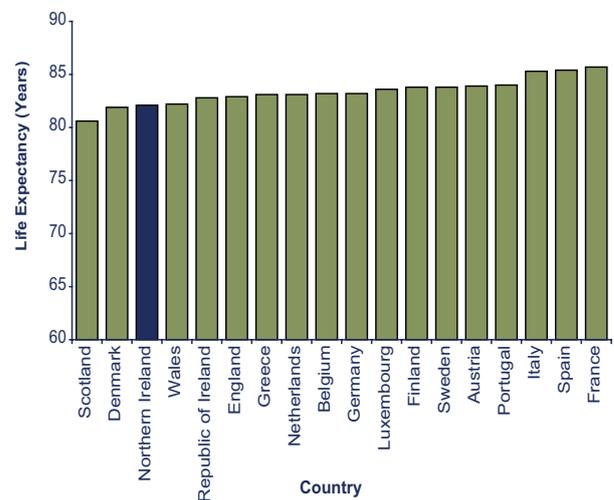
1.7.10. Figure 1.21 and Figure 1.22 show that Northern Ireland has generally lower expectation of life at birth for both males and females compared to other European (EU15) countries. The figures also show that only Scotland, amongst the other United Kingdom countries, have lower life expectancy than Northern Ireland for both males and females. The most recent data available for all countries is for 2011.

Figure 1.21: Life expectancy at birth, EU15 and constituent countries of the UK, 2011, male - non-zero y-axis



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 32Kb)

Figure 1.22: Life expectancy at birth, EU15 and constituent countries of the UK, 2011, female - non-zero y-axis



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Cohort Life Expectancy

1.7.11. Expectation of life statistics are a standard way of comparing mortality rates over time. Typically, these statistics are calculated using today's age-specific mortality rates - this is known as the 'period life expectancy' calculation. This enables the comparison of mortality rates

over time, or for different areas, and allows the expectancy of life statistics of today to be compared with those of the past. Expectation of life statistics given in Figures 1.20, 1.21 and 1.22 are an example of this. However, in practice period life expectancy is unlikely to be a true reflection of what is likely to happen. Throughout the twentieth century, mortality has improved significantly, with around a one per cent year on year improvement in mortality rates.

1.7.12. Expectation of life statistics can however be calculated another way. This alternative is known as a ‘cohort life expectancy’ calculation. Cohort expectation of life statistics are calculated using age-specific mortality rates over the lifetime of a group of people born in the same year (a cohort). The cohort method allows for projected improvements in mortality rates over time. As the cohort estimates incorporate population projections they inherently have more uncertainty than period estimates. Table 1.2 shows period (2010-12) and projected cohort (2010) expectations of life.

Table 1.2: Period (2010-12) and projected cohort (2010) expectations of life - males and females

Expectation of Life (years)	Males	Females
At birth - Period	77.7	82.1
At birth - Projected Cohort	88.9	93.1
Percentage difference	15%	13%
Age 65 - Period	17.8	20.5
Age 65 - Projected Cohort	20.4	23.4
Percentage difference	15%	14%

Mortality by Marital Status

1.7.13. Of all men whose deaths were registered during 2012, 52 per cent were married at the time of death, while 22 per cent were widowed and 20 per cent were single. In contrast, of all women whose deaths were registered during 2012, 55 per cent were widows at the time of death, with a further 26 per cent married and 14 per cent single. This difference is a consequence of the greater longevity of women.

Centenarians

1.7.14. There were 100 deaths of centenarians in 2012. Only 16 of these deaths were males, comprising five men aged 100, four aged 101, five aged 103 and two aged 104. There were 84 female deaths of centenarians, 31 women aged 100, 25 aged 101, 13 aged 102, eight aged 103, four aged 104, two aged 105 and one aged 106. In contrast, there were 21 deaths of centenarians in 1982 of which four were male and 17 were female.

Place of Death and Type of Death Certificate Issued

1.7.15. Of the 14,756 deaths registered in 2012, 49 per cent of these occurred in NHS hospitals. A further 22 per cent of deaths occurred in other hospitals or nursing homes. The remaining deaths occurred in all other places.

1.7.16. For 79 per cent of deaths registered in 2012, a medical certificate was issued, while coroner’s certificates were issued for the remaining 21 per cent of deaths. A death must be reported to a coroner if the person has not seen a doctor in the 28 days before they died or immediately afterwards, a doctor had not looked after, seen or treated the person during their last illness (in other words, death was sudden), the cause of death is unknown or uncertain, the death was violent or unnatural (for example, suicide, accident or drug or alcohol overdose), the death was in any way suspicious, the death took place during surgery or recovery from an anesthetic, the death took place in prison or police custody, or the death was caused by an industrial disease or accident.

Deaths by Date of Registration and Date of Occurrence

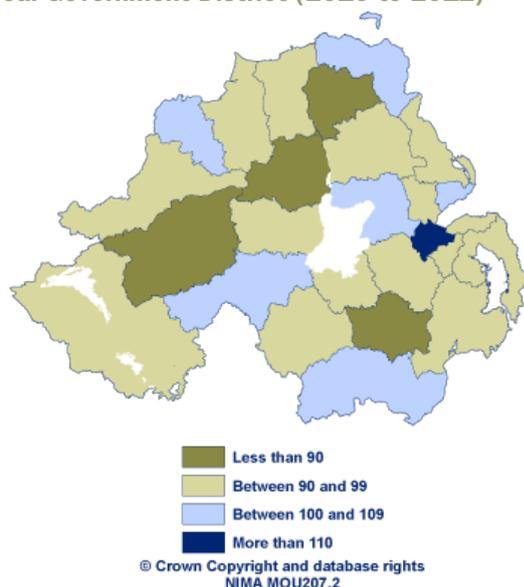
1.7.17. All figures recorded in this report are based on the year that the death was registered and not the year in which the death occurred. While the vast majority of deaths are registered shortly after death, some can take time to be registered. In 2012, 94.1 per cent of deaths were registered in the year they occurred. Events such as infant death or suicide must be referred to a coroner and this legal process can take some time.

Deaths by Area

1.7.18. The standardised death rate, which allows for the age and sex structure of the population, was highest in the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust at 9.1 deaths per 1,000 population and lowest for both the Northern and South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust at 7.6 deaths per 1,000 population. The standardised death rate in Southern and Western Health and Social Care Trusts were 8.1 and 8.2 deaths per 1,000 population respectively.

1.7.19. Standardised mortality ratios (SMRs), based on three years data (2010-2012), compare local death rates with death rates in Northern Ireland as a whole, taking account of the different population structure of each area. SMRs by Local Government District are presented in Figure 1.23. Two Local Government Districts, Belfast and Derry have a standardised mortality ratio significantly above the Northern Ireland average of 100.

Figure 1.23: Standardised mortality ratios by Local Government District (2010 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 23Kb)

Deaths by Country of Birth

1.7.20. In 2012, 89 per cent of all deaths registered in Northern Ireland were to persons who had been born in Northern Ireland. A further 10 per cent of deaths were to persons who had been born in the rest of the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland. The remaining one per cent were to persons born in other countries of the world.

1.8 Cause of Death

Numbers

1.8.1. All deaths registered in 2012 have been coded using the tenth revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death (ICD10).

1.8.2. In total, circulatory diseases, malignant neoplasms (cancer) and respiratory diseases accounted for 69 per cent of all deaths in 2012.

1.8.3. In 2012, 4,134 people died from cancer, an increase on recent years. Cancer deaths (ICD10 codes C00-C97) represent 28 per cent of all deaths registered in 2012 compared to 19 per cent of all deaths in 1982. By contrast, in 2012, 1,975 people died from ischaemic heart disease (ICD10 codes I20-I25), a decrease of 57 per cent from the 1982 figure of 4,563 deaths.

1.8.4. Some of the principal causes of death are considered in the following sections.

Malignant Neoplasms (ICD10 Codes C00-C97)

1.8.5. Cancer accounted for 4,134 deaths in 2012, 28 per cent of all deaths, and the largest number of cancer deaths ever registered in Northern Ireland. Prior to 2007 the number of deaths due to cancer had remained broadly stable at about 3,700 per year. Cancer now accounts for the largest number of deaths attributable to a single group of causes.

1.8.6. The most common cancer site for males and females was the trachea, bronchus or lung (ICD10 Codes C33-C34), which accounted for 25 per cent of male cancer deaths and 21 per cent of female cancer deaths in 2012. Deaths of females due to breast cancer (ICD10 Code C50) accounted for 15 per cent of female cancer deaths in 2012. Deaths of males due to prostate cancer (ICD10 Code C61) accounted for 12 per cent of male cancer deaths in 2012.

Diseases of the Circulatory System (ICD10 Codes I00-I99)

1.8.7. In 2012, these diseases accounted for 4,001 deaths; 27 per cent of all deaths in Northern Ireland. Between 2002 and 2012 the number of deaths due to diseases of the circulatory system fell from 5,729 to 4,001 (30 per cent).

1.8.8. Deaths due to diseases of the circulatory system are mostly accounted for by ischaemic heart disease (ICD10 Codes I20-I25) and cerebrovascular disease or stroke (ICD10 Codes I60-I69), which accounted for, respectively, 13 per cent and seven per cent of all deaths in 2012. The number of male deaths from ischaemic heart disease exceeds the number of female deaths, whereas female deaths from cerebrovascular disease are more numerous than male deaths.

Respiratory Diseases (ICD10 Codes J00-J99)

1.8.9. Deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 2,023 in 2012; 14 per cent of all deaths in Northern Ireland. These included 807 deaths from pneumonia (ICD10 Codes J12-J18), 805 from chronic lower respiratory diseases (ICD10 Codes J40-J47) and 411 due to all other respiratory diseases. The number of deaths due to diseases of the respiratory system was slightly above the previous ten-year average (2002 to 2011 inclusive) of 1,973 deaths.

1.8.10. In April 2009 a worldwide outbreak of the H1N1 virus (swine flu) reached Europe. As a result more strict influenza monitoring procedures were put into place to measure the impact of the virus. During the 2012 registration year there were no cases in Northern Ireland of people who died from the H1N1 virus. This compares to 22 such deaths during the 2011 registration year, nine in 2010 and 14 in 2009.

External Causes of Death (ICD10 Codes V01-Y98)

1.8.11. The number of deaths from external causes registered in 2012 was 737, of which 488 were males and 249 were females, with the corresponding figures for 2011 being 785 deaths - 547 male and 238 female. In the ten-year period

2002-2011 inclusive, there were on average 750 deaths per year from external causes of death.

1.8.12. The number of deaths from transport accidents (ICD10 Codes V01-V99) in 2012 (84) has fallen from 90 deaths in 2011. Almost three-quarters (74 per cent) of all transport accident deaths in 2012 were of males.

Deaths from Suicide and Events of Undetermined Intent (X60-X84, Y87.0, Y10-Y34, Y87.2)

1.8.13. In the United Kingdom, deaths classified as 'events of undetermined intent' along with 'intentional self-harm' are classified as suicide. In 2012, there were 278 such deaths registered in Northern Ireland, of which 215 were of males and 63 were of females. This is a decrease from the 289 registrations in 2011 (216 males and 73 females).

1.8.14. All suicides are referred to the coroner. These deaths can take time to be fully investigated and there is often a period of time between when the suicide occurs and when it is registered. A significant number of suicides registered in 2012 occurred in earlier years. Of the 278 such deaths registered in 2012, 138 actually occurred in 2012, 109 occurred in 2011, 18 occurred in 2010, 3 occurred in 2009, with the remaining 10 occurring in 2008 or earlier.

1.8.15. Prior to 2004, there were seven coroner's districts in Northern Ireland. Following a review of the coroner's service, the separate districts were amalgamated into one centralised coroner's service. This change may have affected the timing of the registration of deaths, with statistics from 2004 onwards being more timely.

1.8.16. Table 1.3 compares the number of suicide and undetermined deaths being registered each year with the number occurring in those years. Occurrence figures for 2010 and 2011 should be used with caution, as a significant number of deaths occurring in these years will, as yet, not have been registered. All occurrence figures in the Table are subject to revision as additional late registrations of suicide and undetermined deaths

are made. A paper discussing the registration process for suicide deaths and the impact of the time taken to investigate the death on official suicide death statistics has recently been published¹⁵.

Table 1.3: Number of suicide and undetermined deaths registered and actual number occurring (2002-2012)

Year	Suicide and Undetermined Deaths (Year Registered)	Suicide and Undetermined Deaths (Year Occurred)
2002	183	202
2003	144	165
2004	146	237
2005	213	229
2006	291	221
2007	242	257
2008	282	254
2009	260	228
2010	313	290 ¹
2011	289	229 ¹

1 Figures should be treated with caution as a significant number of deaths occurring in these years will, as yet, not have been registered.

Smoking Related Deaths

1.8.17. Information is not recorded on the death certificate on whether the deceased was a smoker. Estimates can however be made of the number of deaths attributable to smoking, by using information on the contribution of smoking to specific conditions which are recorded at death, for example lung cancer.

1.8.18. Research has been undertaken by the Health Development Agency to derive attributable proportions of smoking related deaths based on published relative risk factors for mortality of

current and ex-smokers from various diseases, counts of death by cause, and estimates of current and ex-smoking behaviour.

1.8.19. The attributable proportions derived were then applied to Northern Ireland counts of cause-, sex- and age- specific mortality. Table 1.4 shows the estimated number of smoking related deaths between 2002 and 2012 using this method. On average there are around 2,300 deaths per annum attributable to smoking. Further information on the method used is given in Appendix 3.

Table 1.4 Estimated number of smoking related deaths registered (2002-2012)

Year	Smoking Related Deaths
2002	2,340
2003	2,390
2004	2,350
2005	2,290
2006	2,320
2007	2,310
2008	2,400
2009	2,360
2010	2,310
2011	2,270
2012	2,270

Alcohol Related Deaths

1.8.20. In 2005, the definition of alcohol related deaths was widened to include additional causes of death with a clear causal relationship to alcohol consumption. The main addition is 'mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol' (see Appendix 3 for further details). In 2012, a total of 270 people died from alcohol related deaths using the new definition; 178 males and 92 females. The equivalent 2011 figure is 252 deaths (177 males and 75 females). The number of alcohol related deaths in 2012 is 13 per cent higher than the 238 deaths registered in 2002. Figure 1.24

15 Suicide Statistics in Northern Ireland: Impact of Time Taken to Investigate the Death is available at http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/publications/suicides/Impact_of_registration_delays_on_suicide_statistics_in_Northern_Ireland.pdf

shows the trend in the number of alcohol related deaths since 1992 using the new definition. The equivalent 2010 figure is 284 deaths (191 males and 93 females) and the number of alcohol related deaths in 2011 is 38 per cent higher than the 206 deaths registered in 2001. Figure 1.23 shows the trend in the number of alcohol related deaths since 1991 using the new definition.

Figure 1.24: Deaths from alcohol related diseases by sex (1992 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 27Kb)

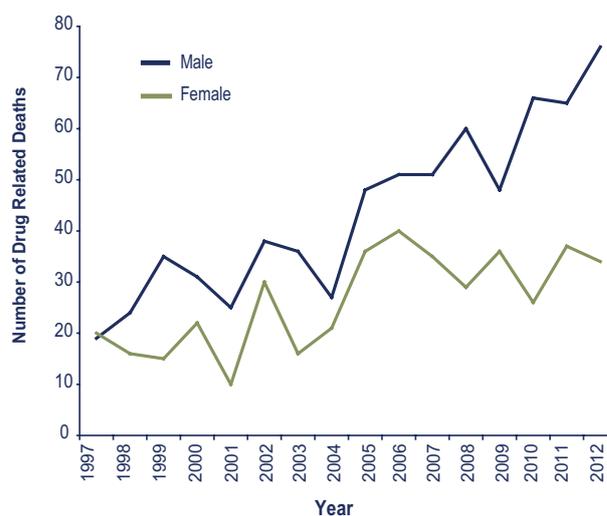
Drug Related Deaths

1.8.21. Drug related deaths relate to cases where the underlying cause of death recorded on the death certificate is drug poisoning, drug abuse or drug dependence. Deaths from substances of abuse which are not traditionally regarded as drugs, such as alcohol and tobacco, are excluded from the definition. Further information on the definition can be found in Appendix 3.

1.8.22. In 2012, there were 110 drug related deaths; 76 males and 34 females. This is an eight per cent increase from the equivalent 2011 figure of 102 deaths (65 males and 37 females). The number of drug related deaths in 2012 is 62 per cent higher than the number registered in 2002 when there were 68 drug related deaths. Figure

1.25 shows the trend in the number of drug related deaths since 1997.

Figure 1.25: Drug related deaths by sex (1997 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 28Kb)

Asbestos Related Deaths

1.8.23. In 2012, 62 asbestos related deaths were registered in Northern Ireland while there were 72 such deaths in 2011. The 2004 figure of 92 deaths was the highest number recorded in the period from 2002 to 2012. See Appendix 3 for further information on asbestos related deaths.

Healthcare Associated Infections

1.8.24. In 2012, 18 deaths were registered where Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) was mentioned on the death certificate. Of these, four deaths had MRSA recorded as the underlying cause of death. Corresponding figures for 2011 were 30 deaths where MRSA was mentioned on the death certificate of which 12 deaths had MRSA recorded as the underlying cause of death.

1.8.25. The number of deaths where *Clostridium difficile* was mentioned on the death certificate in 2012 was 74. Of these, 23 deaths had *Clostridium difficile* as the underlying cause of death. This compares to equivalent figures for 2011 of 81 deaths with *Clostridium difficile*

mentioned on the death certificate of which 31 deaths had *Clostridium difficile* recorded as the underlying cause of death.

1.8.26. In 2008 there was an outbreak of *Clostridium difficile* infection in Northern Ireland; this resulted in a public inquiry being conducted. The purposes of the inquiry were to (i) establish how many deaths occurred for which *Clostridium difficile* was the underlying cause of death, or was a condition contributing to death and (ii) to examine and report on the experiences of patients and others who were affected directly by the outbreak. The impact of this outbreak is reflected in the increase in *Clostridium difficile* deaths registered in 2008 (191 deaths with *Clostridium difficile* mentioned on the death certificate and 64 where *Clostridium difficile* was the underlying cause of death). The Inquiry Report was published on 21st March 2011¹⁶.

Main Causes of Death by Age and Sex

1.8.27. Mortality rates by cause of death vary with age and sex. A total of 90 deaths of children aged less than one year were registered in 2012, 78 per cent of whom died within the first four weeks of life. The majority of infant deaths were attributed to certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (ICD10 Codes P00-P96, 39 deaths) and congenital anomalies (ICD10 Codes Q00-Q99, 41 deaths).

1.8.28. A total of 41 children aged 1 to 14 died in 2012. Cancer (ICD10 Codes C00-C97) accounted for nine of these deaths, while external causes of death (ICD10 Codes V01-Y98) accounted for eight deaths, diseases of the respiratory system (ICD10 Codes J00-J99) accounted for five deaths and certain infectious and parasitic diseases (ICD10 Codes A00-B99) accounted for four deaths.

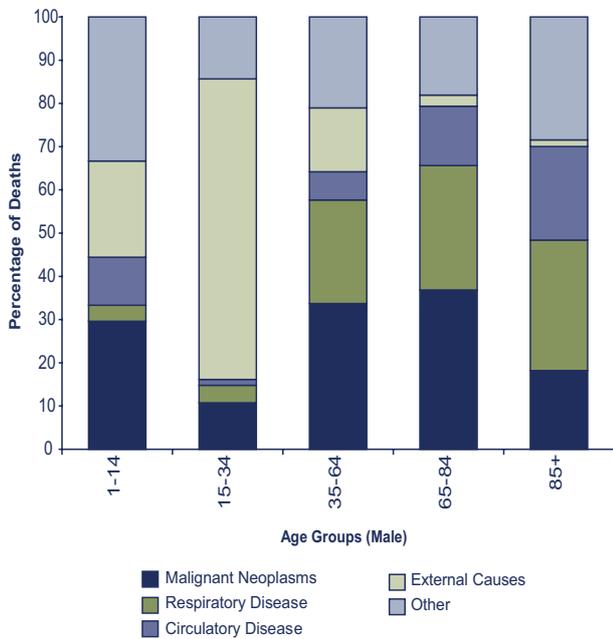
1.8.29. A total of 299 people aged 15 to 34 died in 2012. External causes of death accounted for more deaths than any other cause (185 deaths, 62 per cent of deaths of persons aged 15 to 34). Thirty-eight per cent of all suicide and self inflicted injury and events of undetermined intent (107 out of 278 suicides) and 46 per cent of deaths due to transport accidents (39 out of 84 transport accident deaths) involved people aged 15 to 34.

1.8.30. Of the 2,331 people who died between the ages of 35 to 64 (of which 60 per cent were male), cancer accounted for 40 per cent of deaths in 2012, while diseases of the circulatory system accounted for a further 20 per cent of deaths in this age group.

1.8.31. Deaths of people aged 65 and over accounted for 81 per cent of all deaths in 2012. Although the death rate from cancer continues to increase with age and accounted for 26 per cent of deaths in this age group, the death rates from diseases of the circulatory system increase more quickly with age and this accounted for 29 per cent of deaths to those aged 65 and over. For those aged 85 or more, diseases of the circulatory system accounted for 32 per cent of deaths, diseases of the respiratory system 18 per cent and cancer 14 per cent. Figures 1.26 and 1.27 show the main causes of death by age group for male and female deaths respectively.

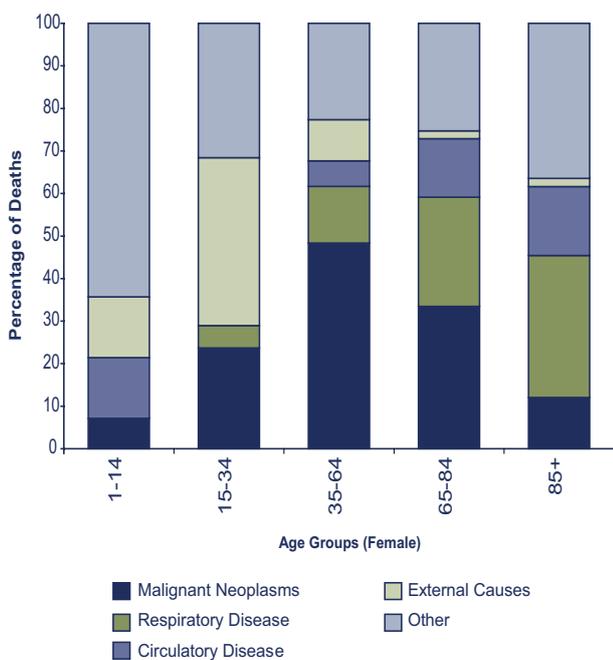
16 Further details can be found on the Inquiry website at: <http://www.cdifinquiry.org/index.htm>

Figure 1.26: Percentage of male deaths by cause and age group (2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 34Kb)

Figure 1.27: Percentage of female deaths by cause and age group (2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 34Kb)

1.9 Marriages

Numbers

1.9.1. There were 8,480 marriages registered in 2012, an increase of 114 marriages or 1.4 per cent on the 2011 figure of 8,366 marriages. Figure 1.28 shows the number of marriages from 1922. The number of marriages registered in 2012 is significantly higher than the low of 7,281 marriages in 2001, but still below the levels seen 30 years ago of around 10,000 marriages a year.

Figure 1.28: Number of marriages registered (1922 to 2012) – non-zero y-axis



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

Age at Marriage

1.9.2. The average age at marriage has increased markedly in the last two decades. The average age at marriage for all brides in 2012 was 31.5 years of age. This compares to 30.0 years in 2002, 27.0 years in 1992 and 24.5 years in 1982. The average age of the groom was 33.7 years in 2012. This compares to 32.3 years in 2002, 29.0 years in 1992 and 26.6 years in 1982.

1.9.3. The average age for first marriages has also increased and is now 29.5 for single females and 31.3 for single males, both around six years older than their counterparts 30 years ago.

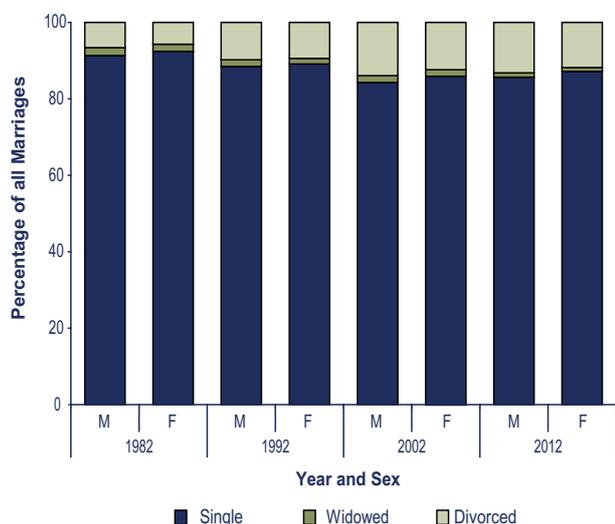
1.9.4. The age difference between brides and grooms at first marriage is around two years. This has remained fairly constant over the last 30 years.

Marital Status at Marriage

1.9.5. Figure 1.29 gives the percentage of marriages by marital status at the time of marriage between 1982 and 2012. The percentage of people marrying who are divorcees rose from six per cent in 1982 to 13 per cent in 2002 and has remained at about this level since. This coincides with a decrease in the proportion of marriages where one of the partners was single before marriage. The proportion of those marrying who were widowed has decreased over the past 30 years from around two to one per cent for both brides and grooms.

1.9.6. Just over half (52 per cent) of couples who married in 2012 lived at the same address before marriage.

Figure 1.29: Percentage of marriages by sex and marital status (1982 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 28Kb)

Bride and Groom Usual Residence

1.9.7. Of the 8,480 marriages in 2012, 7,556 (89 per cent) were to couples where one or both partners lived in Northern Ireland. In the remaining 924 marriages (11 per cent) neither partner lived

in Northern Ireland. Of these 924 marriages just over two-thirds (68 per cent) were marriages where one or both partners were born in Northern Ireland; clearly relating to people returning home to get married.

Bride and Groom Country of Birth

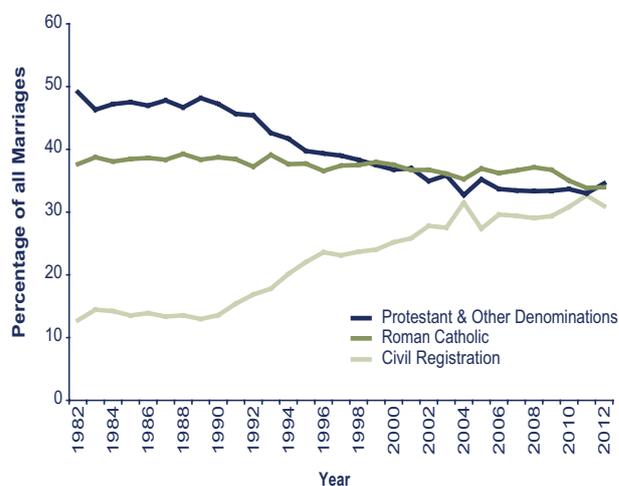
1.9.8. Overall, in 70 per cent (5,934 marriages) of marriages registered in 2012 both partners were born in Northern Ireland, in 23 per cent (1,962 marriages) one partner was born in Northern Ireland and in the remaining seven per cent (584 marriages) neither partner was born in Northern Ireland.

Religious and Civil Marriages

1.9.9. In 2012, 31 per cent of all marriages (2,626) were celebrated by a civil ceremony, compared to only 13 per cent of marriages in 1982. This is a slight decrease on the all-time high of 33 per cent in 2011.

1.9.10. Of the 5,854 religious marriages registered in 2012, 50 per cent were Roman Catholic ceremonies, 19 per cent Presbyterian, 14 per cent Church of Ireland, four per cent Methodist and 13 per cent other denominations. Figure 1.30 shows the change in type of ceremony from 1982 to 2012.

Figure 1.30: Percentage of marriages by method of celebration (1982 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 31Kb)

Place of Ceremony

1.9.11. The Marriage (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 now allows civil marriage ceremonies to be conducted in a number of approved venues outside of Registrar’s Offices. In 2012, 1,240 civil marriage ceremonies (47 per cent of all civil marriage ceremonies) were held in approved venues other than a Registrar’s Office, a similar number to the 1,291 such ceremonies in 2011. The most popular locations were Galgorm Manor Hotel, Ballymena (72 civil weddings) followed by Belfast Castle (64 civil marriages), Clarion Hotel, Carrickfergus (44 civil marriages), and The Old Inn, Crawfordsburn (38 civil marriages).

1.9.12. The ability to conduct religious marriage ceremonies in venues other than religious buildings varies by religion and denomination. In 2012, 781 religious marriage ceremonies (13 per cent of all religious marriage ceremonies) were held outside of religious buildings, up from 11 per cent in 2011.

1.9.13. Belfast Registrar’s Office had the most weddings of all Registrar’s Offices in 2012, St. Eugene’s Cathedral, St. Columba’s Church, Long Tower and St. Patrick’s Church, Pennyburn, all in Derry Local Government District, had the most weddings of all religious buildings.

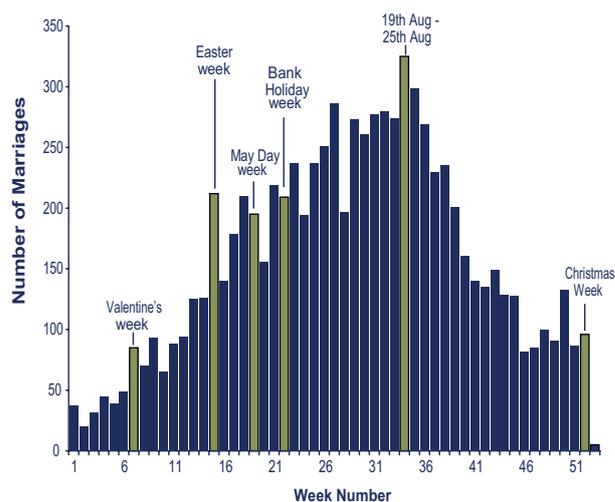
Marriage Day

1.9.14. The most common day of the week for all marriages was a Saturday (36 per cent) while Friday was the most common day for civil marriages (31 per cent). The most common month to get married was August (1,314 couples) followed by June (1,079 couples). Saturday 25th August was the most popular day in 2012 to get married, with 113 couples marrying on that date. Saturday 7th July was the second most popular date, with 112 couples choosing that date for their wedding. Only 146 marriages took place on a Sunday in 2012, 25 of which were civil marriages – the latter only becoming possible under the 2003 legislation.

1.9.15. Figure 1.31 shows the number of marriages by week, with dates of selected weeks highlighted. The most popular week to get married

was from Sunday 19th August to Saturday 25th August (325 couples got married).

Figure 1.31: Number of marriages per week (2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 30Kb)

Marriages by Area

1.9.16. Fifteen per cent of all marriages registered in 2012 occurred in Belfast, followed by seven per cent in both North Down and Newry and Mourne Local Government Districts and six per cent in Derry Local Government District.

1.9.17. The average age of males and females at the time of marriage varies across Local Government Districts. Carrickfergus had the highest average ages at 33.5 for females and 35.6 for males, compared to Larne with the lowest average ages at 28.9 for females and 30.9 for males.

1.9.18. More than 80 per cent of religious ceremonies in Newry and Mourne, Magherafelt and Derry Local Government Districts were Roman Catholic compared to less than 10 per cent of religious ceremonies in Carrickfergus and North Down Local Government Districts, reflecting the religious make-up of the populations in these Local Government Districts.

1.10 Divorces

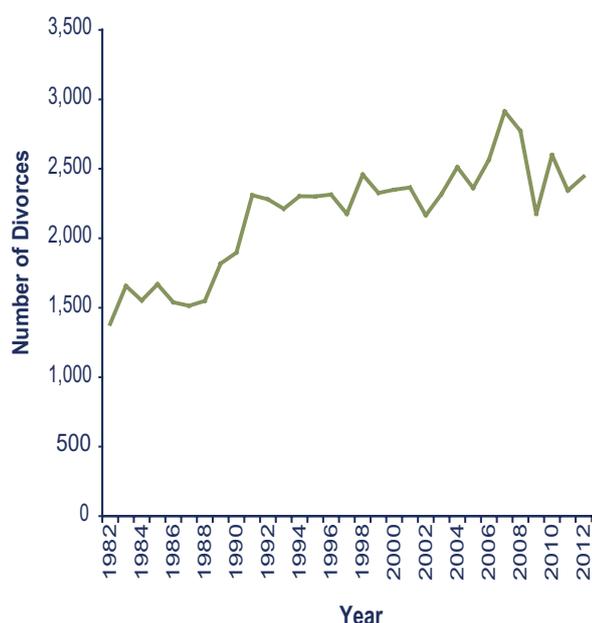
Numbers

1.10.1. The divorce figures reported here are based on Decree Absolutes. Decree Nisi information can be obtained from the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service. A Decree Nisi does not terminate the marriage; a couple remain married until the Decree Absolute has been granted.

1.10.2. The number of marriages dissolved in Northern Ireland in 2012 was 2,444. This is an increase of four per cent from last year's figure of 2,343. The number of divorces recorded in 2007 (2,913) was the largest on record for Northern Ireland.

1.10.3. During the 1970s the number of divorces was around 500 per year, by the 1980s the figure had tripled to around 1,500 per year. Since the 1990s there has been another increase in the number of divorces, peaking in 2007. In recent years this number has fluctuated around 2,300 per year, Figure 1.32 shows the number of divorces from 1982 to 2012.

Figure 1.32: Number of divorces granted (1982 to 2012)



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 27Kb)

Grounds for Divorce

1.10.4. Non-cohabitation remains the most frequently recorded reason for divorce (71 per cent), followed by behaviour (16 per cent) and combined grounds (10 per cent).

1.10.5. As in previous years, more women (64 per cent) than men (35 per cent) lodged applications for divorce in 2012. Just 17 divorces granted in 2012 were the result of joint applications.

Duration of Marriage

1.10.6. The average duration of marriage ending in divorce is increasing over time. The average duration of marriage ending in divorce was just under 18 years in 2012; the comparable duration for 1992 was 15 years.

1.10.7. Of the divorcing couples in 2012 6.8 per cent were married less than five years, 21.6 per cent between five and nine years and 71.6 per cent were married for 10 years or more. Around 24 per cent of divorces occurred to couples that had been married for 25 years or more.

Marital Status at Time of Marriage

1.10.8. While the majority of people getting divorced in 2012 had been single at the time of marriage (approximately 90 per cent for both males and females), the proportion of people getting divorced who had been divorced previously has been rising since the early 1980s and this group now accounts for nine per cent of all divorcees in 2012. Just less than one per cent of all divorcees were widows or widowers when they married.

Age at Marriage of Divorcees

1.10.9. The average ages at marriage of men and women who got divorced in 2012 were 28 years and 25 years respectively. In 2012, 39 per cent of men and 55 per cent of women who divorced were under 25 years when they married.

Age at Divorce

1.10.10. The average ages at divorce for men and women who got divorced in 2012 were 46 and 44

years respectively. More women get divorced at younger ages than men reflecting the difference in their ages at marriage with husbands generally being older than their wives.

Method of Celebration of Marriage

1.10.11. In 2012, 31 per cent of divorces were of marriages that had been celebrated in a Roman Catholic Church. Corresponding figures for Presbyterian (including Free Presbyterian), Church of Ireland, Methodist and marriages in a Registrar's Office were 16 per cent, 12 per cent, three per cent and 26 per cent respectively. The remaining 12 per cent were either unknown or other denominations.

1.10.12. In 2012, 17 per cent of divorces here were following a marriage which took place outside Northern Ireland. Of these divorces, a significant proportion (31 per cent) involved one partner living outside Northern Ireland at the time of their divorce, as opposed to eight per cent for those who were married here.

Divorcees by Area of Residence

1.10.13. Fifteen per cent of all divorcees in 2012 were residing in Belfast followed by six per cent in Derry Local Government District. Seven per cent of divorcees were residing outside Northern Ireland at the time of divorce, but this figure differed by gender – three per cent of female divorcees were living outside Northern Ireland compared to eight per cent of male divorcees.

Children Affected by Divorce

1.10.14. In 2012, over 4,300 children/stepchildren were affected by divorce; 2,540 children aged under 18 at the time of divorce and 1,790 children aged 18 and over at the time of divorce.

1.11 Civil Partnerships

1.11.1. The Civil Partnership Act 2004 came into force in late 2005, enabling same-sex couples to obtain legal recognition of their relationship. Between December 2005 and the end of 2012, 727 civil partnerships were registered in Northern Ireland.

1.11.2. During 2012, 101 civil partnerships were registered in Northern Ireland. Of these 51 partnerships were male partnerships and 50 were female partnerships. This compares to 89 civil partnerships registered in 2011 (46 male partnerships and 43 female partnerships).

Marital Status and Age of Civil Partners

1.11.3. For 80 civil partnerships (79 per cent) both partners were single, while in the remaining 21 civil partnerships at least one partner had previously been married. For 41 of the 51 male civil partnerships both partners were single, while for 10 male civil partnerships at least one partner had previously been married. For 39 of the 50 female civil partnerships both partners were single; in the remaining 11 female civil partnerships at least one partner had previously been married.

1.11.4. The average age of males entering civil partnership in 2012 was 35.3 years, while for females it was 35.5 years.

Place of Ceremony

1.11.5. In 2012, 65 civil partnership ceremonies were held in Registrar's Offices. The remaining 36 ceremonies were held in an approved venue.

1.12 Civil Partnership Dissolutions

1.12.1. Whilst legislation has been in place in Northern Ireland since late 2005 to dissolve a civil partnership through the Civil Partnership Act, there were no dissolutions registered in Northern Ireland until 2010.

1.12.2. During 2012 there were 10 civil partnership dissolutions registered in Northern Ireland, four to male couples and six to female couples.

1.12.3. The average age of all partners dissolving a civil partnership in 2012 was 40.3 years.

1.13 Adoptions

1.13.1. Registers of children adopted under the provisions of the Adoption (NI) Order 1987 and Adoption (Hague Convention) Act (NI) 1969 and of previous adoption Acts of 1929, 1950 and 1967 are kept in the General Register Office, to which adoption orders made to the courts are transmitted.

1.13.2. A certified copy of an entry in the Adopted Children Register is evidence of adoption, and is also evidence of the date of birth of the adopted child.

1.13.3. The number of children recorded in the Adopted Children Register during 2012 was 127, an increase of 23 from the 2011 figure of 104. Despite this increase, the number of adoptions has generally been falling since 1970 when over 500 children were adopted; the 2008 figure (97 adoptions) was the lowest recorded figure since the early 1930s.

1.14 Re-Registrations of Births

1.14.1. In 2012, 938 births were re-registered, 11 more than in 2011. The most common reasons for a re-registration are because the parents have got subsequently married or to add the father's name to the birth entry.

1.15 Gender Recognition Registration

1.15.1. The Gender Recognition Act 2004 was passed on 1 July 2004 and established a Gender Recognition Panel that will issue Gender Recognition Certificates to those who have satisfactorily proved that they have been living in their new gender.

1.15.2. The Gender Recognition Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 that came into operation from 1 April 2005 will allow the Registrar General, on receipt of a Gender Recognition Certificate, to re-register a birth, showing the new gender, in the Gender Recognition Register. In 2012 there were two births re-registered in this way.

Chapter 2

The Northern Ireland 2011 Census

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2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 One of the primary functions of the Census of Population is to act as a 10-yearly benchmark for the population estimates for Northern Ireland. Correspondingly, the population estimates and wide range of demographic statistics contained in this edition of the Annual Report of the Registrar General are newly referenced to the outcomes of the 2011 Census. This article provides an overview of the 2011 Census, describing the Census process from initial consultations in 2004 on the need for Census-type information to the recent publication of Census outputs and their application to, for example, demographic statistics. The Census is the largest statistical exercise conducted by government, involving literally every household throughout the country. This article can only cover the breadth of the Census operation in outline, and numerous complementary references are provided through which readers can access more detail.

2.2 Establishing the demand for a further Census after the 2001 Census

2.2.1 Since 1951, Northern Ireland Censuses have been held at least every 10 years, usually at the same time as Censuses in other parts of the UK. Following the publication of the main outputs from the 2001 Census, NISRA began consideration of the need for a Census in 2011. From a public perspective, the process started with a formal consultation on “The Future Provision of Demographic Statistics in Northern Ireland (Towards the 2011 Census)”, launched in December 2004, accompanied by an Information Paper¹. The information paper noted that NISRA had already internally considered the potential for administrative data sources to supersede a traditional Census but concluded that “it is by no means certain that, by 2011, the demographic information typically provided through a Census could be obtained from administrative data sources”. Accordingly, NISRA’s view was that

a Census would be required in 2011, and the consultation focused on the nature and content of that Census. A summary paper on the responses to the consultation was published in August 2005². In broad terms, the outcome of the 2004 / 2005 consultation was a demonstration of an ongoing requirement for a Census broadly along the lines of the 2001 Census, but obviously taking advantage of improved methodologies and techniques. This formed the basis for further planning for what ultimately became the 2011 Census.

2.3 Potential innovations for 2011

2.3.1 A number of major methodological developments were identified and developed for the 2011 Census, the primary two of which are described below.

2.3.2 Firstly, in the decade following the 2001 Census, an ever-increasing number of services became available over the Internet, and it became broad government policy that, where possible and applicable, government services should be made available online. At the same time, a number of countries, for example, Australia, Canada and New Zealand, all successfully included Internet response channels for their Censuses in 2001 and 2006. In their 2006 Censuses, Internet responses accounted for 10 per cent, 18.5 per cent and 7 per cent respectively of the responses in these three countries. Accordingly, NISRA decided that, subject to obvious constraints around costs and guarantees about data security, an online option should be made available for the Northern Ireland Census in 2011.

2.3.3 Secondly, Northern Ireland Censuses up to and including that in 1991 used dedicated Census staff (enumerators) who called at every household to both deliver a Census form and collect the completed version. In 2001, while enumerators delivered Census forms, the postal service was used for the return of completed forms. This was judged to have been a success, and consideration was given for the postal mail-out of Census forms for 2011.

2.3.4 The two innovations outlined above had two practical consequences for the Census, namely the requirement to develop an authoritative address database to enable questionnaires to be issued by post and the requirement to develop a system to keep track of, and integrate, Census returns coming back both online and by post.

Developing an authoritative address database

2.3.5 The previous use of enumerators to deliver census forms yielded, as a simple by-product of the enumeration process, a database of all domestic properties (whether occupied or not), while the use of a mail system to deliver forms would require the availability – in advance of the Census - of a comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date set of addresses of domestic properties. This led to a major project, conducted with Land and Property Services (LPS), to develop a Census Address Register. LPS incorporates the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland (OSNI) which, since the time of the 2001 Census, has developed the Pointer address database. Pointer includes information about the addresses of all properties in Northern Ireland. Census Office developed a Census Address Register for the 2011 Census based on Pointer, taking account of specific requirements for Census Office. The main objective for Census Office was to ensure that – as far as possible - all domestic properties would receive a Census questionnaire and non-domestic properties would not. The key issues were differentiating domestic and commercial properties on Pointer, and trying to incorporate as up-to-date information as possible on new properties. The work with LPS involved desk-top research combining information from a variety of sources allied to on-the-ground checking of addresses.

Developing a questionnaire tracking system

2.3.6 The 2001 Census methodology involved all households returning their completed questionnaires by post to enumerators who managed the return of the forms within their own local area. The introduction of an option that allowed respondents to complete their Census form on-line led to a requirement to develop a

questionnaire tracking system to manage returns that were coming back through two separate channels, namely, paper forms being posted back and online returns. This tracking system would become the primary source of intelligence that informed the follow-up phase for non-responding households. In the final system, each Census questionnaire was assigned a unique questionnaire identification code, embedded within a barcode on the form, and a separate 16 character 'password' that enabled households to complete their return online. A specially designed envelope was developed for postal returns that enabled the barcodes on the forms to be read at Royal Mail sorting offices upon receipt, before the physical forms were forwarded to the processing centre. Integrated with the online returns, this provided Census Office with almost real-time information on the return of each Census questionnaire.

2.4 Practical preparation for 2011

2.4.1 A range of practical preparations were made for the 2011 Census. The first major exercise was a Census Test in 2007, involving approaching 15,000 households in 96 small areas, distributed across parts of Belfast, Coleraine, Craigavon, Magherafelt and Fermanagh Local Government Districts (LGD). The selected areas were acknowledged not to be a representative sample of Northern Ireland, but skewed towards areas where Census Office might encounter enumeration difficulties. Alongside gaining insight into Census processes generally, the main objectives of the Test were to test: i) the postal delivery of Census forms (including the development of a Census Address Register); ii) a questionnaire tracking system; and iii) potential questions such as income. The main Test was augmented by an Evaluation Survey, involving around 1,000 households who had participated in the Test and were then interviewed in a face-to-face environment regarding their views on the Census Test questionnaire and other operational features. Further information about the 2007 Census Test is available via the NISRA website (www.nisra.gov.uk).

2.4.2 The outline design of the 2011 Census required a number of technical services that were beyond the day-to-day expertise of Census Office. These covered areas such as: the design and printing of a paper questionnaire that was capable of being scanned; the development of a scanning process to capture data from paper forms; the development of an online Census response facility; the development of a questionnaire-tracking system to integrate online and postal returns; and a system to feed information from the questionnaire-tracking system back to enumerators. The provision of this suite of services for the Census was procured through a competitive tendering process.

2.4.3 A prototype of the 2011 Census system was tested in a Census Rehearsal held in autumn 2009. The Census Rehearsal involved a voluntary Census in two parts of Northern Ireland, around Derrriaghy in Belfast / Lisburn and the Benburb and Moy areas near Dungannon. The Derrriaghy area, in particular, was chosen because recent large-scale housing developments in the area would make it a good test of both the currency of the Census Address Register and the processes for rectifying any deficiencies in the Address Register, such as the necessary fulfilment actions required to incorporate a newly found address and despatch a Census questionnaire to that address. More detail about the 2009 Census Rehearsal may be found on the NISRA website.

2.5 Political and legislative requirements

2.5.1 The Census is conducted primarily because of the value and utility of the resulting consistent and robust information across population groups and across geographic areas. This is recognised at international level by the European Union, which introduced a Regulation compelling all EU states to provide Census-type information. The Regulation does not require countries to conduct a Census, but they must ensure that they have adequate statistical sources to provide a specified range of Census-type information for small geographic areas. In Northern Ireland, as throughout the rest of the UK and in

Ireland, a Census was judged as the best way to obtain the required information.

2.5.2 The conduct of Censuses in Northern Ireland is based on The Census Act (Northern Ireland) 1969, which states that the First Minister and deputy First Minister acting jointly may direct that a Census shall be taken. In practice, this requires the Assembly to pass a Census Order that prescribes the date of the Census (in this case, 27 March 2011), who must make returns to the Census and the particulars to be stated on Census returns. Further details of the Census process (including a copy of the Census questionnaire) are prescribed through Census Regulations, which again must be approved by the Assembly. The Census Order (Northern Ireland) 2010 and Census Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 were approved by the Assembly in the period June to July 2010.

2.5.3 In support of the legislative process outlined above, a number of other supporting documents and processes were taken forward. The Census Order was approved following a debate in the Assembly in June 2010, but prior to the debate the Order was subject to the Assembly's scrutiny procedures. To inform this, in March 2010, Census Office published a Proposals Paper that outlined the plans for the Census³.

2.5.4 The Census places a legal obligation on all householders to complete a Census return, and accordingly in May 2010 Census Office published a Privacy Impact Assessment of the Census⁴. This outlined the justification for each question in the Census questionnaire, and provided assurances on how the confidentiality of Census responses would be respected. It was planned that all responses to the 2011 Censuses would be processed by computer, and indeed the online response option is by definition solely based on Information Technology (IT) procedures. The three UK Census Offices jointly commissioned an independent review of the Information Assurance procedures for the 2011 Census, focusing on the availability, integrity and confidentiality of Census data. The report of the review team⁵ was positive and concluded that *"the public can be assured that the information they have provided has been well protected"*.

2.6 Further preparation work

2.6.1 NISRA continued to consult with users throughout the run up to the Census. Public Census Awareness events were held in March 2006 (in Limavady, Enniskillen and Belfast, focusing on questionnaire content), in June 2007 (in Lisburn, again focusing on questionnaire content), in June 2010 (in Belfast and Omagh focusing on initial plans for outputs), and in March 2011 (in Belfast and Cookstown, again focusing on outputs). Census Office has continued with these public awareness events since Census Day, with events held in January 2012 (in Belfast, Derry / Londonderry and Enniskillen) and March 2013 (Belfast and Omagh). These post-Census events have been aimed at keeping users up to date with quality assurance, outputs and dissemination plans⁶.

2.6.2 In addition to these public events, NISRA convened a Census Advisory Group of key Census users, with members from areas such as academia, the voluntary sector, the private sector, local councils and so forth. The Advisory Group usually met two or three times a year to discuss the preparations for the Census⁷.

2.6.3 A further strand of preparation work covered the development of both the design and the content of the questionnaire. This included deciding on the topic coverage, developing and testing appropriate questions and working with the other UK Census Offices to ensure that, as far as possible, questions were harmonised across the UK. International harmonisation was addressed through all Census Offices across Europe being required to adhere to the EU Regulation⁸. The final set of topics to be covered in the 2011 Northern Ireland Census was approved by the Assembly through the Census Order, with a copy of the final questionnaire published as a Schedule to the Census Regulations⁹.

Figure 2.1 Census household questionnaire.

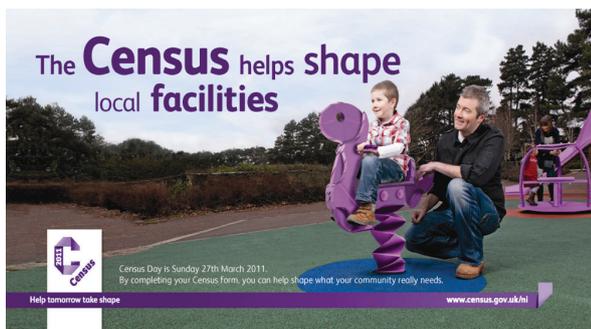
Source NISRA

2.6.4 The Census Address Register was finalised in summer 2010 and passed to the print contractor. In autumn 2010, some 765,000 Census questionnaires were printed, each containing unique postal address barcodes and Internet access codes. The questionnaires were passed to Royal Mail for secure storage until the Census was launched.

2.6.5 The basic post-out / post-back design of the 2011 Census, augmented by the Internet, meant that unlike previous Censuses most householders would have no direct contact with Census Office. In 2001, Census questionnaires were delivered by Census enumerators who tried to make contact when delivering each form. In 2011, householders would simply receive their Census form through the post. Census Office developed a publicity campaign designed to raise awareness among the public about the Census, so that householders would be aware that Census questionnaires were coming by post and what they would be required to do. A common Census look was adopted by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and NISRA, with both offices using the

same branding colour, a common origami logo and strap-line of “Help tomorrow take shape”. The advertising campaign also had a common theme, so that any advertising that was broadcast on, or printed in, UK-wide media would not cause confusion in Northern Ireland. However, all elements of the advertising and branding were adapted locally. Thus, the TV advertising used generic visuals with a local Northern Ireland voice-over while the billboard advertising used in Northern Ireland had local backdrops on UK-wide themes.

Figure 2.2 Census promotional images



Source NISRA

2.6.6 The delivery of the 2011 Census required the recruitment of a short-term field force of just under 2,000 people. In the run-up to the Census, this field force had to be recruited, trained and managed, and a related pay-roll system established. Some 22 Census Area Managers were recruited for the period September 2010 to June 2011, supervising 233 Census Team Co-ordinators, employed from February 2011 to May 2011, who in turn supervised about 1,600 enumerators, employed from March 2011 to May 2011. For Census purposes, Northern Ireland was divided into 1,670 ‘Enumeration Districts’ (EDs) and each enumerator was responsible for one ED - on a small number of occasions, an enumerator covered two EDs. In the period prior to Census Day, each enumerator was given a list of the addresses within their ED to which a Census questionnaire had been sent. Enumerators were asked to check the completeness and accuracy of the address list, and inform Census Office of any additional addresses to which questionnaires should be issued, and of addresses on the list that were not appropriate, for example, a business address or an address at which there was no longer a domestic property. After Census Day, enumerators were supplied with regularly updated lists of addresses from which returns had not yet been received, and instructed to visit these with a view to encouraging Census returns.

2.6.7 Further support services were also developed in advance of the Census going live. A telephone contact centre was put in place to answer queries from the public. A complementary service was also provided online, with a ‘web-self-help’ facility that provided background on the Census and incorporated a series of Frequently Asked Questions. The online web-self-help lent itself to providing information in languages other than English, and a range of information – including a translation of the questionnaire - was provided in 15 further languages. The call centre included staff who were fluent in these 15 languages, and procedures were available that would have enabled members of the public to speak to the

contact centre, through an interpreter, in nearly 60 languages.

2.7 The Census goes live

2.7.1 The Census was formally launched with a media event at the W5 site in Belfast on 21 February 2011, which received a high level of media coverage. Census questionnaires were delivered to households by Royal Mail in the week commencing 14 March, two weeks in advance of Census Day. In the run-up to Census Day, enumerators were out 'in the field' checking the addresses to which Census forms had been delivered, and the Census contact centre was up and running. At this stage, the main query was "Why haven't I got a form?" By Census Day, every household had their form.

2.7.2 Although householders were instructed to return their form "on or after Census Day" (Sunday 27 March), Census Office had received 180,000 returned postal forms before Census Day. Census Office estimates that between Census Day and the next day (Monday), about 150,000 paper forms were posted back, while a further 20,000 were completed online. Forms continued to be returned over the coming days, and by Wednesday 6 April (Census Day plus 10), Census Office had received about 600,000 returns. At this point, lists of addresses from which a return had yet to be received were sent electronically to enumerators who were tasked with visiting these addresses to encourage the return of completed questionnaires. This follow-up activity continued until Saturday 7 May.

2.7.3 When all the returns had been collated, it is estimated that adequately completed questionnaires had been received from 94 per cent of households, a similar level to that achieved in 2001. The majority of households had returned a completed copy of their questionnaire by post, but 15 per cent of all returns had been made online, broadly in line with Census Office expectations.

Figure 2.3 The Registrar General sorts Census forms



Source NISRA

2.7.4 Throughout the period when the Census was in the field, the census publicity campaign continued. In addition, senior Census Office officials were providing media interviews, appearing on numerous TV and radio programmes. The Internet was also used with targeted advertising on sites aimed at groups such as young adults and recent migrants.

Figure 2.4 Census promotion in partnership with Translink



Source NISRA

2.7.5 Although the Census is statutory, it is acknowledged that a 100 per cent enumeration cannot be achieved while keeping costs at an acceptable level. Accordingly, NISRA's under-enumeration project was designed and developed

to ensure that the Census estimates would be representative of the entire usually resident population in Northern Ireland. This comprised of two key components.

2.7.6 The first of these components involved using high quality administrative data from the list of people registered on the Medical Card Register. This was used in conjunction with information provided by the Census Field Staff on non-responding households, for example, if a census questionnaire should have been returned for a particular address and there was robust evidence of occupancy. For these households key demographic characteristics (for example, age and sex) of those living at that address were obtained from the Medical Card Register. This new approach for 2011 was developed and piloted through both the 2007 Census Test and 2009 Census Rehearsal. In addition, the distribution of key demographic details from a random sample of some 30,000 actual Census returns was compared with that derived on the basis of the details recorded on the Medical Card Register for the same addresses, and it was found that the distribution from the Census returns could be replicated with a high degree of precision. It is considered that this component of the under-enumeration methodology enhanced the coverage assessment and adjustment process in Northern Ireland and improved the overall reliability and quality of the population estimates.

2.7.7 The second component entailed the re-enumeration of a specifically targeted stratified random sample of some 14,000 addresses across Northern Ireland, through a Census Coverage Survey, with the aim of estimating the key demographic characteristics of those who had been missed by the Census.

2.7.8 Additionally, in June 2011, a Census Quality Survey was conducted. A sample of 2,000 households who had returned a completed Census form were interviewed by trained survey interviewers who independently went through the Census questions again for subsequent comparison with the household's Census returns.

A report summarising the extent to which the responses to the Quality Survey agreed with the Census returns is available¹⁰.

2.8 Data analysis

2.8.1 By the end of June 2011, the Census field operation was pretty much complete and the emphasis turned to data analysis. The contractor worked through the completed paper forms, using scanning and imaging technology to create an electronic database of Census returns, within which the online returns were integrated. The data capture process was subjected to intense quality control and scrutiny prior to the data being passed back to Census Office, in phases, over summer 2011. Census Office then subjected the data to further analysis and quality assurance. This involved statistical modelling to create estimates of the complete population of Northern Ireland on Census Day, not just those who were enumerated.

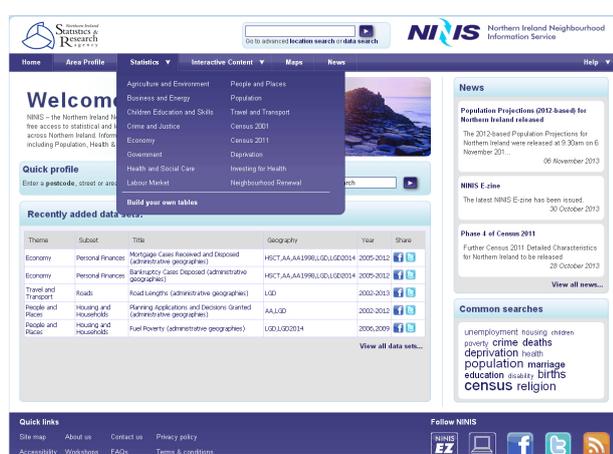
2.8.2 The emerging Census estimates were compared against a range of alternative statistical sources, including administrative data. For example, the Census estimate of the number of school children in any area was checked for consistency with statistics from the School Census. This quality assurance step was vital in ensuring that the final Census estimates were accurate and fit for purpose.

2.9 Disseminating the results

2.9.1 One of the key strengths of the Census is its coverage of all households, which means that comparable statistical measures can be produced for small areas across Northern Ireland. This strength, however, also leads to practical difficulties in disseminating the information in a user-friendly way, to encourage greater use of the data. Since the 2001 Census, NISRA has launched and developed the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS www.nisra.gov.uk/ninis) as a means of providing access to a wide variety of statistics about Northern Ireland across a range of geographical units. In the run-up to the

2011 Census, NISRA further developed NINIS, making it capable of being the main dissemination vehicle for outputs from the 2011 Census. Allied with this, the data visualisation tools within NINIS were further developed to aid understanding of the results.

Figure 2.5 The Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS) Website



Source NISRA

2.9.2 An Outputs Prospectus⁴¹ was published in spring 2012 that laid out Census Office’s planned schedule for Census outputs, including lists of proposed table contents. The table below lists the key outputs from the 2011 Census, detailing the publication dates.

Table 2.1 Summary of the main release schedule for 2011 Census outputs

Census output	Release schedule
Census Day population estimates and numbers of households (Release 1)	Northern Ireland figures published on 16 July 2012, followed by Local Government Districts on 19 September 2012. Other geographies published in late 2012. http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/2011_results_population.html

Census output	Release schedule
Key Statistics and other uni-variate statistics (Release 2)	Key Statistics for Northern Ireland and Local Government Districts published on 11 December 2012. Other geographies published on 30 January 2013. Quick Statistics for all geographies published on 28 February 2013. http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/2011_results_key_statistics.html http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/2011_results_quick_statistics.html
Detailed Characteristics cross-tabulations (Release 3)	Detailed Characteristics tables at Northern Ireland level published in May, June and September 2013. Other geographies scheduled to be published in late 2013. http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/2011_results_detailed_characteristics.html
Local Characteristics cross-tabulations (Release 4)	Local Characteristics tables scheduled to be published in early 2014. Results not available at time of writing, but will be available through: http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/2011_results.html
Other outputs. A range of further outputs such as microdata releases, flow (origin-destination) statistics, grid-square statistics and settlement statistics are planned.	Mostly scheduled for release in 2014. Further details can be found in the Outputs Prospectus. http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/2011CensusProposedOutputs.html

2.9.3 At the time of writing this article (autumn 2013), as detailed in the table above, Census Office is well through publication of the Detailed Characteristics tables and plans to have completed the publication of the four major pre-planned releases by the end of the 2013/2014 financial year.

2.10 Geography of Census outputs

2.10.1 The Northern Ireland local government boundaries form the basic geography for Census outputs. In early planning for the 2011 Census, a review of local government boundaries was expected to have been completed before 2011 and Census Office initially planned to report 2011 Census outputs on the basis of new boundaries. However, the review was not agreed until June 2012, and, following elections in spring 2014, will be implemented when new councils are fully introduced in spring 2015. The outputs from the 2011 Census have thus been produced based on the local government boundaries that have been in place since the previous review in 1992. This will make comparisons between the 2001 and 2011 Censuses easier, with both Censuses using the same main geographic base of 582 electoral wards within 26 Local Government Districts.

2.10.2 Following the 2001 Census, NISRA created a statistical geography, based on 5,022 Census Output Areas (COAs) and 890 Super Output Areas (SOAs) – constrained to electoral ward boundaries - which are the main geographic base for the majority of official statistics in Northern Ireland, including in particular spatial deprivation measures. The COAs are the smallest geographic unit for which 2001 Census outputs were published, while SOAs are seen as superior to electoral wards for statistical comparison purposes because they have similar population sizes across Northern Ireland. NISRA has reviewed the 2001 COAs and SOAs, retaining the 2001 areas as far as possible, and created a set of 4,537 Small Areas (SAs) and 890 SOAs (the latter are essentially unchanged between 2001 and 2011).

Further detail can be found in a paper on the NISRA website¹². The SAs represent the smallest areas for which standard 2011 Census outputs will be published.

2.10.3 Census Office plans to release population and household statistics, and Key Statistics, for the new local government areas in due course, but will give priority to the production of the full range of Census statistics for the current (1992) local government areas. Further detail can be found on the NISRA website.

2.11 The main results from the Census

2.11.1 The following section provides a range of statistical summary points from the Census releases to date. It has already been stressed that this paper can provide only a very brief overview of the Census process, and this applies equally to Census outputs. Links are provided to Census outputs at the end of the paper, but it is noted that Census outputs are much wider than that presented here in that the Census is used to inform a range of other statistics. For example, the Census is used to benchmark the population and vital statistics reported elsewhere in this publication, and many sample surveys are weighted to ensure that the underlying demographic structure of the sample reflects that of the complete population.

Demography – Population and households

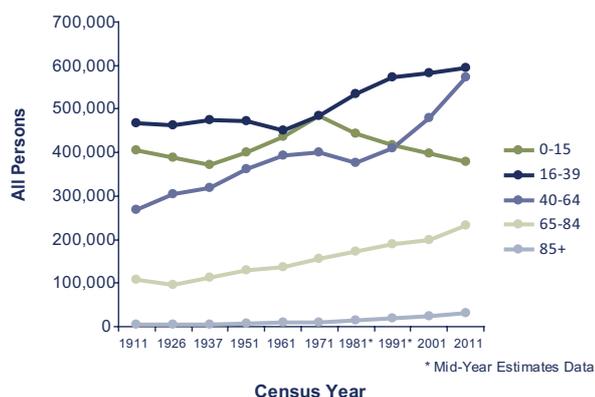
2.11.2 The Census Day population estimate was 1,810,900 – the highest ever recorded in Northern Ireland. Since the 2001 Census, the population has increased by 125,600 (7 per cent). This represents the fastest growth in population between consecutive Censuses since the 1960s.

2.11.3 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 with 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 with 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.

2.11.4 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 to 10) and compulsory secondary school age children (aged 11 to 15) have both fallen by 9 per cent. In contrast, the number of pre-school children (aged 0 to 3) has increased by 10 per cent – reflecting recent increases in fertility.

Figure 2.6 Census year population estimates by age (1911 – 2011)

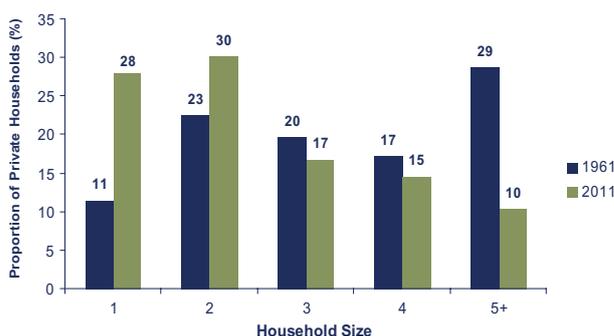


Source NISRA [Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 30Kb)

2.11.5 There were an estimated 703,300 households in Northern Ireland in 2011. Over recent decades the demographic structure of households in which we live has changed dramatically. Fifty years ago, in 1961, half (50 per cent) of the population were living in households containing 5 or more people, whereas 22 per cent of the population were living in such households in 2011. Conversely, in 1961, around a third (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.

Figure 2.7 Distribution of household size (1961 and 2011)

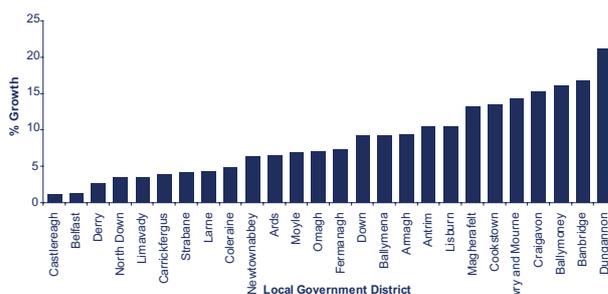


Source NISRA [Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 27Kb)

2.11.6 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 with population growth of 7 per cent.

2.11.7 The Northern Ireland population has increased by 7 per cent since the 2001 Census. Each of the 26 Local Government Districts in Northern Ireland has experienced population growth in the last decade, ranging from 1 per cent in Belfast and Castlereagh to 21 per cent in Dungannon.

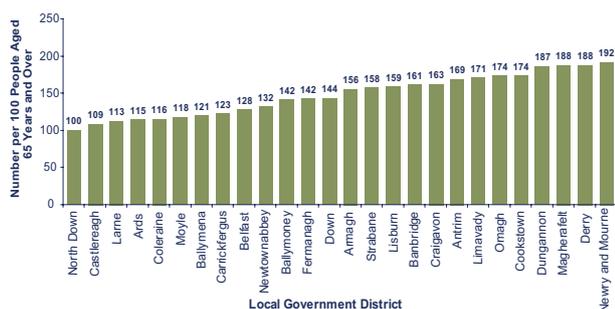
Figure 2.8 Percentage population change between the 2001 and 2011 Censuses by Local Government District – all people



Source NISRA [Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 32Kb)

2.11.8 North Down has the oldest age profile in that, of all the LGDs, it has the lowest proportion of children (18 per cent) and the highest proportion of people aged 65 and over (18 per cent). Conversely, Newry and Mourne has the youngest age profile in that, of all the LGDs, it has the highest proportion of children (24 per cent) and one of the lowest proportions of people aged 65 and over (12 per cent). In North Down, the number of people aged 65 and over is similar to the number of children (both 14,500), whereas in Newry and Mourne people aged 65 and over (12,300) are outnumbered almost 2 to 1 by children (23,500).

Figure 2.9 Number of children per 100 people aged 65 years and over by Local Government District



Source NISRA [Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 32Kb)

2.11.9 The number of households has increased since 2001 in every LGD, with the proportionate increases ranging from three per cent in Castlereagh to 25 per cent in Dungannon.

2.11.10 The average household size in 2011 ranged from 2.29 people in Belfast to 2.98 people in Magherafelt.

2.12 Key Statistics

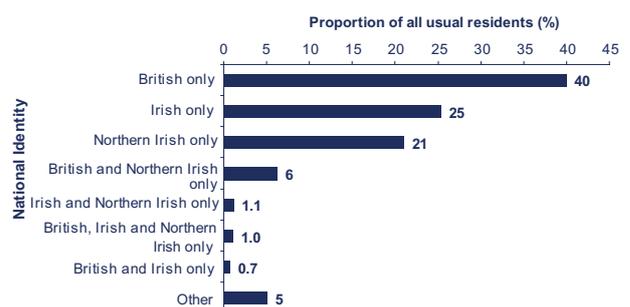
Ethnicity, Identity, Language and Religion

2.12.1 Minority ethnic groups formed 1.8 per cent (32,400) of the usually resident population of Northern Ireland in 2011, more than double the proportion in 2001 (0.8 per cent).

2.12.2 Two-fifths (40 per cent) of usual residents had a British Only national identity, a quarter (25 per cent) had Irish Only and just over

a fifth (21 per cent) had Northern Irish Only. All LGDs had significant proportions with a Northern Irish Only national identity, ranging from 28 per cent in Omagh to 17 per cent in Ballymena and Carrickfergus.

Figure 2.10 - National identity of all usual residents (Classification 1)



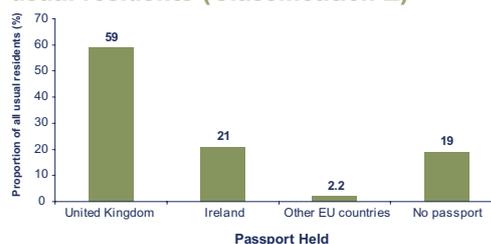
Source NISRA [Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 28Kb)

2.12.3 Almost half (48 per cent) of people usually resident in Northern Ireland in 2011 included British as a national identity, while 29 per cent included Northern Irish and 28 per cent included Irish.

2.12.4 The proportion of the usually resident population born outside Northern Ireland rose from 9.0 per cent (151,000) in 2001 to 11 per cent (202,000) in 2011. The LGD with the highest proportion of people born in EU accession countries was Dungannon (6.8 per cent).

2.12.5 Almost three-fifths (59 per cent) of people usually resident in Northern Ireland held a United Kingdom passport, just over a fifth (21 per cent) held an Ireland passport, while 19 per cent held no passport.

Figure 2.11 Distribution of passports held by all usual residents (Classification 1)



NB: The graphic representation above does not include the following categories: 'Europe non-EU countries', 'Africa', 'Middle East and Asia', 'North America and the Caribbean', 'Central America', 'South America', and 'Antarctica and Oceania'.

Source NISRA [Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

2.12.6 English was not the main language for 3.1 per cent (54,500) of usual residents aged three years and over, almost one quarter of whom (24 per cent) lived in Belfast Local Government District. The most prevalent main language other than English was Polish (17,700 people, 1.0 per cent).

2.12.7 Among usual residents aged three years and over, 11 per cent had some ability in Irish in 2011 (compared with 10 per cent in 2001), while 8.1 per cent of people had some ability in Ulster-Scots.

2.12.8 One sixth (17 per cent) of the usually resident population on Census Day 2011 either had No Religion or Religion Not Stated, including 10 percent No Religion and 6.8 percent Religion Not Stated. The prevalence rates for the main religions were: Catholic (41 per cent); Presbyterian (19 per cent); Church of Ireland (14 per cent); Methodist (3.0 per cent); Other Christian or Christian-related denominations (5.8 per cent); and Other Religions and Philosophies (0.8 per cent).

2.12.9 Bringing together the information on Religion and Religion Brought up in, 45 per cent of the population were either Catholic or had been brought up as Catholic, while 48 per cent belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant, Other Christian or Christian-related denominations. A further 0.9 per cent either belonged to or had been brought up in Other Religions and Philosophies, while 5.6 per cent neither belonged to, nor had been brought up in, a religion.

2.12.10 The highest proportions of people who neither belonged to, nor had been brought up in, a religion were living in North Down (12 per cent), Carrickfergus (10 per cent) and Ards (9.4 per cent) in 2011.

Health

2.12.11 Just over one in five of the usually resident population (21 per cent) had a long-term health problem or disability which limited their day-to-day activities.

2.12.12 An eighth (12 per cent) of the usually resident population in 2011 provided unpaid care (compared with 11 per cent in 2001), around a quarter (26 per cent) of whom did so for 50 or more hours per week.

2.12.13 Four-fifths (80 per cent) of usual residents had a good or very good level of general health. Almost seven-tenths of usual residents (69 per cent) did not have a long-term condition. The most common long-term conditions among the usually resident population were a mobility or dexterity problem (11 per cent) and long-term pain or discomfort (10 per cent).

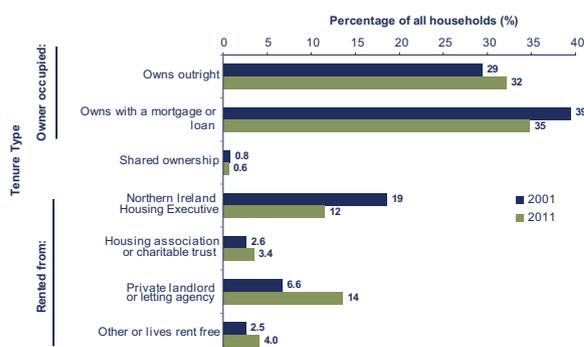
Households and Accommodation

2.12.14 There were an estimated 703,300 households in Northern Ireland on Census Day 2011, up 12 per cent (76,600) compared with 2001.

2.12.15 The main household space types were detached houses or bungalows, accounting for 37 per cent of household spaces, semi-detached houses or bungalows (28 per cent), terraced properties (25 per cent) and purpose-built flats or apartments (8.6 per cent).

2.12.16 The number of households renting from a private landlord increased by 128 per cent, from 41,700 in 2001 to 95,200 in 2011, effectively doubling the share of all households accounted for by private renting from 6.6 per cent in 2001 to 14 per cent in 2011.

Figure 2.12 Tenure type (all households)



Source NISRA [Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 31Kb)

2.12.17 The average household size across Northern Ireland decreased from 2.65 usual residents in 2001 to 2.54 in 2011.

2.12.18 The proportion of households with no central heating fell from 4.9 per cent in 2001 to 0.5 per cent in 2011.

2.12.19 Over three-quarters of households (77 per cent) had access to a car or van in 2011, up from 74 per cent in 2001. Over the same period, the proportion of households with access to two or more cars or vans increased from 29 per cent to 36 per cent.

2.12.20 An eighth (12 per cent) of household accommodation had been designed or adapted for wheelchair usage, other physical or mobility difficulties, visual difficulties, hearing difficulties or other circumstances.

Qualifications

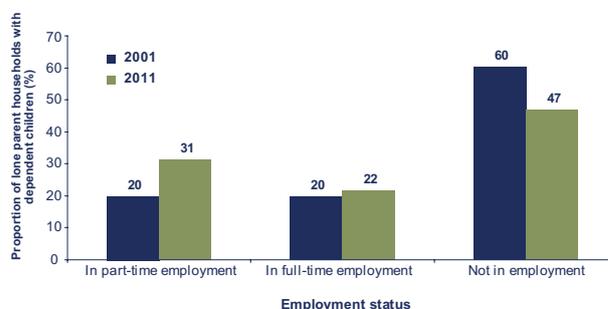
2.12.21 In 2011, 24 per cent of usual residents aged 16 years and over in Northern Ireland had achieved Level 4 (degree) or higher qualifications, while 29 per cent had no qualifications.

Labour Market

2.12.22 Two-thirds (66 per cent) of all usual residents in Northern Ireland aged 16 to 74 years were economically active in the week before Census Day 2011. These were primarily composed of full-time employees (36 per cent), part-time employees (13 per cent), the self-employed (8.9 per cent) and unemployed people (5.0 per cent); the remaining 3.7 per cent were economically active full-time students.

2.12.23 Among lone parent households in which the lone parent was aged 16 to 74 years, the proportion of lone parents in part-time employment rose from 20 per cent in April 2001 to 31 per cent in March 2011. The proportion of lone parents working full-time also increased over the decade, from 20 per cent to 22 per cent, while the proportion not in employment fell from 60 per cent to 47 per cent.

Figure 2.13 Employment status of lone parent in lone parent households with dependent children



Source NISRA [Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 29Kb)

2.12.24 The estimated total number of employees aged 16 to 74 years was 640,000 in 2011, which was 14 per cent (76,200) higher than on Census Day 2001 (563,800).

2.12.25 Approaching a sixth (16 per cent) of people aged 16 to 74 years had helped with or carried out voluntary work without pay in the year prior to Census Day 2011.

2.12.26 Based on the Standard Industrial Classification 2007 (SIC 2007), around a third of people aged 16 to 74 years in employment worked in either of two industrial sectors in the four weeks before Census Day 2011, namely the wholesale and retail trade or repair of motor vehicles (18 per cent) and human health and social work (14 per cent).

2.12.27 Based on Standard Occupation Classification 2010 (SOC 2010), the largest occupational groupings for people aged 16 to 74 years in employment in 2011 were: professional occupations (17 per cent); skilled trades (14 per cent); and administrative and secretarial occupations (14 per cent).

2.12.28 Almost three-fifths (58 per cent) of people aged 16 to 74 years who were in employment usually drove a vehicle to work, while 10 per cent worked mainly at or from home.

Migration

2.12.29 Ninety-three per cent of usual residents born in Northern Ireland have never resided outside the jurisdiction, while 1.8 per cent (28,300) of the

usually resident population had lived elsewhere and returned between 2007 and Census Day 2011.

Media coverage of the results

2.12.30 The Census had a high media profile throughout the whole process from the launch shortly before Census Day, and this continued with media coverage of the results. The initial Census Day population estimates and household numbers, for Northern Ireland as a whole, were published on 16 July 2012, roughly two months ahead of the corresponding schedule in 2001. Census Office hosted a media briefing in NISRA's main office, which was attended by a wide range of media personnel. The release received widespread coverage across all the local TV channels (including BBC, UTV and RTE), all of which ran interviews with senior Census officials, analysts and commentators. The coverage focused on the ageing of the Northern Ireland population, and the impact for service provision of the increasing numbers of older people, complemented by reducing numbers of school-age children. The complementary statistics for Northern Ireland's 26 Local Government Districts followed on 19 September, without a media briefing but supported by a Statistics Bulletin. As expected, there was a lower level of media interest, but good coverage in the local newspapers.

2.12.31 The greatest level of media interest was expected for the release of 'Key Statistics' that described the characteristics of the Northern Ireland population. Indeed, after the announcement of the publication date for Key Statistics there were media articles about their forthcoming publication. Census Office again hosted a media briefing, with four TV crews covering the event in addition to the radio and print media. This release marked the peak of media coverage, with Census stories on just about every news bulletin on TV and radio that day. The Census results were the front page lead in both the Belfast Telegraph and Irish Times the next morning, with major inside features in the Irish News and the Newsletter. It was anticipated that the media coverage would focus on the new

statistics for religion and 'religion or religion brought up in', and this was indeed given a high degree of coverage. However, this was eclipsed by the coverage of the new National Identity question, which was the feature lead on the front of the Belfast Telegraph. As expected, the level of media interest in subsequent releases has diminished as the content of the releases has become more detailed.

2.13 Application of the Census results and benefits realisation

2.13.1 The publication and dissemination of the Census results, and the provision by Census Office of various Census-based products, represents only the start of the use of Census outputs. For example, one of the key purposes of the Census is to act as a benchmark for the annual series of population estimates (termed the Mid-Year Estimates) published by NISRA. In April 2013, NISRA published an updated population estimates time series for the period 2001 to 2011 that is consistent with the estimates from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses¹³.

2.13.2 The Mid-Year Estimates time series for population informs a wide range of other statistical series, often acting as a population denominator for measures such as Gross Domestic Product per head of population or economic activity rates. The mid-2011 population estimates for Northern Ireland were revised up by 0.4 per cent in light of the 2011 Census results. Although this revision appears modest, it does have implications for the funding and allocation of public services. Furthermore, this adjustment was not uniform over all ages, with fewer persons in their mid twenties, and more females in their early thirties.

2.13.3 At the time of writing, Census Office is continuing with a programme of encouraging the widespread use of Census outputs, and attempting to quantify the benefits of the Census.

2.14 Looking to the future / Beyond 2011

2.14.1 The planning and delivery cycle for an exercise like the Census is necessarily long, as evidenced by work on the 2011 Census commencing in earnest around 2003 and 2004. As detailed earlier, the 2004 Consultation was based on preliminary work by NISRA that judged a traditional Census approach as being required because it was believed (then) that it was by no means certain that, by 2011, the demographic information typically provided through a Census could be obtained from administrative data sources. In the decade since then, IT capacity and the ability to manipulate population-size databases has developed by several orders of magnitude. Initiatives such as the Report from the Administrative Data Taskforce (December 2012)¹⁴ demonstrate that what was considered technically infeasible in 2004 is now relatively routine.

2.14.2 There is widespread acceptance that Census-type data will remain a requirement in the future. Indeed, it is believed that the EU will repeat the approach from the current round of Censuses and adopt a Regulation requiring national statistical institutes to deliver prescribed Census-type data to Eurostat in respect of 2020 or 2021. While the current Regulations list a number of data sets to be provided at varying levels of geography, there is no prescription that a Census must be conducted; rather individual countries must merely ensure that the data can be provided.

2.14.3 In response to the above, the Office for National Statistics is taking the lead on the “Beyond 2011” project¹⁵, which is considering the likely demand for Census-type outputs, including in particular population estimates, statistics on the characteristics of the population and small-area statistics. The Office for National Statistics launched a three-month consultation document in September 2013 in which it is suggesting two main options, a fully online Census in 2021 or a mechanism to produce robust population estimates based on administrative data sources alongside

large-scale ongoing sample surveys to quantify population characteristics¹⁶.

2.14.4 What is clear is that the changes seen in the UK Census in the last 30 years will continue in the future. The increasing demand for population and social statistics will ensure that new methods will need to be used to collect and disseminate future Census statistics. This challenge will ensure that innovation will be at the heart of the next Census in Northern Ireland.

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Appendix 1: Population and vital events, 1926-2012

Year	Estimated population			Resident live births							Multiple births		
	Persons	Males	Females	All resident births ¹	Rate ²	Males	Females	Males per 1,000 females	Outside marriage		Twins	Triplets etc	% of maternities
									Number	% ³			
1926-30	1,249,000	604,000	645,000	26,418	21.2	13,587	12,831	1,059	1,249	4.7	308	4	1.2
1931-35	1,270,000	617,000	653,000	25,098	19.8	12,926	12,172	1,062	1,259	5.0	286	2	1.2
1936-40	1,286,800	626,100	660,700	25,533	19.8	13,110	12,423	1,055	1,178	4.6	300	4	1.2
1941-45	1,304,400	674,000	630,400	29,592	22.7	15,287	14,305	1,069	1,560	5.3	332	4	1.2
1946-50	1,350,400	695,800	654,600	29,764	22.0	15,336	14,428	1,063	1,124	3.8	367	5	1.3
1951-55	1,382,500	673,700	708,800	28,798	20.8	14,885	13,913	1,070	838	2.9	391	4	1.4
1956-60	1,405,000	684,700	720,300	30,539	21.7	15,755	14,784	1,066	758	2.5	414	3	1.4
1961-65	1,447,200	705,500	741,700	33,226	23.0	17,171	16,055	1,069	890	2.7	407	3	1.3
1966-70	1,501,500	732,500	769,000	32,866	21.9	16,958	15,908	1,066	1,180	3.6	355	3	1.1
1971-75	1,532,000	755,200	776,700	28,850	18.8	14,935	13,914	1,073	1,260	4.4	308	2	1.1
1976-80	1,526,200	754,300	771,900	26,959	17.7	13,807	13,152	1,050	1,531	5.7	271	4	1.0
1981-85	1,552,100	759,700	792,400	27,194	17.5	13,965	13,229	1,056	2,469	9.1	289	3	1.1
1986-90	1,585,400	773,800	811,600	27,045	17.1	13,914	13,130	1,060	4,266	15.8	286	4	1.1
1991-95	1,631,800	795,900	835,900	24,779	15.2	12,704	12,075	1,052	5,427	21.9	292	8	1.2
1996-2000	1,674,500	816,700	857,800	23,321	13.9	11,966	11,356	1,054	6,661	28.6	319	8	1.4
2001-2005	1,704,700	833,400	871,300	21,928	12.9	11,245	10,683	1,053	7,511	34.3	314	8	1.5
2006-2010	1,772,800	869,900	903,000	24,716	13.9	12,689	12,027	1,055	9,638	39.0	356	4	1.5
1971	1,540,400	754,600	785,800	31,765	20.6	16,504	15,261	1,081	1,207	3.8	342	4	1.1
1972	1,539,000	757,500	781,500	29,994	19.5	15,559	14,435	1,078	1,263	4.2	325	3	1.1
1973	1,530,000	755,700	774,200	29,200	19.1	15,152	14,048	1,079	1,195	4.1	290	1	1.0
1974	1,526,900	755,000	771,900	27,160	17.8	13,987	13,173	1,062	1,296	4.8	291	3	1.1
1975	1,523,500	753,300	770,200	26,130	17.2	13,475	12,655	1,065	1,338	5.1	294	-	-
1976	1,523,500	754,000	769,500	26,361	17.3	13,542	12,819	1,056	1,330	5.0	264	5	1.0
1977	1,523,300	753,900	769,400	25,437	16.7	13,154	12,283	1,071	1,383	5.4	266	3	1.1
1978	1,523,200	753,600	769,700	26,239	17.2	13,168	13,071	1,007	1,523	5.8	249	2	1.0
1979	1,528,300	755,200	773,100	28,178	18.4	14,485	13,693	1,058	1,668	5.9	276	5	1.0
1980	1,532,800	754,800	778,000	28,582	18.6	14,686	13,896	1,057	1,751	6.1	298	4	1.1
1981	1,543,000	756,600	786,300	27,166	17.6	13,847	13,319	1,040	1,894	7.0	304	4	1.1
1982	1,544,500	756,700	787,800	26,872	17.4	13,732	13,140	1,045	2,106	7.8	305	2	1.2
1983	1,550,600	759,000	791,500	27,026	17.4	13,972	13,054	1,070	2,370	8.8	263	4	1.0
1984	1,557,300	761,300	796,000	27,477	17.6	14,196	13,281	1,069	2,790	10.2	303	3	1.1
1985	1,565,400	764,900	800,400	27,427	17.5	14,076	13,351	1,054	3,185	11.6	269	3	1.0
1986	1,573,500	768,400	805,100	27,975	17.8	14,501	13,474	1,076	3,575	12.8	280	3	1.0
1987	1,582,000	772,900	809,100	27,653	17.5	14,196	13,457	1,055	3,967	14.3	320	7	1.2
1988	1,585,400	773,800	811,700	27,514	17.4	14,131	13,383	1,056	4,446	16.2	283	2	1.0
1989	1,590,400	775,900	814,500	25,831	16.2	13,307	12,524	1,063	4,394	17.0	281	2	1.1
1990	1,595,600	777,900	817,700	26,251	16.5	13,437	12,814	1,049	4,946	18.8	267	5	1.0
1991	1,607,300	783,200	824,100	26,028	16.2	13,427	12,601	1,066	5,288	20.3	311	7	1.2
1992	1,623,300	792,100	831,100	25,354	15.6	12,924	12,430	1,040	5,579	22.0	256	8	1.1
1993	1,635,600	798,200	837,300	24,722	15.1	12,515	12,207	1,025	5,445	22.0	283	9	1.2
1994	1,643,700	801,900	841,800	24,098	14.7	12,361	11,737	1,053	5,337	22.1	288	6	1.2
1995	1,649,100	804,000	845,100	23,693	14.4	12,293	11,400	1,078	5,487	23.2	324	9	1.4
1996	1,661,800	810,300	851,400	24,382	14.7	12,382	12,000	1,032	6,346	26.0	310	13	1.3
1997	1,671,300	815,500	855,700	24,087	14.4	12,325	11,762	1,048	6,427	26.7	330	7	1.4
1998	1,677,800	818,700	859,100	23,668	14.1	12,058	11,610	1,039	6,743	28.5	305	7	1.3
1999	1,679,000	818,500	860,500	22,957	13.7	11,943	11,014	1,084	6,957	30.3	334	6	1.5
2000	1,682,900	820,500	862,500	21,512	12.8	11,120	10,392	1,070	6,833	31.8	314	5	1.5
2001	1,688,800	824,300	864,600	21,962	13.0	11,288	10,674	1,058	7,144	32.5	330	10	1.6
2002	1,697,500	829,000	868,500	21,385	12.6	10,874	10,511	1,035	7,161	33.5	313	13	1.5
2003	1,704,900	833,100	871,800	21,648	12.7	11,244	10,404	1,081	7,439	34.4	304	5	1.4
2004	1,714,000	838,300	875,800	22,318	13.0	11,477	10,841	1,059	7,703	34.5	330	7	1.5
2005	1,727,700	845,300	882,400	22,328	12.9	11,341	10,987	1,032	8,108	36.3	294	6	1.4
2006	1,743,100	853,100	890,000	23,272	13.4	12,010	11,262	1,066	8,832	38.0	315	1	1.4
2007	1,761,700	862,300	899,400	24,451	13.9	12,516	11,935	1,049	9,261	37.9	357	5	1.5
2008	1,779,200	871,000	908,200	25,631	14.4	13,204	12,427	1,063	9,966	38.9	356	6	1.4
2009	1,793,300	878,500	914,800	24,910	13.9	12,799	12,111	1,057	9,902	39.8	372	5	1.5
2010	1,804,800	884,500	920,300	25,315	14.0	12,917	12,398	1,042	10,231	40.4	382	5	1.6
2011	1,814,300	889,300	925,000	25,273	13.9	12,825	12,448	1,030	10,591	41.9	410	4	1.7
2012	1,823,600	894,600	929,000	25,269	13.9	12,999	12,270	1,059	10,757	42.6	371	6	1.5

Note: See Appendix 3 - for notes on change in definition of stillbirths that took place in 1992

¹ All births prior to 1981 ² Rate per 1,000 population ³ Percentage of all live births
⁴ Rate per 1,000 resident live and still births ⁵ Rate per 1,000 live births (resident and non-resident)

Appendix 1: Population and vital events, 1926-2012

Stillbirths		Infant deaths		Deaths						Marriages		Divorces	Civil Partnerships	Year
Number	Rate ⁴	Number	Rate ⁵	Persons		Males		Females		Number	Rate ²	Number	Number	
				Number	Rate ²	Number	Rate ²	Number	Rate ²					
..	..	2,083	78.8	18,403	14.7	8,888	14.7	9,515	14.8	7,328	5.9	..	..	1926-30
..	..	1,966	78.4	18,026	14.2	8,869	14.4	9,157	14.0	7,806	6.1	..	..	1931-35
..	..	1,970	77.2	18,369	14.3	9,097	14.5	9,271	14.0	9,073	7.1	..	..	1936-40
..	..	2,169	73.3	17,478	13.4	8,778	13.0	8,700	13.8	10,751	8.2	..	..	1941-45
..	..	1,423	47.8	16,039	11.9	8,134	11.7	7,905	12.1	9,396	7.0	..	..	1946-50
..	..	1,054	36.6	15,557	11.3	7,966	11.8	7,590	10.7	9,359	6.8	..	..	1951-55
..	..	863	28.3	15,175	10.8	7,872	11.5	7,303	10.1	9,500	6.8	..	..	1956-60
695	20.5	879	26.5	15,628	10.8	8,185	11.6	7,443	10.0	10,185	7.0	124	..	1961-65
530	15.9	791	24.1	15,987	10.6	8,399	11.5	7,588	9.9	11,357	7.6	225	..	1966-70
407	13.9	610	21.1	16,948	11.1	8,954	11.9	7,994	10.3	11,384	7.4	381	..	1971-75
269	9.9	427	15.9	16,750	11.0	8,770	11.6	7,980	10.3	10,010	6.6	648	..	1976-80
194	7.1	323	11.8	15,972	10.3	8,146	10.7	7,826	9.9	10,049	6.5	1,523	..	1981-85
136	5.0	231	8.5	15,696	9.9	7,879	10.2	7,818	9.6	10,031	6.3	1,664	..	1986-90
135	5.4	168	6.7	15,228	9.3	7,515	9.4	7,713	9.2	8,983	5.5	2,282	..	1991-95
126	5.4	134	5.7	15,150	9.0	7,315	9.0	7,835	9.1	7,881	4.7	2,325	..	1996-2000
109	4.9	122	5.5	14,428	8.5	6,953	8.3	7,474	8.6	7,821	4.6	2,345	..	2001-2005
106	4.3	129	5.1	14,592	8.2	7,095	8.2	7,496	8.3	8,309	4.7	2,605	105	2006-2010
462	14.3	722	22.7	16,202	10.5	8,593	11.4	7,609	9.7	12,152	7.9	339	..	1971
434	14.3	616	20.5	17,032	11.1	9,001	11.9	8,031	10.3	11,905	7.7	355	..	1972
389	13.1	610	20.9	17,669	11.5	9,288	12.3	8,381	10.8	11,212	7.3	393	..	1973
374	13.6	567	20.9	17,327	11.3	9,226	12.2	8,101	10.5	10,783	7.1	382	..	1974
375	14.1	534	20.4	16,511	10.8	8,664	11.5	7,847	10.2	10,867	7.1	437	..	1975
278	10.4	483	18.3	17,030	11.2	8,869	11.8	8,161	10.6	9,914	6.5	574	..	1976
310	12.0	438	17.2	16,921	11.1	8,871	11.8	8,050	10.5	9,696	6.4	569	..	1977
243	9.2	417	15.9	16,153	10.6	8,458	11.2	7,695	10.0	10,304	6.8	599	..	1978
246	8.7	417	14.8	16,811	11.0	8,822	11.7	7,989	10.3	10,214	6.7	601	..	1979
266	9.2	382	13.4	16,835	11.0	8,832	11.7	8,003	10.3	9,923	6.5	896	..	1980
240	8.8	360	13.2	16,256	10.5	8,423	11.1	7,833	10.0	9,636	6.2	1,355	..	1981
187	6.9	369	13.7	15,918	10.3	8,004	10.6	7,914	10.0	9,913	6.4	1,383	..	1982
204	7.5	329	12.1	16,039	10.3	8,209	10.8	7,830	9.9	9,990	6.4	1,657	..	1983
161	5.8	291	10.5	15,692	10.1	8,007	10.5	7,685	9.7	10,361	6.7	1,552	..	1984
178	6.4	265	9.6	15,955	10.2	8,088	10.6	7,867	9.8	10,343	6.6	1,669	..	1985
125	4.4	286	10.2	16,065	10.2	8,154	10.6	7,911	9.8	10,225	6.5	1,539	..	1986
170	6.1	242	8.7	15,334	9.7	7,721	10.0	7,613	9.4	10,363	6.6	1,514	..	1987
137	5.0	248	8.9	15,813	10.0	7,993	10.3	7,820	9.6	9,960	6.3	1,550	..	1988
133	5.1	180	6.9	15,844	10.0	7,878	10.2	7,966	9.8	10,019	6.3	1,818	..	1989
115	4.4	198	7.5	15,426	9.7	7,648	9.8	7,778	9.5	9,588	6.0	1,897	..	1990
123	4.7	194	7.4	15,096	9.4	7,533	9.6	7,563	9.2	9,221	5.7	2,310	..	1991
124	4.9	153	6.0	14,988	9.2	7,469	9.4	7,519	9.0	9,392	5.8	2,280	..	1992
128	5.2	176	7.1	15,633	9.6	7,731	9.7	7,902	9.4	9,045	5.5	2,213	..	1993
153	6.3	147	6.1	15,114	9.2	7,362	9.2	7,752	9.2	8,683	5.3	2,303	..	1994
145	6.1	169	7.1	15,310	9.3	7,482	9.3	7,828	9.3	8,576	5.2	2,302	..	1995
153	6.2	142	5.8	15,218	9.2	7,418	9.2	7,800	9.2	8,297	5.0	2,314	..	1996
131	5.4	137	5.6	14,971	9.0	7,244	8.9	7,727	9.0	8,071	4.8	2,176	..	1997
122	5.1	134	5.6	14,993	8.9	7,321	8.9	7,672	8.9	7,826	4.7	2,459	..	1998
132	5.7	148	6.4	15,663	9.3	7,464	9.1	8,199	9.5	7,628	4.5	2,326	..	1999
93	4.3	109	5.0	14,903	8.9	7,128	8.7	7,775	9.0	7,584	4.5	2,350	..	2000
112	5.1	134	6.0	14,513	8.6	7,007	8.5	7,506	8.7	7,281	4.3	2,365	..	2001
122	5.7	100	4.6	14,586	8.6	6,948	8.4	7,638	8.8	7,599	4.5	2,165	..	2002
108	5.0	115	5.2	14,462	8.5	6,920	8.3	7,542	8.7	7,757	4.6	2,319	..	2003
113	5.0	122	5.3	14,354	8.4	6,935	8.3	7,419	8.5	8,328	4.9	2,512	..	2004
89	4.0	140	6.1	14,224	8.2	6,957	8.2	7,267	8.2	8,140	4.7	2,362	12	2005
89	3.8	121	5.1	14,532	8.3	7,062	8.3	7,470	8.4	8,259	4.7	2,565	116	2006
102	4.2	123	4.9	14,649	8.3	7,208	8.4	7,441	8.3	8,687	4.9	2,913	111	2007
115	4.5	123	4.7	14,907	8.4	7,227	8.3	7,680	8.5	8,510	4.8	2,773	86	2008
119	4.8	130	5.1	14,413	8.0	6,914	7.9	7,499	8.2	7,931	4.4	2,176	96	2009
105	4.1	146	5.7	14,457	8.0	7,066	8.0	7,391	8.0	8,156	4.5	2,600	116	2010
91	3.6	110	3.6	14,204	7.8	6,918	7.8	7,286	7.9	8,366	4.6	2,343	89	2011
106	4.2	90	3.5	14,756	8.1	7,094	7.9	7,662	8.2	8,480	4.7	2,444	101	2012

Appendix 2: Population and vital events by Administrative Area, 2012

AREA	Estimated population at 30 June 2012	Resident live births		Stillbirths		Infant deaths		Deaths		Marriages	
		Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ²	Number	Rate ³	Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ¹
NORTHERN IRELAND	1,823,634	25,269	13.9	106	4.2	90	3.6	14,756	8.1	8,480	4.7
Belfast HSC Trust	348,253	4,934	14.2	22	4.5	20	4.1	3,383	9.7	1,490	4.3
Belfast	280,537	4,105	14.6	19	4.6	17	4.1	2,777	9.9	1,314	4.7
Castlereagh	67,716	829	12.2	3	3.6	3	3.6	606	8.9	176	2.6
Northern HSC Trust	465,529	5,959	12.8	25	4.2	19	3.2	3,679	7.9	2,200	4.7
Antrim	53,835	760	14.1	1	1.3	0	0.0	408	7.6	266	4.9
Ballymena	64,551	778	12.1	0	-	3	3.9	558	8.6	428	6.6
Ballymoney	31,551	420	13.3	0	-	0	0.0	194	6.1	122	3.9
Carrickfergus	39,096	436	11.2	1	-	0	0.0	327	8.4	247	6.3
Coleraine	58,993	692	11.7	4	5.8	4	5.8	519	8.8	298	5.1
Cookstown	37,411	564	15.1	3	5.3	1	1.8	260	6.9	216	5.8
Larne	32,191	352	10.9	3	8.5	0	0.0	279	8.7	137	4.3
Magherafelt	45,450	641	14.1	6	9.4	2	3.1	254	5.6	203	4.5
Moyle	17,129	188	11.0	1	-	2	10.6	156	9.1	104	6.1
Newtownabbey	85,322	1,128	13.2	6	5.3	7	6.2	724	8.5	179	2.1
South Eastern HSC Trust	350,097	4,526	12.9	21	4.6	16	3.5	2,866	8.2	1,610	4.6
Ards	78,550	901	11.5	7	7.8	5	5.5	692	8.8	214	2.7
Down	70,440	1,000	14.2	3	3.0	3	3.0	545	7.7	351	5.0
Lisburn	121,687	1,737	14.3	8	4.6	5	2.9	895	7.4	462	3.8
North Down	79,420	888	11.2	3	3.4	3	3.4	734	9.2	583	7.3
Southern HSC Trust	363,145	5,701	15.7	21	3.7	17	3.0	2,638	7.3	1,648	4.5
Armagh	60,147	920	15.3	3	3.3	1	1.1	473	7.9	286	4.8
Banbridge	48,730	717	14.7	3	4.2	2	2.8	331	6.8	192	3.9
Craigavon	94,597	1,516	16.0	5	3.3	7	4.6	692	7.3	329	3.5
Dungannon	58,813	992	16.9	4	-	1	1.0	423	7.2	287	4.9
Newry & Mourne	100,858	1,556	15.4	6	3.9	6	3.9	719	7.1	554	5.5
Western HSC Trust	296,610	4,149	14.0	17	4.1	18	4.3	2,190	7.4	1,532	5.2
Fermanagh	62,400	848	13.6	3	3.5	5	5.9	510	8.2	457	7.3
Limavady	33,761	460	13.6	1	2.2	3	6.5	238	7.0	175	5.2
Derry	108,586	1,608	14.8	8	5.0	7	4.4	789	7.3	506	4.7
Omagh	51,830	694	13.4	4	5.8	3	4.3	353	6.8	238	4.6
Strabane	40,033	539	13.5	1	1.9	0	-	300	7.5	156	3.9

Note: See Appendix 3 - for notes on change in definition of stillbirths that took place in 1992

¹ Rate per 1,000 population

² Rate per 1,000 resident live and still births

³ Rate per 1,000 live births (resident and non-resident)

Appendix 3: Notes and Definitions

Population Data

All population figures refer to estimates or projections as at the 30 of June of the year in question. Ages relate to age last birthday at the date shown.

Natural Increase

Natural increase is equal to total births minus total deaths.

Marriages

Marriage rates relate to the number of marriages solemnised and not to the number of persons married. The number of marriages relates to those registered in Northern Ireland, thus it does not include Northern Ireland residents who get married outside Northern Ireland, but does include non Northern Ireland residents getting married in Northern Ireland.

Divorces

Divorce statistics have been compiled from returns of 'Decrees made Absolute' supplied by the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service and include nullities of marriage.

Information on the number of 'Decree Nisis' is published by the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service. A Decree Nisi does not terminate the marriage; a couple are still married until the Decree Absolute has been granted.

Date of Registration and Date of Occurrence

All the data presented on births, stillbirths, marriages, civil partnerships and deaths relate to the date of registration of the event and not to the date of occurrence. For events such as infant death or suicide, which are likely to be referred to the coroner, it can take some time for the event to be registered.

Place of Occurrence

Births, stillbirths and deaths have been allocated to the area of usual residence if it is in Northern

Ireland, otherwise they have been allocated to the area of occurrence. Marriage and civil partnership figures relate to the area of occurrence.

Marital Status of Parents

The following terms are used throughout the report:

Married parents: refers to parents who are married to each other at time of registration of birth.

Unmarried parents: refers to parents who are unmarried or married but not to each other at time of registration of birth.

Births

The births presented in this report (since 1981) do not include births to non Northern Ireland resident mothers unless otherwise stated.

Stillbirths

The **Stillbirth (Definition) Act 1992** redefined a stillbirth, from 1 October 1992, as a child which had issued forth from its mother after the 24th week of pregnancy and which did not breath or show any other sign of life. Prior to 1 October 1992 the statistics related to events occurring after the 28th week of pregnancy.

A **stillbirth rate** refers to the number of stillbirths per 1,000 live and still births.

The stillbirths presented in this report (since 1981) do not include stillbirths to non Northern Ireland resident mothers.

Perinatal Deaths

Perinatal deaths refer to stillbirths and deaths in the first week of life.

A **perinatal death rate** refers to the number of perinatal deaths per 1,000 live and still births (including non Northern Ireland residents).

Perinatal deaths presented in this report include stillbirths and infant deaths to non Northern Ireland residents.

Neonatal Deaths

Neonatal deaths refer to deaths in the first four weeks of life.

A **neonatal death rate** refers to the number of neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births (including non Northern Ireland residents).

Postneonatal Deaths

Postneonatal deaths refer to deaths after the first four weeks but before the end of the first year.

A **postneonatal death rate** refers to the number of postneonatal deaths per 1,000 live births (including non Northern Ireland residents).

Infant Deaths

Infant deaths refer to all deaths in the first year of life.

An **infant death rate** refers to the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births (including non Northern Ireland residents).

Deaths

The deaths represented in this report refer to all deaths which occurred in Northern Ireland. They include those which occurred in Northern Ireland to non Northern Ireland residents, but exclude those occurring to Northern Ireland residents outside Northern Ireland.

Suicide, Self-Inflicted Injury and Events of Undetermined Intent

In the UK, in considering suicide events it is conventional to include cases where the cause of death is classified as either 'Suicide and self-inflicted injury' or 'Undetermined injury'. The ICD10 codes used for 'Suicide and self-inflicted injury' are X60-X84 and Y87.0, and the ICD10 codes used for 'Undetermined injury' are Y10-Y34 and Y87.2. (Also see note on registration and occurrence).

Prior to 2004 there were seven coroner's districts in Northern Ireland, following a review of the coroner's service the separate districts were amalgamated into one centralised coroner's service. This change may affect the timing of registration of deaths with statistics from 2004 onwards being more timely and consistent. More information on the impact of time taken

to investigate a death on official suicide death statistics see:

http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/publications/suicides/Impact_of_registration_delays_on_suicide_statistics_in_Northern_Ireland.pdf

Smoking Related Deaths

Information is not recorded on the death certificate on whether the deceased was a smoker. Estimates can however be made of the number of deaths attributable to smoking, by using information on the contribution of smoking to specific conditions for example lung cancer which are recorded at death.

Research has been undertaken by the Health Development Agency to derive attributable proportions of smoking related deaths based on published relative risk factors for mortality of current and ex-smokers from various diseases, counts of death by cause, and estimates of current and ex-smoking behaviour.

For further information on the causes of death and attributable proportions used to define smoking related deaths see:

http://www.nice.org.uk/niceMedia/documents/smoking_epidemic.pdf

Alcohol Related Deaths

The figures in this report are based on the UK-wide harmonised definition of alcohol related deaths. The definition of alcohol related deaths includes those causes of death regarded as most directly due to alcohol consumption. It does not include other diseases where alcohol has been shown to have some causal relationship, such as cancers of the mouth, oesophagus and liver. The definition includes all deaths from chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (excluding biliary cirrhosis), even when alcohol is not specifically mentioned on the death certificate.

Apart from deaths due to poisoning with alcohol (accidental, intentional or undetermined), this definition excludes any other external causes of death, such as road traffic deaths and other accidents.

Further details on the UK definition and a list of the ICD9 and ICD10 codes used to code alcohol related deaths can be found at:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/all-releases.html?definition=tcm%3A77-29395>

Drug Related Deaths

A death is considered to be a drug related death if the underlying cause of death recorded on the death certificate is drug poisoning, drug abuse or drug dependence. These deaths can be identified solely through the International Classification of Diseases (ICD). The ICD9 and ICD10 codes used to define these deaths are listed in the table below.

ICD10 Underlying Cause Code	ICD9 Underlying Cause Code	Description
F11–F16, F18–F19	292, 304, 305.2–305.9	Mental and behavioural disorders due to drug use (excluding alcohol and tobacco)
X40–X44	E850–E858	Accidental poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances
X60–X64	E950.0–E950.5	Intentional self-poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances
X85	E962.0	Assault by drugs, medicaments and biological substances
Y10–Y14	E980.0–E980.5	Poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances, undetermined intent

Asbestos Related Deaths

Asbestos exposure can result in a number of life threatening illnesses including asbestosis, a lung disease which restricts breathing, and also mesothelioma which is a cancer of the lung.

In this report, asbestos related deaths have been defined as those deaths where asbestosis and/or mesothelioma have been mentioned on the death certificate either as a primary or secondary cause.

Further details on the definition used for asbestos related deaths can be found on the Health and Safety Executive website at:

http://www.hseni.gov.uk/index/information_and_guidance/general_hseniinfo/statistics.htm

Healthcare Associated Infections

In this report deaths related to healthcare associated infection solely relate to Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Clostridium difficile*. It is not possible to identify directly from the ICD codes all deaths where MRSA or *Clostridium difficile* contributed to a death. Data within this report has been collated by looking for all mentions of either MRSA or *Clostridium difficile* on the death certificate.

Crude Birth and Death Rates

A **crude rate** refers to the number of occurrences of the event per 1,000 population.

Age Standardisation

A straight comparison of crude death rates between areas may present a misleading picture because of differences in the sex and age structure of the respective populations. The technique of standardisation is used to remedy this. In general, standardisation involves a comparison of the actual number of events occurring in an area with the aggregate number expected if the age/sex specific rates in the standard population were applied to the age/sex groups of the observed population. The results are expressed either as standardised rates or as standardised mortality ratios (SMRs) where the standard ratio (for Northern Ireland) equals 100.

In some areas the presentation of standardised rates for only one year's deaths may not provide a full picture of the underlying standardised death rates. It is therefore advisable to use the 3 years rates provided (**Figure 1.23**).

Significance of SMRs

The estimation of SMRs by LGD and Health and Social Care Trust invites the question of whether such SMRs are different from the Northern Ireland average (100). The statistical significance of the SMRs has been examined by estimating the probability that the difference between an observed SMR and 100 might have resulted from chance variation; where this probability is less than 0.05 (one in 20) the particular SMR has been classified as statistically significantly ($p < 0.05$) different from 100.

Total Period Fertility Rate (TPFR)

The TPFR is the average number of children that would be born to a cohort of women who experienced, throughout their childbearing years, the fertility rates of the calendar year in question.

TPFR Replacement Level

In western countries a TPFR of about 2.1 is required to maintain long-term population levels, assuming no migration.

General Fertility Rate

The general fertility rate is the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44.

The Gross Reproduction Rate

The gross reproduction rate is the average number of live daughters that would be born to a cohort of women who experienced, throughout their childbearing years, the fertility rates of the calendar year in question.

The Net Reproduction Rate

With reference to the gross reproduction rate, the net reproduction rate is the average number of these live daughters that, subject to the mortality rates of the calendar year in question, would survive to their mother's age at the time of birth.

Completed Family Size

Average completed family size is calculated by summing over time the succeeding age specific fertility rates of women born in a particular year. (Such an approximation assumes that the effects

of mortality and migration are negligible). However this measure can only calculate a value for women who have reached the end of the main childbearing ages conventional 45 years of age, but there is some value in considering the historical data for cohorts that have reached this age and the partial series for those not yet 45.

Maternities

Maternities refer to the number of pregnancies ending in stillbirths or live births with multiple births counting only once. The number of maternities presented in this report (since 1981) does not include births or stillbirths to non Northern Ireland residents.

National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SeC)

This new social classification has replaced the previously published Registrar General's Social Class. It is principally based on the individual's occupation and employment status and has been introduced in order to reflect a modern view of social classification. It was introduced from 2001 onwards. Further information can be obtained from the Office for National Statistics at:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/classifications/archived-standard-classifications/soc-and-sec-archive/the-national-statistics-socio-economic-classification-origins-development-and-use.pdf>

NS-SeC is determined according to a person's occupation; for children of parents who are married to each other, according to the occupation of the father as stated at birth registration; for children of parents who are not married to each other but who jointly registered the birth, according to the occupation of the father; and for sole registrations, according to the occupation of the mother. The occupations are grouped into the following classes:

NS-SeC I	Higher managerial & professional occupations
NS-SeC II	Lower managerial & professional occupations
NS-SeC III	Intermediate occupations

NS-SeC IV	Small employers & own account workers
NS-SeC V	Lower supervisory & technical occupations
NS-SeC VI	Semi-routine occupations
NS-SeC VII	Routine occupations
NS-SeC VIII	Never worked & long-term unemployed

Cause of Death Coding – ICD10

All deaths and stillbirths registered from the 1 January 2001 have been coded in accordance with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, (ICD) (Tenth Revision), which has been in operation by international agreement from 1 January 1999.

Classification of the underlying cause of death is done by reference to the death certificate and additional information from the certifying doctor.

In January 2011, the General Register Office (GRO) upgraded its software for coding the causes of death to take account of a number of updates that the World Health Organisation (WHO) had made to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision (ICD-10). The main changes are amendments to the modification tables and selection rules, which are used to ascertain a causal sequence and consistently assign underlying cause of death from the conditions recorded on the death certificate. Overall, the impact of these changes is small although some cause groups are affected more than others, notably 'F' codes and 'G' codes relating to Alzheimer's and Dementia.

Expectation of Life

Expectation of life statistics are produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Expectations of life can be calculated in two ways: period life expectancy or cohort life expectancy.

Period life expectancies are worked out using the age-specific mortality rates for a given period (either a single year, or a run of years), with no

allowance for any later actual or projected changes in mortality.

Cohort life expectancies are worked out using age-specific mortality rates which allow for known or projected changes in mortality in later years.

All statistics for expectation of life in Chapter 1 are based on the period methodology and are produced for single year of age based on three year's deaths and population data with the exception of the cohort figures given in Table 1.2.

Northern Ireland Population Projections

Northern Ireland population projections based on the 2012 mid-year estimates were published on 6 November 2013.

Base population: The projection was based on the Northern Ireland mid-2012 population estimate.

Fertility: The numbers of births for the projections are obtained by applying the appropriate fertility rate to the average number of women at each age during each year of the projection period. For Northern Ireland, long-term average completed family size is assumed to be 2.00 children per woman.

Mortality: The mortality rates for the first year of the projection, 2012-13, are based on the best estimates that could be made in September 2013 of the numbers of deaths at each age. Future improvements in mortality rates are based on the trend in mortality rates in the years up to 2012. In the long term rates of improvement in mortality rates are projected to be 1.2 per cent per annum.

Migration: It has been assumed that over the next six years 3,000 less people will come to Northern Ireland to live than leave. Beyond this migration will be in balance with the same number of people coming here to live as leaving each year. These assumptions are based on recent trends in migration and do not attempt to predict the impact of government policies on, for example, migration and student fees.

The Northern Ireland population projections are produced by the Office for National Statistics

(ONS) at the request of the Registrar General for Northern Ireland. Further information on population projections can be obtained from:

National Population Projections and Life Tables
Branch
ONS Centre for Demography
Office for National Statistics
Room D3/05
1 Drummond Gate
LONDON
SW1V 2QQ

Tel: 020 7533 5222

Email: natpopproj@ons.gov.uk
lifetables@ons.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/index.html>

Geography Used for Data

Since the 2007 Registrar General Annual Report vital statistics by geography are defined using the Pointer address database. In Annual Reports prior to 2007 the geography for vital statistics was defined using the postcode from the address in conjunction with the Central Postcode Directory (CPD).

Pointer is an address database that has been developed by the Land and Property Services, Royal Mail and Local Councils. Pointer gives each address a unique property reference number and geo-spatial coordinates.

From 2009, the address for each registration is linked using the grid-reference of the Pointer unique property reference number to higher geographies. Under the previous CPD method only the postcode of the address was used to define the higher geography. Thus the new method is a more accurate method for allocating births and deaths by geography.

Where it has not been possible to assign a unique property reference number to an address using the Pointer database, the previous CPD method has been used to assign the geography.

Change to Health Geographies

As a result of changes to the Health Service in Northern Ireland which were introduced from the 1 April 2009, the four Health and Social Service Boards have been replaced by five new Health and Social Care Trusts. The Northern, Southern and Western Trusts mirror the equivalent Boards in the old system while the former Eastern Board has been split into the Belfast Trust (Belfast and Castlereagh Local Government Districts) and the South Eastern Trust (Ards, Down, Lisburn and North Down Local Government Districts).

UK Data

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is responsible for producing a wide range of economic and social statistics. It also, for England and Wales, registers life events and holds the Census of Population. Contact details are as follows:

Customer Contact Centre
Room 1.015
Office for National Statistics
Cardiff Road,
NEWPORT
NP10 8XG

Tel: 0845 601 3034
Fax: 0163 365 2747
Email: info@statistics.gov.uk
Website: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/index.html>

The National Records of Scotland (NRS) is responsible for the registration of births, marriages, deaths, divorces and adoptions in Scotland. They are also responsible for the Census of Population in Scotland which, with other sources of information, is used to produce population statistics. Contact details are as follows:

Customer Services
Dissemination and Census Analysis Branch
General Register Office for Scotland
Ladywell House
Ladywell Road
EDINBURGH
EH12 7TF

Tel: 0131 314 4243
Fax: 0131 314 4696
Email: customer@gro-scotland.gov.uk
Website: www.gro-scotland.gov.uk

Appendix 4: Further Information

Vital Statistics

A wide range of additional information at differing levels of geography and for years not included in this edition of the Registrar General's Annual Report is available on request from Customer Services.

Population Statistics

Estimates of the resident population are available by sex and single year of age for each of the Local Government Districts, Health and Social Care Trusts, Education and Library Boards and NUTS III areas of Northern Ireland. This information can be obtained from:

Customer Services
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
McAuley House
2-14 Castle Street
BELFAST
BT1 1SA

Tel: 028 9034 8160

Fax: 028 9034 8161

Email: census.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp3.htm>

Migration Statistics

Since 2006 NISRA has published an annual paper outlining analysis undertaken to develop measures of long-term international migration. The paper looks at a number of administrative/statistical sources including the Worker Registration Scheme, the Work Permit Scheme and National Insurance Number registrations, to help estimate long-term international migration.

These publications can be found on the NISRA website at the following link:

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp18.htm>

Historical Registrar General Annual Reports

Electronic copies of all Registrar General Annual Reports from 1887 to the present day are now available from the NISRA website. They can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp57.htm>

Census Office for Northern Ireland

2001 Census Data

Detailed results from the 2001 Census include a wide range of demographic information available for different levels of geography. The headline outputs include:

- Northern Ireland Census 2001 Population Report and Mid-Year Estimates
- Northern Ireland Census 2001 Key Statistics
- Northern Ireland Census 2001 Standard Tables
- Northern Ireland Census 2001 Census Area Statistics
- Northern Ireland Census 2001 Theme Tables
- Northern Ireland Census 2001 Migration, Travel to Work and Workplace Population
- Northern Ireland Census 2001 Univariate Tables

2011 Census

The 2011 Census was held on Sunday 27 March 2011. Census Day population and household estimates were published between July and September 2012. These were followed by the release, between December 2012 and April 2013, of Key Statistics and Quick Statistics, which provide basic analyses of the main Census questions. At the time of writing (autumn 2013), Census Office is progressing well through the publication of the more complex Detailed Characteristics, and plans to complete the four major pre-planned releases, including Local Characteristics, by the end of the 2013/14 financial year.

Further information about all the planned outputs is set out in the Northern Ireland Census 2011 Output Prospectus –

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/2011CensusProposedOutputs.html>

The prospectus will be regularly updated as the release programme unfolds.

More information on the Census, and the statistics available from it, can be obtained from:

Census Customer Services
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
McAuley House
2-14 Castle Street
BELFAST
BT1 1SA

Tel: 028 9034 8160

Fax: 028 9034 8161

Email: census.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census.html>

**Northern Ireland
Neighbourhood Information
Service (NINIS)**



The Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS) provides free access to statistical and locational information relating to small areas across Northern Ireland.

During 2012, and in conjunction with the release of the Census 2011 results, a new and improved NINIS website (www.nisra.gov.uk/ninis) was launched with a fresh modern look.

The new NINIS website can be easily navigated via the main menu bar. There are also a range of new and improved features such as the advanced search option and additional interactive content and data visualisations. As well as being the home of the **2011 Census** results, NINIS hosts a range of data from administrative data sources. Information is available across various themes such as Population, Health & Social Care, Education & Skills, Crime and Deprivation, including the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 results.

Further information can be obtained from:

Neighbourhood Statistics
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
McAuley House
2-14 Castle Street
BELFAST
BT1 1SA

Tel: 028 9034 8111

Email: ninis.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/ninis>

Twitter: [@NISRANINIS](https://twitter.com/NISRANINIS)

Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study (NILS)

The Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study (NILS) is a large-scale data linkage study which has been created by linking administrative and statistical data. The Study is designed for statistical and research uses only and is managed under Census legislation. Information is linked over time on people from Census, vital events and health registration datasets. Data sources include 1991, 2001 and 2011 Census data, birth and death registrations and demographic data derived from health registrations. This dataset is held in a safe setting by the Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA).

Northern Ireland Mortality Study (NIMS)

The Northern Ireland Mortality Study (NIMS) is a large-scale data linkage study developed in 2006 that links mortality data from the General Register Office (GRO) to 2001 Census returns. Thus a companion dataset to the full NILS has been developed in which 100 per cent of the population as recorded in the 2001 Census is included. As with the NILS dataset, these anonymised data are held in a safe setting by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). Like the NILS dataset, the NIMS is designed and maintained for statistical and research uses only and is managed under various legislation including Census legislation.

Further information can be obtained from:

NILS Research Support Unit
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
McAuley House

2-14 Castle Street
BELFAST
BT1 1SA

Tel: 028 9082 8210

Email: nils-rsu@qub.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.nils-rsu.census.ac.uk>

Twitter: @NILSRSU

Divorces and Civil Partnership Dissolutions – Decree Nisi Information

The information on divorces and civil partnership dissolutions in this report refers to Decree Absolutives. Information on Decree Nisi's can be obtained from:

Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service
Laganside House
23-27 Oxford Street
Belfast
BT1 3LA

Tel: 028 9032 8594

Fax: 028 9072 8942

Website : <http://www.courtsni.gov.uk>

Appendix 5: Report on the work of the General Register Office for Northern Ireland (2012)

Introduction

The General Register Office for Northern Ireland (GRO) is the part of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) that administers civil registration. The Registrar General for Northern Ireland, who is also Chief Executive of NISRA, heads GRO. The registration functions of GRO stem mainly from the statutory responsibilities placed on the Registrar General and include:

- administration of the registration of births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships through District Registration Offices;
- formalities relating to marriage and conduct of civil marriages;
- formalities relating to civil partnership registration;
- maintenance of historic records of births, deaths, marriages, civil partnerships and adoptions and production of certified copies to applicants on request; and
- registration of adoptions.

The Registrar General has additional statutory duties relating to the production and publication of vital statistics. Demography and Methodology Branch within NISRA manage these duties in partnership with GRONI.

Aims

The work of GRO is wide ranging including policy development, oversight and regulation of registration work undertaken by the District Registration Offices, advice on marriage procedures, casework relating to change of name, procedures relating to legal adoptions, production of certified copies of vital events and maintenance and storage of archive records. This is reflected in the fundamental aims of GRO, which are:

- to register all births, deaths, marriages, civil partnerships and adoptions;
- to ensure that all information collected is relevant, accurate, complete and updated in such a way as to maintain public confidence in the records;
- to support the production of accurate vital statistics to assist policy development and research;
- to preserve birth, death, marriage, civil partnership and adoption records permanently and to store them securely; and
- to produce certified copies of records efficiently and promptly on demand.

The aims of GRO staff are to carry out these statutory obligations, to give accurate and unbiased advice to the public, to act with integrity at all times and to respect the confidentiality of all information contained in registration records or given by the public in confidence.

Awards & Recognition

The General Register Office was awarded the Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations (CIGO) 2012 Award for Excellence in Genealogy. GRO was recommended for its improved research facility in its Public Search Room (PSR) in Oxford House. Following the digitisation of birth, death and marriage registrations, indexes for these events can be searched on computer within the (PSR). This is a vital resource for genealogists and for anyone who wishes to carry out family history research.

GRO was also re-accredited for the Customer Service Excellence award in October 2012.

Main Activities / Performance Against Key Targets during 2011

Close to 49,000 vital events (births, re-registered births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships) were registered in District Registration Offices and a corresponding number of certificates were issued. In addition, during 2012, GRONI:

- produced 60,000 certificates and of those, 6,500 priority certificates;
- had 2,500 visitors to the Public Search Room facility in Oxford House;
- verified 70 births, deaths and marriages for government departments;
- provided all death notifications to the Business Services Organisation, Electoral Office for Northern Ireland and Department for Work and Pensions; and
- dealt with 6,000 registration related cases.

Each year the Registrar General sets a number of key targets for GRONI. During 2012 these included:

- (i) Process 98 per cent of postal, online and telephone certificate applications within 5 working days.
Achieved: over 98 per cent were processed within target.
- (ii) Process 98 per cent of personal certificate applications within 3 working days.
Achieved: over 98 per cent were processed within target.
- (iii) Process 97 per cent of birth, death, marriage, civil partnership and adoption registration casework within 15 working days.
Achieved. Over 97 per cent were processed within 15 days.

Reform Developments in 2012

Each year a number of further measures are taken to improve customer services and value for money. In 2012 the main developments included:

- the introduction of the Civil Registration Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 to continue the modernisation the civil registration service;
- the review of Death Certification processes in Northern Ireland; and
- the review of fees charged by GRO.

Each of these is described in turn below.

(i) Civil Registration Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

The Civil Registration Regulations (NI) 2012 came into operation on 17 December 2012 and introduced powers in the Civil Registration Act (NI) 2011 which required subordinate legislative. The services included:

- Enabling unmarried parents to have the choice of giving information separately at the time of registration, in conjunction with being able to attend together, for the inclusion of the father's details on the birth entry;
- Introducing abbreviated death certificates which exclude the cause of death;
- Extending the information collected at time of registration to include the names and occupations of both parents;
- Extending the recorded change of name procedures from birth onwards and dispensing with the requirement to produce documentary evidence;
- Introducing a new framework for accessing registration records which enables historic records to be made available on the internet; and
- Sharing registration information with other government departments/organisations.

(ii) Review of Death Certification

GRONI continued its involvement in the Inter-Departmental Working Group which was established in Northern Ireland to examine and review the existing death certification process in Northern Ireland in light of the Shipman Inquiry and the Luce Review.

The recommendations on the future of death certification in Northern Ireland, which would strengthen and improve current processes, were agreed by the Executive in April 2012. Implementation of the recommendations as outlined below will now be taken forward by

an Implementation Working Group. These enhancements include:

- Adding the General Medical Council Number and the Health and Care Number to the existing Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD);
- Improving death certification training for registered medical practitioners and including this as part of the doctor appraisal;
- Establishing a set of system standards and improved guidance for death certification;
- Establishing an appropriate mechanism to facilitate review of implementation and compliance with standards and guidance on certifying deaths across organisations;
- Building on learning from other established death reporting systems; and
- Health & Social Care Trusts undertaking an analysis of MCCD completion by hospital based doctors under current governance arrangements.

(iii) Annual review of civil registration fees

Each year GRONI review the statutory fees charged for registration services against costs. The review indicated that an increase in fees in relation to birth, death, marriage and civil partnership certificates was necessary therefore the General Register Office (Fees) Order (NI) 2012 came into operation on 17 December 2012. The Order also introduced fees in relation to the new services contained in the Civil Registration Regulations (NI) 2012.

(vi) GRONI Genealogical (GeNI) Project

GRO is currently engaged in the next stage of the modernisation programme by seeking to provide an online service to allow members of the public, genealogists etc. to search and retrieve images and indexes of civil registration records and order certified copies of entries upon payment of an appropriate fee. The contract was awarded in 2013 and is currently on schedule for implementation in early 2014.



Copies available from:

Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA)
McAuley House, 2-14 Castle Street, Belfast BT1 1SA
<http://www.nisra.gov.uk>

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