

# NISRA STATISTICAL BULLETIN



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## 2015 Mid-year Population Estimates for Areas within Northern Ireland

### Key Points:

- The Northern Ireland population at 30 June 2015 is estimated to be 1.852 million, an increase of 11,100 people (0.6 per cent) since mid-2014.
- The increase can mainly be attributed to natural growth of 8,800 people (i.e. 24,200 births minus 15,400 deaths) and net inward migration of 2,000 people (i.e. 23,600 moving here to live and 21,500 people leaving to live elsewhere). The remainder is due to changes in the number of armed forces personnel stationed here.
- While the number of births in Northern Ireland remained constant at 24,200 from mid-2014 to mid-2015, the number of deaths increased by 1,100 (from 14,300 to 15,400).
- In the year ending mid-2015, emigration was at its lowest level in nine years, falling by 5.6 per cent from mid-2014 to mid-2015. Immigration also decreased over the same period, with the number of people coming here to live falling by 3.3 per cent.
- The population continues to age with the number of those aged 65 and over increasing by 2.1 per cent in the year ending mid-2015 to reach 291,800 people (15.8 per cent of the population). Within this group, the population aged 85 and over increased by 2.9 per cent to reach 35,500 people (1.9 per cent of the population). By way of contrast, the number of children aged 0 to 15 years increased by just 0.4 per cent to reach 385,200 children (20.8 per cent of the population).
- The population in all 11 Local Government Districts increased over the year ending mid-2015, ranging from 0.2 per cent in Derry City & Strabane to 1.1 per cent in Lisburn & Castlereagh.

- Between mid-2014 and mid-2015, sixteen of the eighteen Parliamentary Constituencies experienced population increases, ranging from 1.3 per cent in Lagan Valley to 0.16 per cent in Foyle. During the same period, Belfast West (0.06 per cent) and East Antrim (0.01 per cent) experienced very modest population decline.

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**Note:** Throughout the report figures have been presented in a rounded form to ease readability. For example population figures have been presented to the nearest 100 and percentage changes have been presented to 1 decimal place. However, all calculations have been undertaken on the basis of unrounded numbers which will, in some instances, give rise to apparent discrepancies. This is particularly the case for the smaller geographical areas reported in section 8, as well as in Annex A.

## 1. Introduction

This bulletin details the key findings from the 2015 Mid-year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland (published on 23 June 2016) and from the 2015 Mid-year Population Estimates for Areas within Northern Ireland published on 31 August 2016. These estimates are updated from the [mid-2014 population estimates](#) for Northern Ireland, which were published on 4 June 2015. The majority of this bulletin contains analyses of the population and migration estimates for Northern Ireland and the 11 Local Government Districts. This bulletin also includes a brief analysis of population estimates for Parliamentary Constituencies and Super Output Areas (SOAs).

Detailed tables for Northern Ireland and the 11 Local Government Districts are available on the [NISRA website](#), as well as those for the former 26 Local Government Districts, Parliamentary Constituencies, former Education & Library Boards, Health & Social Care Trusts, former Health & Social Services Boards, NUTS-III areas, Super Output Areas and the former 582 Electoral Wards.

Population statistics are used to allocate public funds to the Northern Ireland Executive through the Barnett formula<sup>1</sup>. Population estimates are also widely used by Northern Ireland government departments for the planning of services, such as health and education. These statistics are also of interest to those involved in research & academia. They are widely used to express other statistics as a rate, and thus enable comparisons across the United Kingdom and other countries. Furthermore, population estimates form the basis for future population statistics such as population projections<sup>2</sup>.

## 2. Background

The population estimates refer to the number of people in the population at 30 June each year. The statistics are, therefore, often referred to as the mid-year estimates. Population estimates for Northern Ireland, sub-national levels and small geographical areas are published annually and approximately one year in arrears. Population estimates are based on the 2011 Census of population. Each year, the population is 'aged-on' by one year with the number of births in the year added and the number of deaths in the year subtracted. An adjustment is also made for migration. Subsequent mid-year population estimates then use the previous year's figures as the base.

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<sup>1</sup> A mechanism used by Her Majesty's Treasury to adjust the amounts of public expenditure allocated to the Devolved Administrations. See <http://archive.niassembly.gov.uk/finance/2007mandate/research/090320.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> For the latest Northern Ireland population projections see <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp20.htm>

Since the publication of the [2013 mid-year estimates](#), the population estimates within Northern Ireland follow a bottom-up approach. This means that population estimates are firstly produced for small geographical areas (i.e. SOAs) and are then constrained to the Northern Ireland estimates. This allows the small geographical estimates to be subsequently added up to make larger geographies (see [Methodology Report](#) for more information).

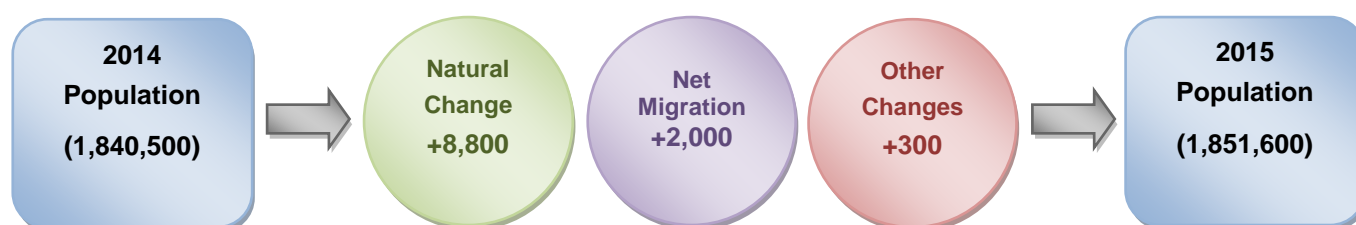
### 3. Population of Northern Ireland

The size of the resident population in Northern Ireland at 30 June 2015 is estimated to be 1.852 million people. Slightly more than half (50.9 per cent) of the population were female, with 942,500 females compared to 909,100 males.

Over the period mid-2014 to mid-2015 the number of people living in Northern Ireland is estimated to have increased by 11,100 people (0.6 per cent). This population increase was a result of the following estimated factors:

1. natural growth of 8,800 people (24,200 births minus 15,400 deaths);
2. an estimated net growth of 2,000 people due to migration. In total 23,600 people came to live in Northern Ireland and 21,500 people left; and
3. a net gain of 300 people due to other changes<sup>3</sup>.

**Figure 1: Contribution of components of change to population increase, mid-2014 to mid-2015**



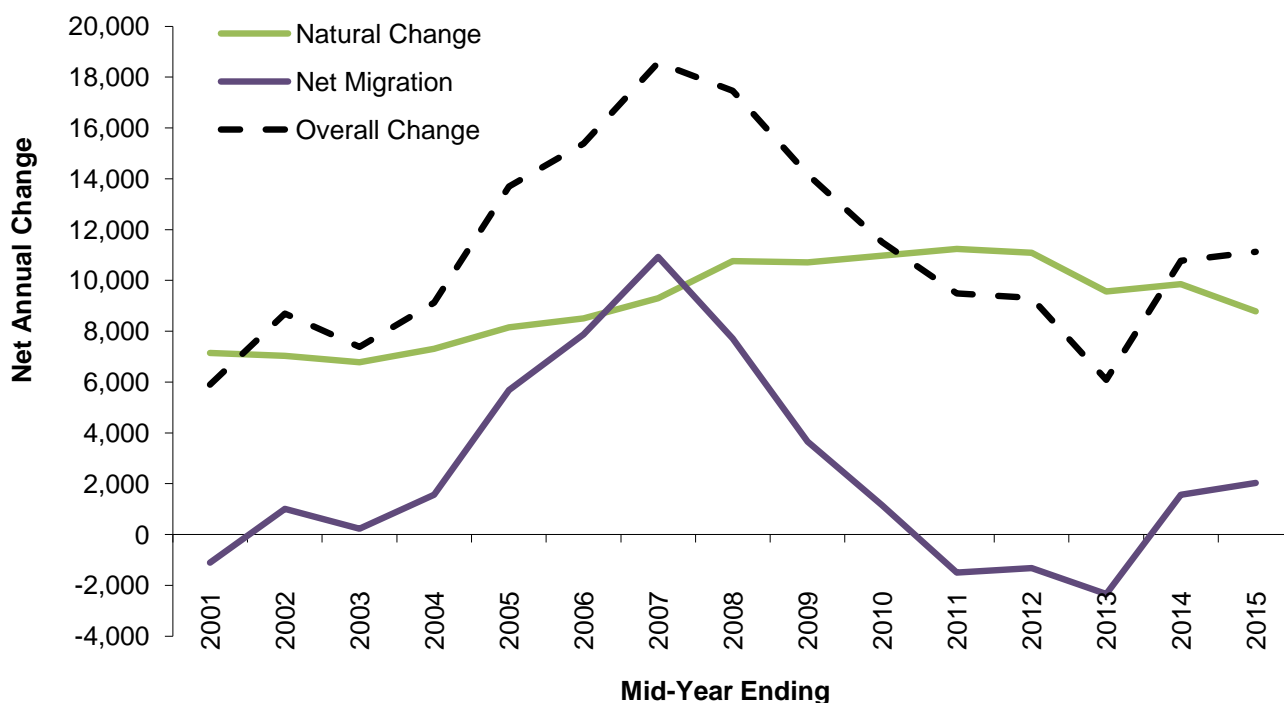
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<sup>3</sup>“Other Changes” refers to changes in the number of armed forces personnel stationed in Northern Ireland and/or differences resulting from the methodology used to develop the local area estimates. For estimates at the Northern Ireland level, “Other Changes” refers solely to changes in armed forces personnel (see [Methodology Report](#)).

In the year between mid-2014 and mid-2015, natural change (i.e. births minus deaths) remained the main contributor to the increase in population, accounting for 79.0 per cent (8,800 people) of the overall population increase. Net migration (i.e. inflows minus outflows) accounted for 18.3 per cent of the population increase, with the number of people coming to live in Northern Ireland exceeding those leaving Northern Ireland by 2,000. There was also a modest increase in the number of armed forces personnel stationed in Northern Ireland (300 people). This had the smallest proportional contribution to the change in population during this period at 2.8 per cent.

Prior to mid-2004, population increase in Northern Ireland was mostly due to natural change. For a brief period between mid-2006 to mid-2007 the contribution from migration was greater than the contribution from natural change. However, from mid-2008 onwards population growth has again been attributed mainly to natural change (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2: Components of population change (year ending mid-2001 to year ending mid-2015)**



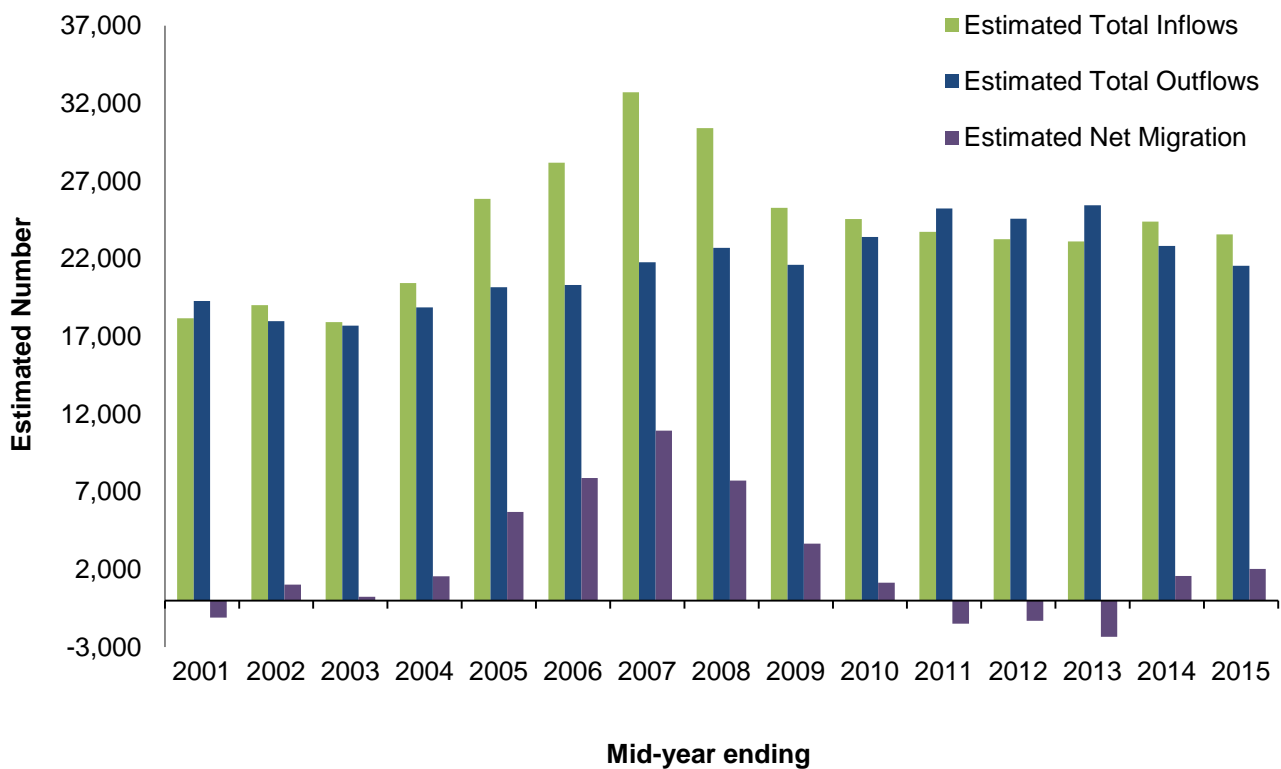
[Download Chart](#) (XLS format – 3,508 Kb)

#### 4. Migration

In the year between mid-2014 and mid-2015, there was a net increase in the population due to migration (2,000 people). This was the second successive year that the number of people who came to live in Northern Ireland exceeded the number who left.

Overall, the number of people leaving Northern Ireland (21,500 in the year ending mid-2015) was at its lowest level since mid-2006, falling by 5.6 percent between mid-2014 and mid-2015. Having reached a four year high in mid-2014, there was a 3.3 per cent fall in the number of people coming to live in Northern Ireland (24,400 down to 23,600) between mid-2014 and mid-2015 (see Figure 3).

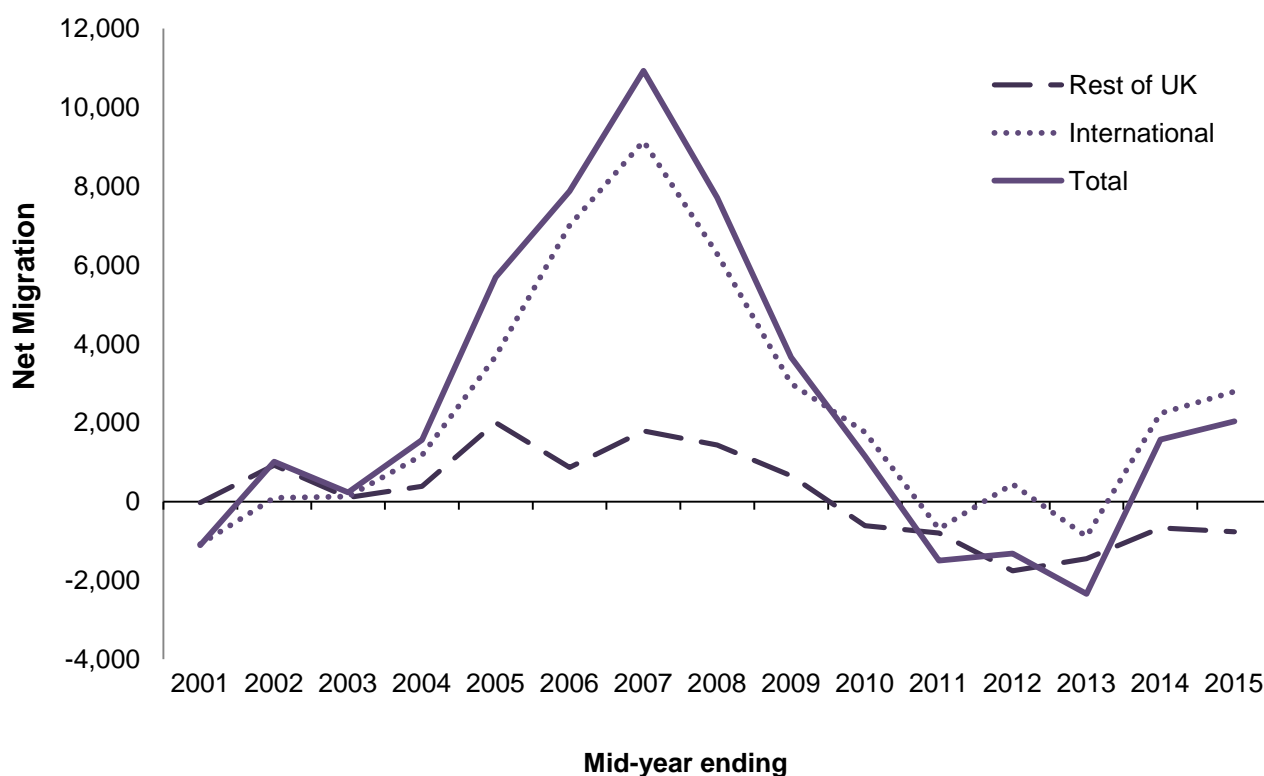
**Figure 3: Estimated Total Inflows, Total Outflows and Net Migration (year ending mid-2001 to year ending mid-2015)**



[Download Chart](#) (XLS format – 871 Kb)

Figure 4 shows the continuing trend of a net migration loss to the rest of the UK (i.e. more people leaving Northern Ireland to live in the rest of the UK than coming to live in Northern Ireland from the rest of the UK) since mid-2009. The overall number of people that Northern Ireland lost to the rest of the UK rose slightly from 700 in mid-2014 to 800 people in mid-2015.

**Figure 4: Estimated net rest of UK and International Migration (year ending mid-2001 to year ending mid-2015)**



[Download Chart](#) (XLS format – 871 Kb)

In the year mid-2014 to mid-2015, 2,800 more people came to live in Northern Ireland from outside the UK than left to live abroad, an increase of 600 people (24.9 per cent) from mid-2014. This is mainly due to a decrease in the number of people from Northern Ireland moving abroad (from 11,100 in mid-2014 to 10,300 in mid-2015). The number of people from outside the UK coming to live in Northern Ireland remained relatively unchanged (13,300 in mid-2014, 13,100 in mid-2015).

As the **net international migration gain** in the year ending mid-2015 (2,800 people) exceeded the **net migration loss to the rest of the UK** (800 people), there was an overall increase of 2,000 people in the population due to migration.

## 5. Population by Age

In the year mid-2014 to mid-2015, the number of **children** aged 0 to 15 years increased by 0.4 per cent, from 383,800 to 385,200. Although the number of babies born in this period (24,200) was comparable to the number of children who ‘aged out’ of this age group (24,200), the net effect of migration (an addition of 1,600 children) together with 200 deaths resulted in an overall modest increase of 1,400 children in the population.



In the year ending mid-2015 the **working age population**<sup>4</sup> (people aged 16 to 64 years) increased by 0.32 per cent (from 1,170,800 to 1,174,600). The main reason for this growth is more people 'ageing into' this age group (24,200) than those 'ageing out' (18,500). This excess was reduced by the 2,600 deaths among people in this age group. There were also moderate gains in this population group due to migration (400 people) and an increase in the number of armed forces stationed in Northern Ireland (300 people).

The **younger working age population** (people aged 16 to 39 years) is estimated to have had modest growth of 0.09 per cent (from 582,600 in mid-2014 to 583,100 in mid-2015). This is after six consecutive years of modest decline and is mainly due to more people 'ageing into' this age group (24,200) than 'aging out' (23,300) together with a relatively small number of deaths (400). The younger working age population is the age group most affected by population changes due to armed forces stationed in Northern Ireland. However, in mid-2015 a gain of 300 people due to the increase in the number of armed forces was cancelled out by a loss of 300 people due to migration.

The **older working age population** (people aged 40 to 64 years) also grew in the year ending mid-2015 to 591,500 people (a 0.56 per cent increase). For the past three consecutive years, the older working age population has been larger than the younger working age population.

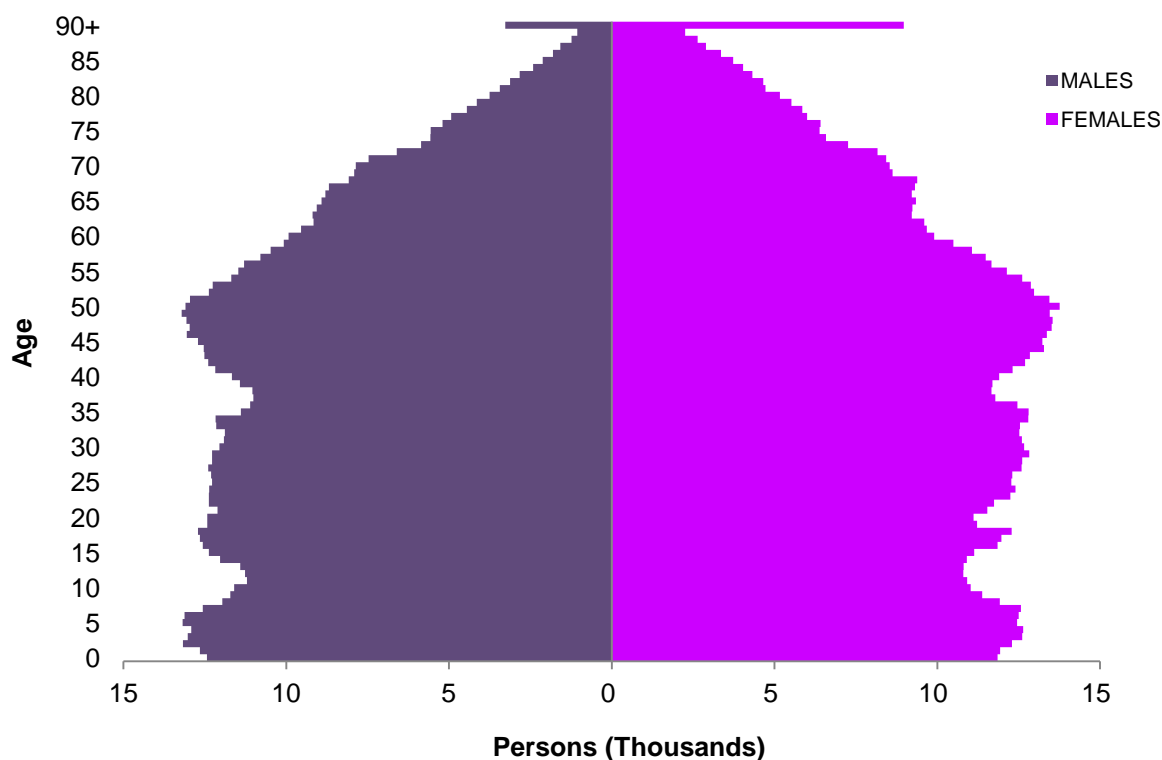
In the year mid-2014 to mid-2015, the **older population** (people aged 65 and over) increased by 2.1 per cent, from 285,900 to 291,800. Over the last five years, the older population has grown by 12.4 per cent, from 259,600 in mid-2010 to 291,800 in mid-2015. At these ages, there is minimal migration; the increase is the result of more people 'ageing into' this population than those 'leaving' through mortality. The **population aged 85 and over** increased by 2.9 per cent (from 34,400 to 35,500) between mid-2014 and mid-2015.

Figure 5 shows the population split by age and sex. An [interactive population pyramid](#) is also available on the NINIS website. This particular data representation allows for a more visual idea of how the numbers of people 'age on' year by year.

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<sup>4</sup> The working age population is defined by the age at 30 June 2015 and is not based on the age for entitlement to state pension. Following the Pensions Act 2007 and 2011, the State Pension Age (SPA) for women will increase gradually to 65 by November 2018.

**Figure 5: Population by age and sex (mid-2015)**



[Download Chart](#) (XLS format – 1,532 Kb)

Over the three decades from year ending mid-1986 to year ending mid-2015 the median age (the age at which half the population is older and half is younger) of the Northern Ireland population has increased from 30 to 38 years. This is mainly due to the ageing of the population. It is projected that by mid-2028 the older population (people aged 65 and over) will be larger than the number of children (people aged 0 to 15 years).

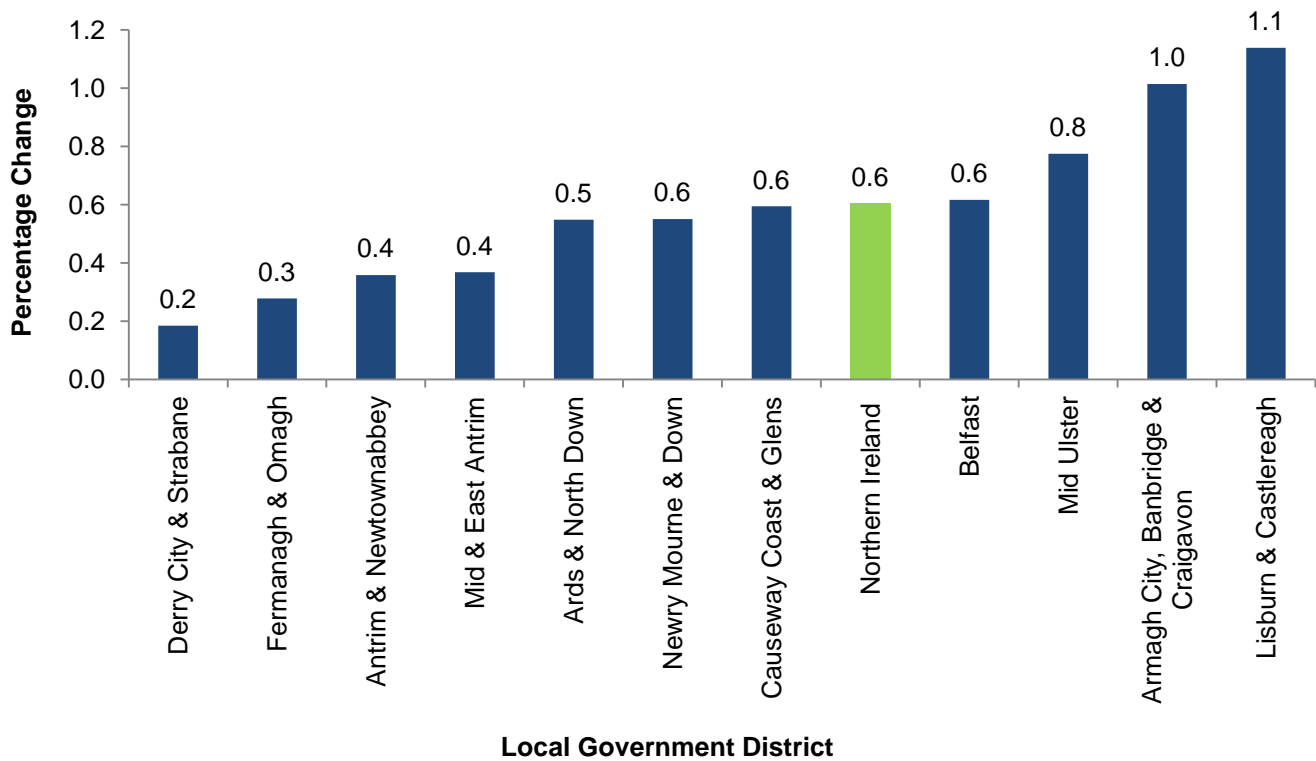
## 6. Local Government Districts

The population sizes for the 11 Local Government Districts (LGD) in mid-2015 range from 115,300 people in Fermanagh & Omagh LGD to 338,900 in the Belfast LGD. The mid-2015 population by LGD is shown in Map 1 (an [interactive map](#) is also available on the NINIS website).

Figure 6a, which presents the overall percentage population change for LGDs within Northern Ireland, shows that the population in all 11 LGDs increased between mid-2014 and mid-2015. Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon LGD had the greatest population increase in the **number of people** (2,100 people, 1.0 per cent) while Lisburn & Castlereagh LGD had the greatest **percentage increase** in population (1.1 per cent), almost twice that of the Northern

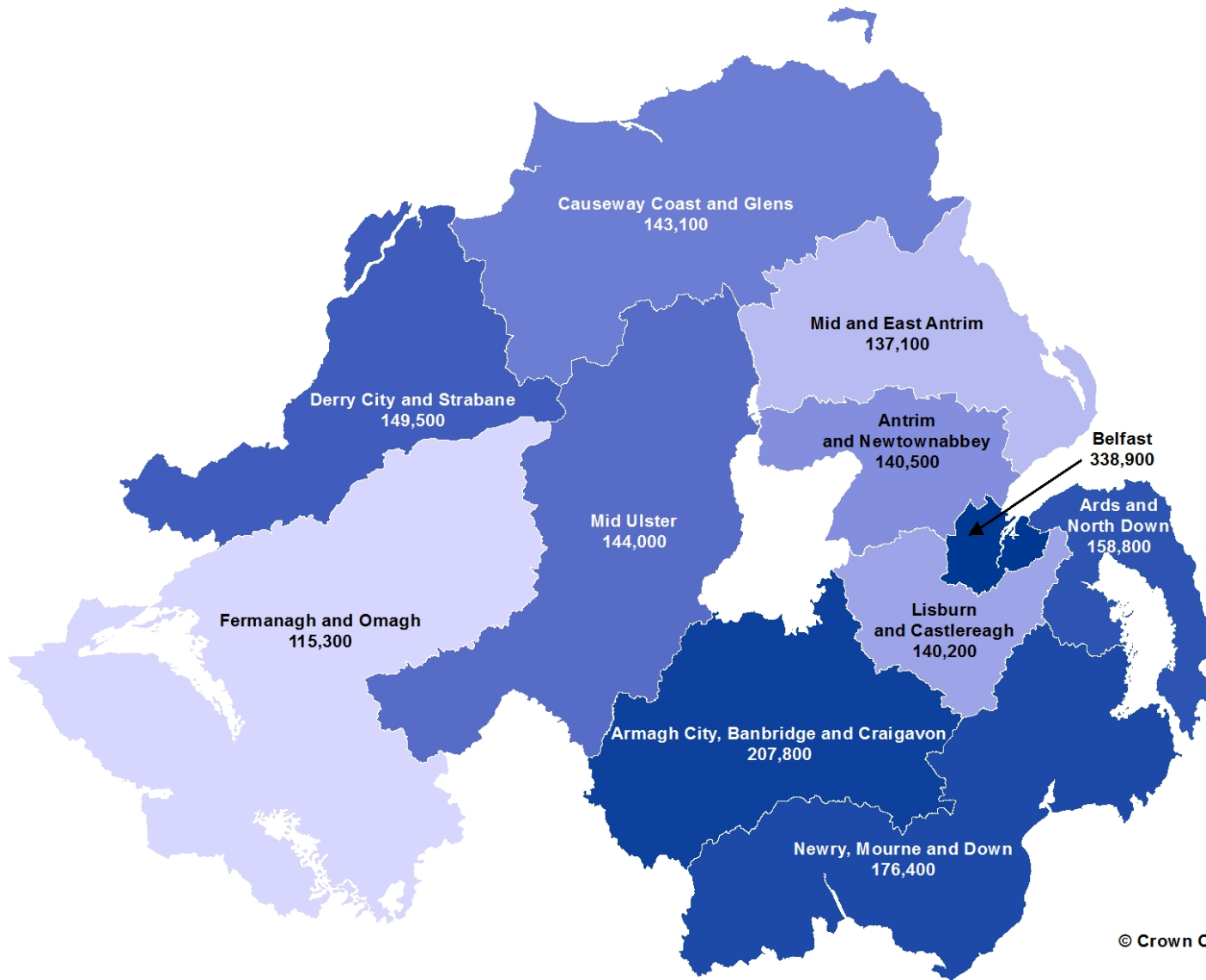
Ireland average (0.6 per cent). Derry City & Strabane LGD had the smallest population increase (300 people, 0.2 per cent) over the same period.

**Figure 6a: Percentage population change by Local Government District (mid-2014 to mid-2015) (ordered by population change)**



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 862 Kb)

**Map 1: Population estimates by Local Government District (mid-2015)**

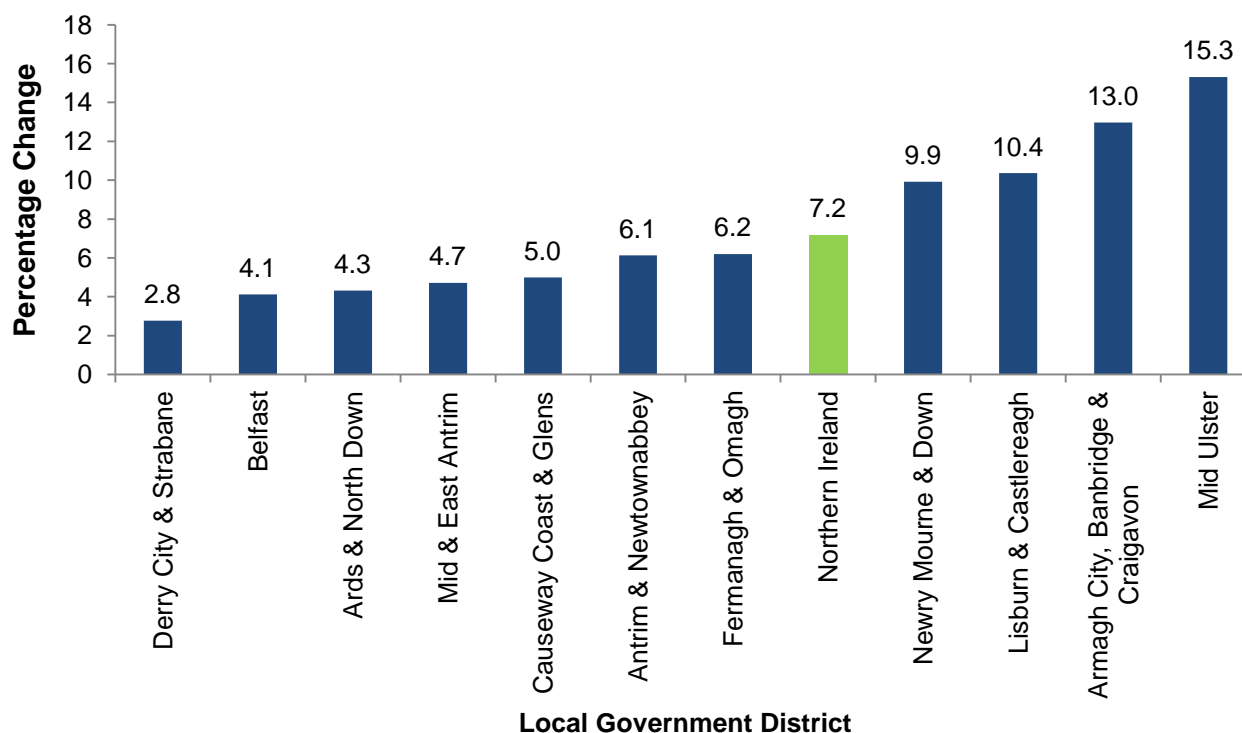


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[Download Map](#) (PDF format – 143 Kb)

Figure 6b presents the overall percentage population change for LGDs between mid-2005 and mid-2015 and shows that all LGDs increased in population over that ten year period.

**Figure 6b: Percentage population change by Local Government District (mid-2005 to mid-2015) (ordered by population change)**



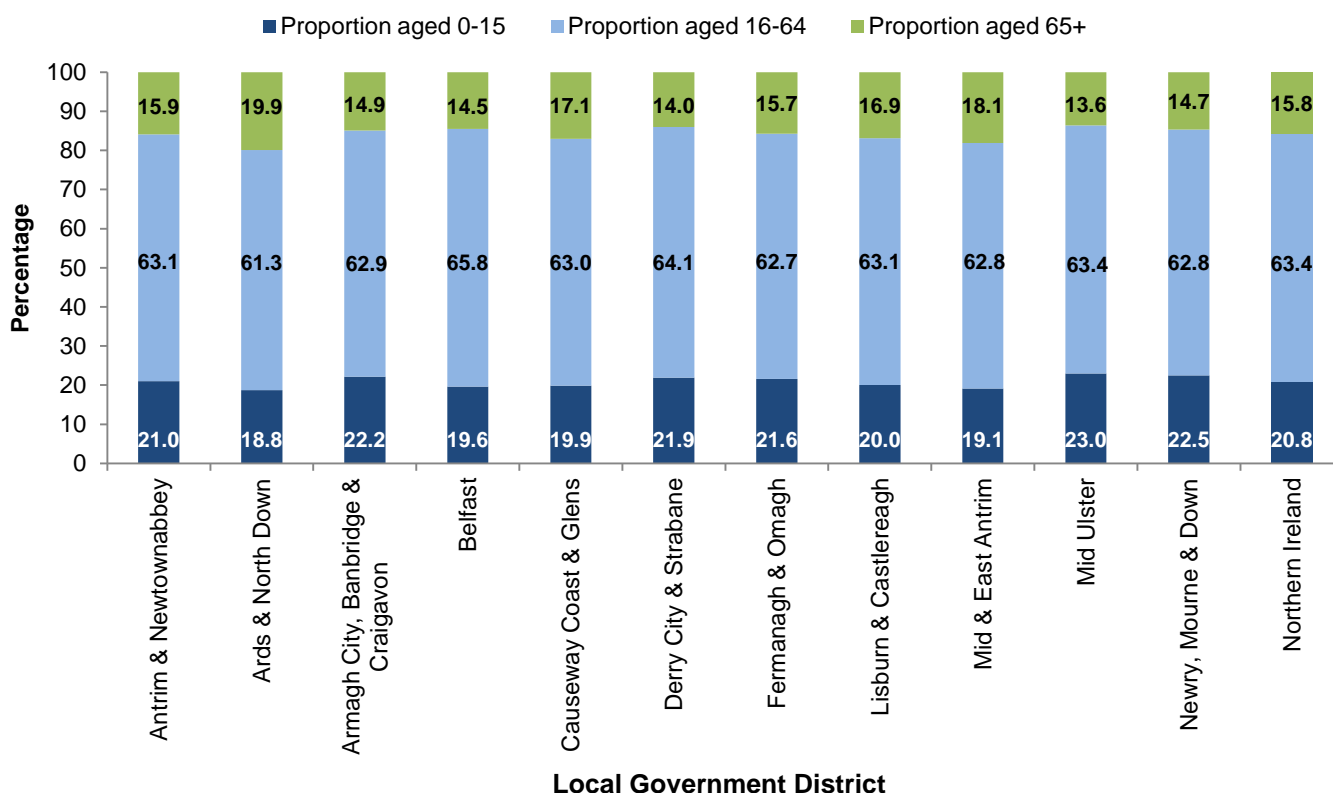
[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 849 Kb)

In mid-2015, Mid Ulster LGD had the highest proportion of **children** (people aged 0 to 15 years) among its population (23.0 per cent), whilst Ards & North Down LGD had the lowest proportion of **children** (18.8 per cent). In both cases, this can be attributed to historical fertility rates relative to the Northern Ireland level rates.

Belfast LGD had the highest proportion of the **working age population** (people aged 16 to 64 years) among its population (65.8 per cent), particularly at the **younger working ages** (people aged 16 to 39 years) (36.3 per cent). In part, this may be attributable to Belfast being the primary centre for third-level education in Northern Ireland.

Ards & North Down LGD had the highest proportion of the **older population** (people aged 65 years and over) among its population (19.9 per cent) whilst Mid Ulster LGD had the lowest proportion (13.6 per cent) (see figure 6c). In each of the LGDs, with the exception of Belfast, this proportion has been steadily rising over the last decade. In Belfast LGD the proportion of older people among its population has remained relatively stable at approximately 15 per cent since 2001.

**Figure 6c: Selected age groups as proportion of total population by Local Government District (mid-2015)**



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 877 Kb)

Factsheets containing a variety of key figures for each of the LGDs are available in Annex B.

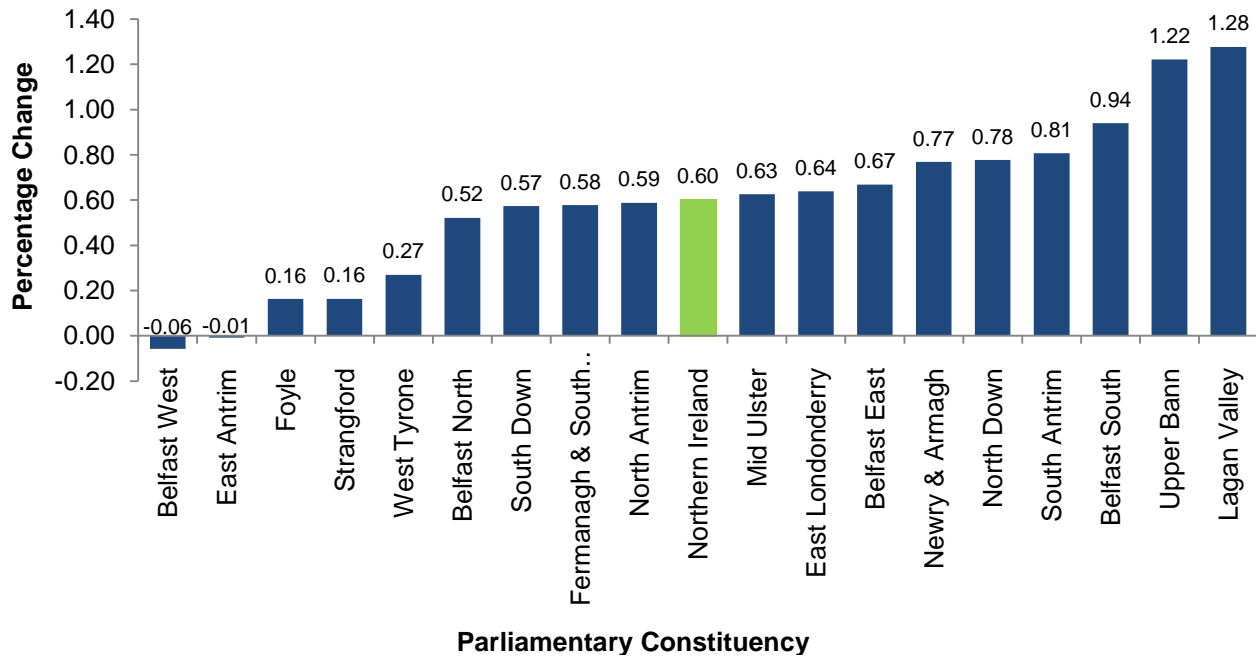
## 7. Parliamentary Constituencies

Parliamentary Constituencies<sup>5</sup> (PCs) are designed to have roughly similar populations. The average population at mid-2015 was 102,900 people, although this ranged from 90,100 people in East Antrim PC to 123,600 in Upper Bann PC.

Between mid-2014 and mid-2015, sixteen of the eighteen PCs experienced population increases. Lagan Valley PC had the greatest percentage population increase (1.3 per cent), more than twice that of the Northern Ireland average (0.6 per cent); the smallest percentage population increase was in Foyle PC (0.16 per cent). During the same period, Belfast West (0.06 per cent) and East Antrim (0.01 per cent) PCs experienced very modest population decline (see Figure 7a)

<sup>5</sup> Parliamentary Constituencies and Northern Ireland Assembly Areas share identical geographies and names.

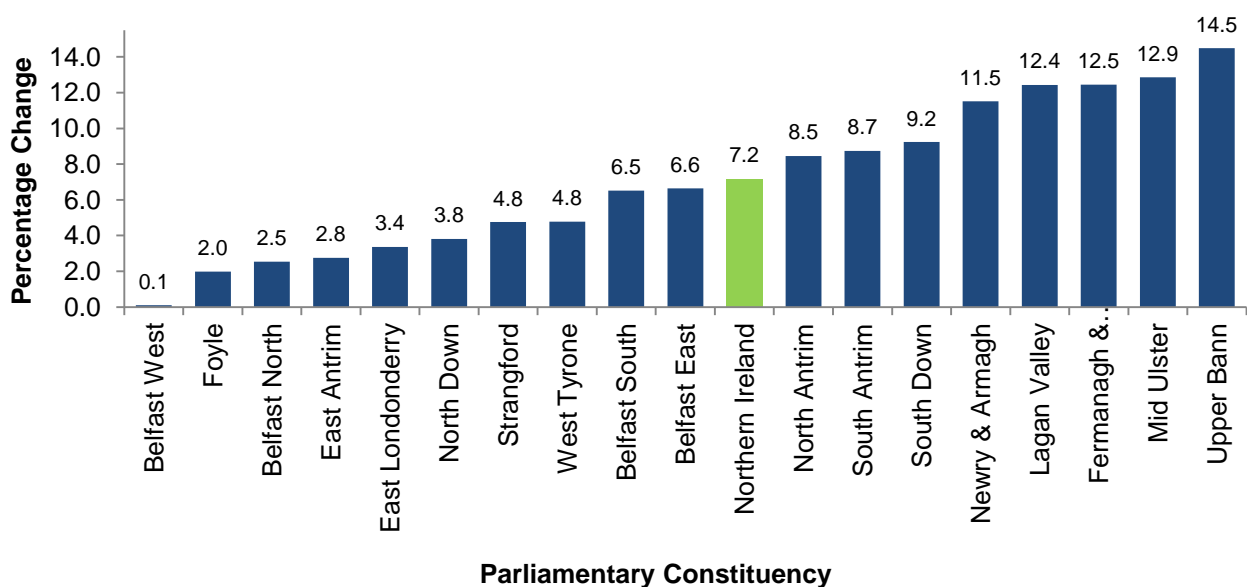
**Figure 7a: Percentage population change by Parliamentary Constituency (mid-2014 to mid-2015) (ordered by population change)**



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 4,168 Kb)

Over the ten year period mid-2005 to mid-2015 all PCs experienced population growth, although this ranged from an increase of 0.10 per cent in Belfast West to 14.5 per cent in Upper Bann where growth was more than twice the Northern Ireland average (7.2 per cent) over the same period (see Figure 7b).

**Figure 7b: Percentage population change by Parliamentary Constituency (mid-2005 to mid-2015) (ordered by population change)**



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 4,166 Kb)

In mid-2015, Newry and Armagh PC had the highest proportion of **children** (people aged 0 to 15 years) in its population (23.1 per cent). In contrast, Belfast South PC had the lowest proportion of children among its population (16.4 per cent). At 70.0 per cent and 41.8 per cent respectively Belfast South PC also stands out with the largest proportion of the **working age** (people aged 16 to 64 years) and **younger working age** populations (people aged 16 to 39 years).

The PC with the highest proportion of **older people** (people aged 65 years and over) among its population was North Down (20.6 per cent), while Belfast West PC had the lowest proportion (13.3 per cent).

The differences in age distribution across the PCs can also be demonstrated using the median age. While for Northern Ireland as a whole the median age is 38 years, this ranges from 34 years in Belfast South PC to 43 years in North Down PC.

## 8. Smaller Geographies

Population estimates for Super Output Areas (SOAs) have also been released as part of the mid-2015 population estimates. SOAs were designed to be more uniform than the former 582 Electoral Wards. Since the population sizes of these Electoral Wards vary, some SOAs are the equivalent of Electoral Wards, while some Electoral Wards are made up of multiple SOAs. In mid-2015, the average population per SOA was 2,100 people, unchanged from mid-2014.

It is more reliable to assess population change for smaller geographical areas over a longer period. The year-on-year changes can be exaggerated by new housing developments, the opening and closure of large communal residences, and improvements in the spatial allocation. Therefore this section focuses mainly on the population change over the decade to mid-2015.

The largest estimated population of an SOA in mid-2015 was in Mallusk\_2 (5,600 people), an area on the outskirts of the Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area which has seen the addition of housing developments in recent years. Its population increased by 89.9 per cent in the decade mid-2005 to mid-2015. Table 1 shows the SOAs with a population growth larger than 50 per cent in the decade to year ending mid-2015. New housing developments, particularly on the outskirts of towns and villages within commuter distance from Belfast, have been a main contributor to large population growths over the last decade. This was the case in Derryaghy\_1 SOA which, at 132.5 per cent, had the largest population growth between mid-2005 and mid-2015.



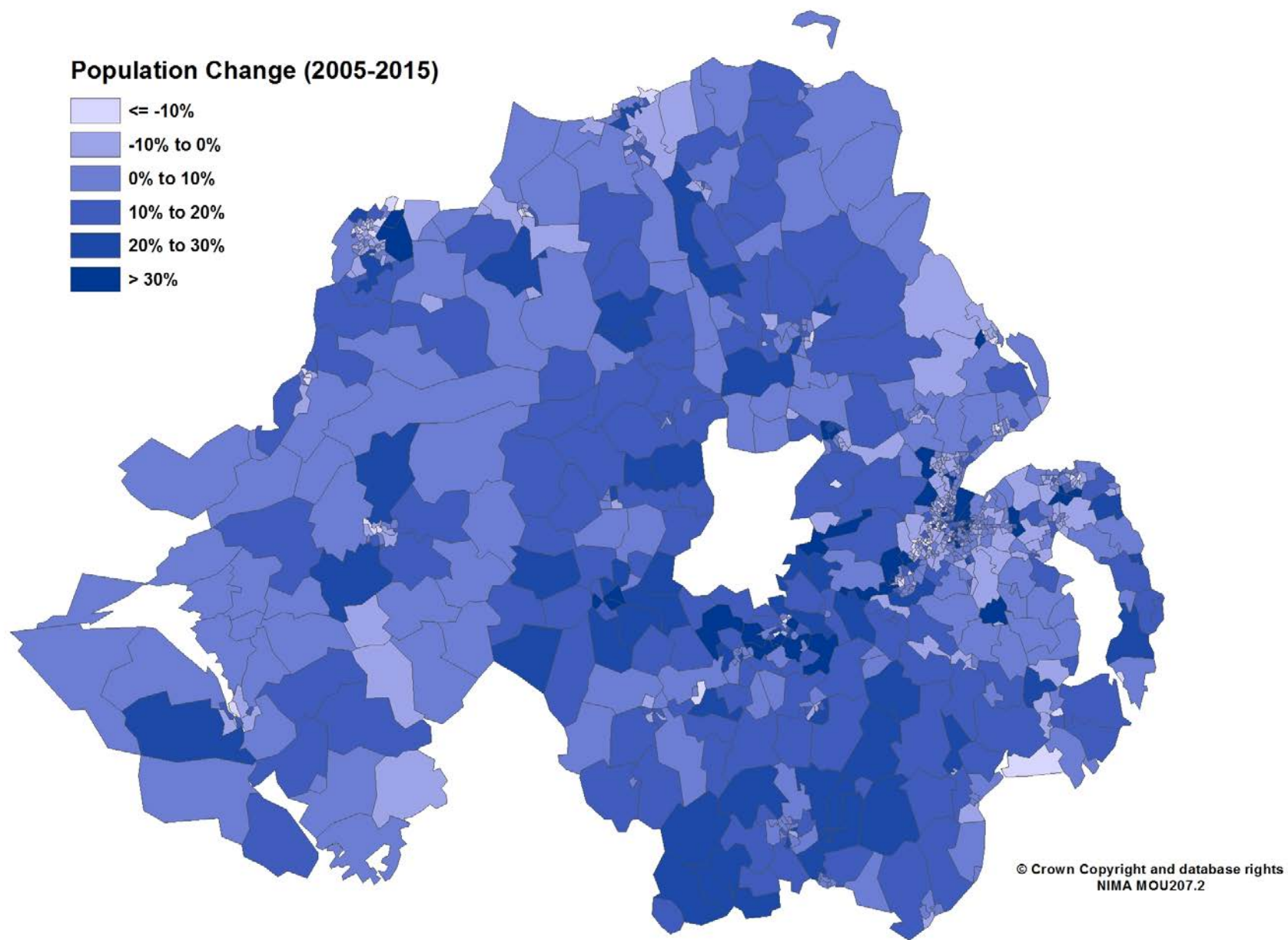
**Table 1: Super Output Areas with a population growth in excess of 50 per cent (mid-2005 to mid-2015) (ordered by population change)**

SOA	Population Estimates			Percentage Change	
	2005	2014	2015	2005-2015	2014-2015
Derryaghy_1	2,000	4,400	4,600	132.5	3.2
Springfarm_1	1,500	3,000	3,100	107.6	1.4
Mallusk_2	2,900	5,200	5,600	88.9	6.0
Kilwaughter_1	2,400	3,900	4,000	62.0	1.5
Legoniel_1	2,100	3,300	3,500	61.4	3.4
Kernan_2	2,300	3,600	3,700	60.9	2.8
Ballymacoss_3	2,500	3,700	4,000	57.5	6.6
Conlig_1	1,800	2,700	2,700	56.1	1.4
Knockmore_1	2,000	3,000	3,000	54.3	2.8
Island_1	1,700	2,500	2,600	51.4	4.6
Waringstown_1	1,900	2,800	2,800	50.9	0.5
Ballymacoss_2	1,600	2,300	2,400	50.7	3.9
Duncairn_1	2,000	3,000	3,100	50.7	3.4

[Download Table](#) (XLS Format – 1,506 Kb)

Map 2 shows the relative population change by SOA for the period mid-2005 to mid-2015.

Map 2: Relative population change by Super Output Area (mid-2005 to mid-2015)



[Download Map](#) (PDF format – 297 Kb)

The smallest estimated population of an SOA in mid-2015 was in Lisanelly\_1 (400 people), the site of an army barracks that closed in 2006. Over the decade to the year ending mid-2015 it has seen a population decline of 69.4 per cent (see Table 2).

**Table 2: Super Output Areas with a population decline of more than 20 per cent (mid-2005 to mid-2015) (ordered by population change)**

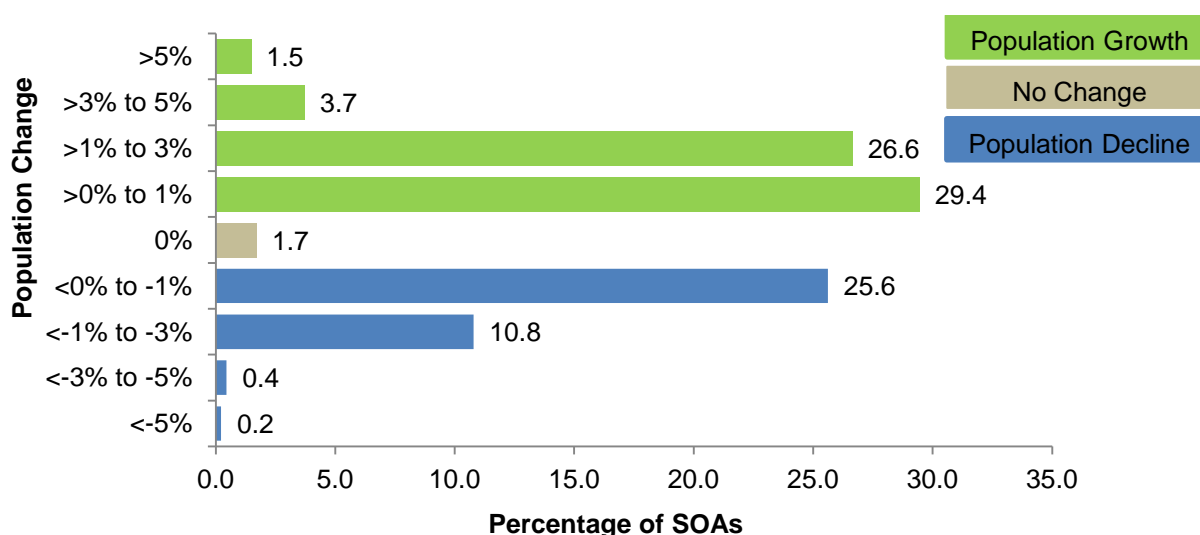
SOA	Population Estimates			Percentage Change	
	2005	2014	2015	2005-2015	2014-2015
Lisanelly_1	1,200	400	400	-69.4	0.5
Aldergrove_1	2,400	1,000	1,000	-56.6	-1.3
Killough_2	2,000	1,400	1,300	-34.5	-7.4
Ardoyne_1	2,200	1,700	1,700	-23.0	-0.2
Wallace Park_1	1,700	1,300	1,300	-20.7	1.8

[Download Table](#) (XLS Format – 1,512 Kb)

Four of the five SOAs with the largest relative population decline between mid-2005 and mid-2015 have either had a closure or reduced occupation of army barracks (Lisanelly\_1, Aldergrove\_1, Killough\_2, Wallace Park\_1). In early 2014, Ballykinlar barracks in Killough\_2 (Newry, Mourne & Down LGD) closed and staff were assigned to barracks in Wallace Park\_1 (Lisburn & Castlereagh LGD).

Figure 8 shows that between mid-2014 and mid-2015 the population of 29.4 per cent of SOAs increased by one per cent or less while 25.6 per cent decreased by one per cent or less. In total the population of over half (55.1 per cent) of SOAs changed by one per cent or less in this period. The population of a minority of SOAs (1.7 per cent) remained unchanged.

**Figure 8: Distribution of Super Output Areas by population change (mid-2014 to mid-2015)**



[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 1,527 Kb)

## 9. Comparison with population estimates across the UK

The mid-2015 population estimates for England and Wales were published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 23 June 2016, together with the UK estimate as an aggregate of the UK administrations. These publications are available on the [ONS website](#). The population of the United Kingdom at 30 June 2015 was estimated to be 65.110 million, an increase of 513,300 (0.8 per cent) since mid-2014. This increase was driven by net international migration of 335,600 (65.4 per cent), natural change of 171,800 (33.5 per cent) and other changes of 5,800 (1.1 per cent).

The mid-2015 [population estimates for Scotland](#) were published on 28 April 2016. The population in Scotland for mid-2015 was estimated to be 5.373 million people, an increase of 25,400 people (0.5 per cent) from mid-2014. This increase occurred despite a position of natural decline of 2,000 and was due mainly to net inward migration of 28,000 people.

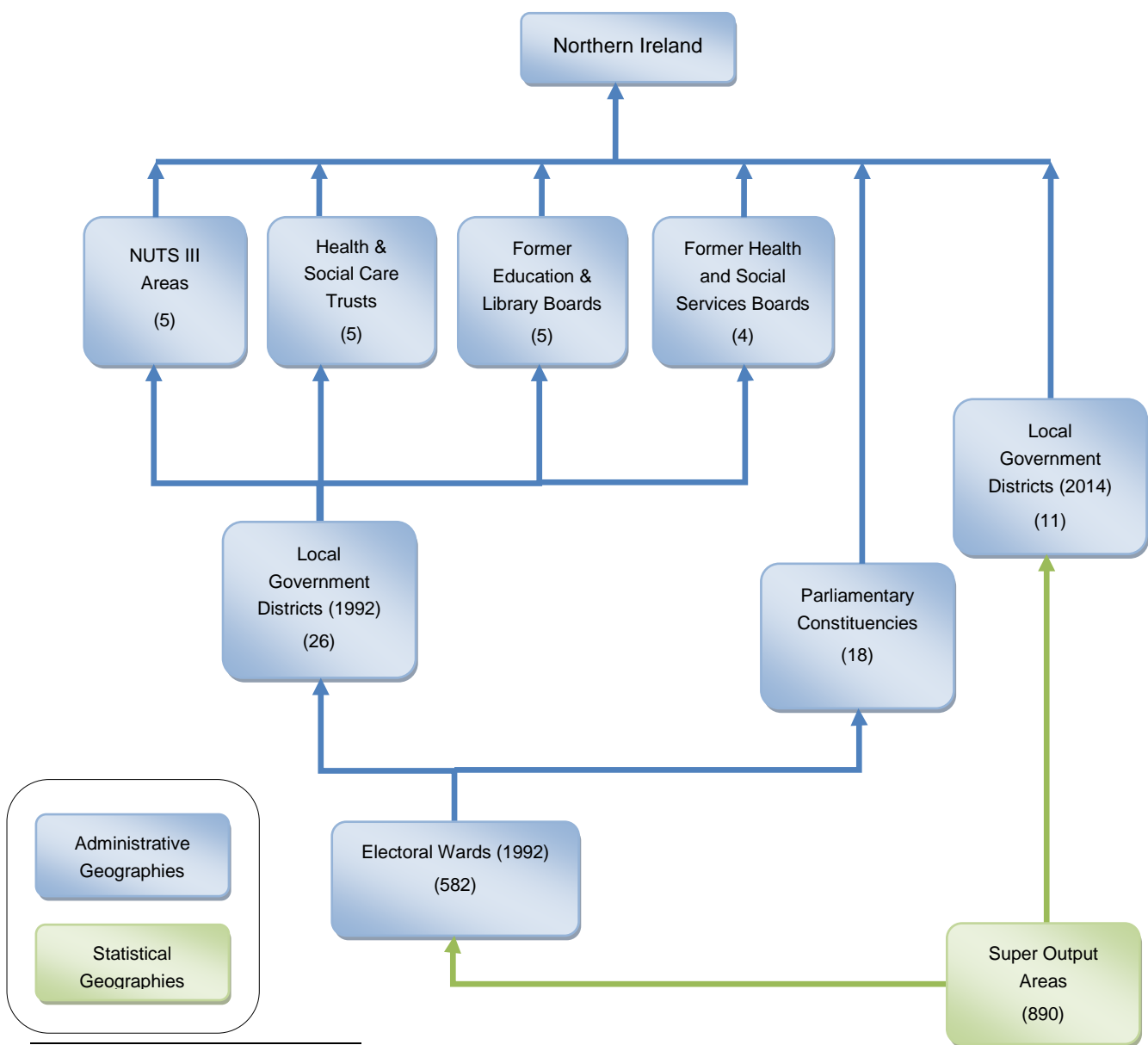
The estimated population change (0.6 per cent) in Northern Ireland between mid-2014 and mid-2015 is comparable with the UK, where population change was estimated to be 0.8 per cent. However, the drivers for population change continue to be in contrast with those for the UK. In Northern Ireland, 79.0 per cent of the estimated population change was attributed to natural growth, with 18.3 per cent being as a result of net migration. For the UK as a whole, natural change only accounted for 33.5 per cent of the population change, while migration was the main driver accounting for 65.4 per cent.

## 10. Methodology

Population estimates at the Northern Ireland level are derived using the components of change method, which updates the latest Census estimates by ‘ageing on’ populations and adjusting for births, deaths and migration.

Population estimates for areas within Northern Ireland are created by Super Output Areas (SOAs). In the main, these SOAs become the building blocks to create population estimates for other geographies<sup>6</sup> (as shown in Figure 9).

**Figure 9: Bottom-Up Approach used in the Population Estimates Methodology**



<sup>6</sup> For some areas exceptions exist where estimates are required at the Small Area level to complete the aggregation to higher levels. Further information is available in the Geography section of the [Methodology Report](#).

Population estimates at the SOA level are generally calculated from an average of two statistical methods: the ratio change and cohort-component methods. In the Ratio Change method, selected indicators of population change are used to update the population from some earlier or base period. The method assumes an unchanged relationship over time between the chosen indicator and the true population<sup>7</sup>. For example, if the chosen indicator increases by five per cent over the period for which estimates are required, the base population is also increased by five per cent. As both methods are equally robust and each have separate advantages and disadvantages, the average of both methods is taken for the final figures. Further information is available in the [Methodology Report](#).

## 11. Data Quality

Population and Migration Estimates for Northern Ireland are based on data gathered from statistical censuses and surveys, and data extracted from administrative or management systems. A brief outline of the main sources used to develop population estimates is given below. A more comprehensive outline of these sources, including details of the quality management actions undertaken to ensure that the data is suitable for population estimates, are detailed within the [Administrative Data Quality Document](#).

### Census Data

A Census Quality Survey (CQS) was conducted independently of the Census 2011 in order to provide insight into the quality of the information reported by the Census. It involved a small random sample of households that had previously responded to the Census 2011. Participants who volunteered to take part were re-asked the full set of Census questions and the responses were then compared with their original answers provided in the Census. This CQS found a high degree of similarity between the responses

The usually resident population of Northern Ireland was estimated to be 1,810,900 by the Census 2011. Quality assurance work carried out on the Census data demonstrated a 95 per cent confidence interval of +/- 11,000. Comprehensive quality assurance was also carried out on the Local Government District (LGD1992) population estimates by age and sex and the figures were found to be appropriately robust and fit for purpose.

### Births and Deaths

Information supplied at birth / death registration is generally believed to be correct since wilfully supplying false information may render the informant liable to prosecution for perjury. Birth and

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<sup>7</sup> That is, the ratio of the true population to the indicator remains constant between the base period and the later period for which estimates are required, hence the name Ratio Change method.

death figures by sex (and also by single year of age for deaths) are obtained from registrations with the General Register Office (GRO) and all that occurred between the 1 July and 30 June the following year are included in the mid-year population estimates.

### Migration

Migration is the most difficult component of population change to measure, as unlike births and deaths, there is no complete system for registering migration. Migration is estimated using transfers observed in medical cards<sup>8</sup>, detailing the list of patients registered with a family doctor:

- inflows (persons who come to live in Northern Ireland for a period of at least one year) are estimated by counting the number of people who registered or re-registered with a family doctor; and
- outflows (persons who leave Northern Ireland for a period of at least one year) are estimated by counting the number of people who de-registered with a family doctor<sup>9</sup>.

Medical card data are also used to estimate internal migration (people moving their place of usual residence within Northern Ireland from one Local Government District to another) between one year and the next. In addition, data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) are used to account for the under recording of migration in the medical cards for students who move from the parental home to their place of study. Further details on how migration estimates are calculated are available in the [Migration Methodology Paper](#).

When the medical card data are processed to calculate migration estimates, figures for migration to / from Great Britain are agreed between the different UK administrations to provide as much accuracy and comparison between UK administrations as possible for users.

### Quality Assurance of Population and Migration Estimates

The resultant population estimates are quality assured using a variety of information sources which can include, for example:

- Pupil statistics from the Department of Education Annual School Census;
- Information from the Social Security register of child benefit and older people claiming retirement pension, pension credit, winter fuel payment, attendance allowance, disability living allowance and other related benefits;

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<sup>8</sup> In previous reports, medical card data was referred as "health card" data.

<sup>9</sup> Migration definitions used by NISRA originate from the [United Nations definition](#) of a long-term migrant based on a 12 month residency rule.



- Figures on registrations with a family doctor and/or dentist from the Medical Card Register;
- Figures on registrations of National Insurance Numbers from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP);
- Figures from the Home Office on Asylum Claimants; and
- Figures on the number of domestic properties in Northern Ireland as recorded by the Rates Collection Agency.

## 12. Limitations

### Migration

Migration is the most difficult component of population change to measure. The United Nations definition of a long-term migrant based on a 12 month residency rule is used in Northern Ireland. However the administrative sources used in the creation and quality assurance of migration statistics may use different definitions for recording migration.

It is recognised that the medical card source used in the production of population and migration estimates is deficient in recording young adult males; therefore the age distribution of young adult males is adjusted to be similar to the young adult female age distribution. Furthermore, not all outflows are measured fully by the medical card system and therefore de-registrations are scaled up by an additional 67 per cent (i.e. the assumption is that only 3 out of 5 persons who leave Northern Ireland to go abroad de-register from their family doctor). This scaling factor was determined through analysis of historic population change using results from Censuses of population (see [Methodology Report](#)).

While the International Passenger Survey (IPS) is used by England, Wales and Scotland to estimate international migration, NISRA are unable to use this source due to issues relating to the use of the IPS in Northern Ireland. The main issues are that the IPS does not cover the land border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, and the uncertainty introduced when “Ireland” is given in response to survey questions – some people stating “Ireland” as their origin or destination may be referring to Northern Ireland. While this means there is a methodological inconsistency for the international migration estimates of Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK, NISRA is content that the data sources used in Northern Ireland to estimate migration yield robust results. Furthermore, Northern Ireland migration statistics have been previously assessed by UKSA, who found them to be fit for purpose<sup>10</sup>.

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<sup>10</sup>[UKSA Assessment Report - Statistics on Demography and Vital Events in Northern Ireland \(2011\)](#)



### Small Geographical Areas

Some data sources used in the production of population estimates for small geographical areas (e.g. School Census, Child Benefits, and Pensions data) rely on the use of postcodes to allocate people to specific small geographical areas. In a small number of cases, postcodes can span more than one small geographical area (3-5 per cent of postcodes). Therefore, properties within the same postcode can be in different small geographical areas. However, all properties with a given postcode are allocated to a single small geographical area based on where the “centre of the postcode” is located. This can give rise to some small inaccuracies in the resultant estimates for small geographical areas and is not unique to Northern Ireland statistics.

Further information relating to the data sources used to develop population estimates is available in the [Administrative Data Quality Document](#).

**NISRA**

**August 2016**

## Background Notes

- Northern Ireland Population and Migration Estimates are produced by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). The population estimates refer to the number of people in the population at 30 June each year. The statistics are therefore often referred to as the mid-year estimates. Population statistics relate to the usually resident population of Northern Ireland, including armed forces personnel stationed here. Following international guidelines, migration statistics relate only to long-term migrants (i.e. someone who changes their place of residence for a year or more (Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, United Nations, 1998)).
- 2015 Mid-year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland were published on 23 June 2016 as part of a release by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) of Population Estimates for the UK: mid-2015 (<http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates>) and simultaneously by NISRA via the NISRA website in the form of statistical tables only (<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp17.htm>).
- Sub-national population statistics published as part of this release include the 11 Local Government Districts as well as estimates for the former 26 Local Government Districts, Parliamentary Constituencies, former Education & Library Boards, former Health and Social Services Boards, Health & Social Care Trusts, and NUTS-III areas. The release also includes 2015 population estimates for SOAs and Electoral Wards<sup>11</sup>. Detailed statistics on the population estimates can be obtained from the NISRA website at: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/demography/default.asp17.htm>.
- Population estimates at the Northern Ireland level are derived using the components of change method, which updates the latest Census estimates by 'ageing on' populations and adjusting for births, deaths and migration. Population estimates for areas within Northern Ireland are aggregated from Super Output Area (SOA) level and are generally calculated from an average of two statistical methods: the ratio change and cohort-component methods. Further information is available in the [Methodology Report](#).
- An [infographic](#) has been released to highlight the key figures within the 2015 population estimates. Furthermore, an [interactive map](#) is available, along with further statistics on the [NINIS website](#).
- Population estimates (2015) for [Scotland](#) were published by National Records Scotland (NRS) on 28 April 2016. Equivalent figures for [England and Wales](#) were published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 23 June 2016. Population estimates (2015) for the [Republic of Ireland](#) were released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) on 26 August

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<sup>11</sup> Electoral Wards relate to the areas created in 1992 and not the new Electoral Wards.

2015, however these use a reference point of mid-April, rather than 30 June, as is used by all UK administrations. A paper comparing the methodological approaches adopted by producers of population statistics across the UK is available [here](#).

- We welcome feedback from users on the content, format and relevance of this release. Please send feedback directly to [census.nisra@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:census.nisra@finance-ni.gov.uk).
- Follow NISRA on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).
- National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value. All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate. It is NISRA's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.
- These statistics were re-assessed by the Statistics Authority in July 2015 ([UK Statistics Authority Assessment Report](#)). Following work to address recommendations that emerged from the assessment ([Assessment Action Plan](#)), UKSA confirmed the re-designation of these statistics as National Statistics in August 2016.
- The revisions policy for Northern Ireland population statistics is available [here](#).
- All media inquiries should be directed to the DFP Communications Office:
- Telephone: 028 9016 3389
- Further statistical information can be obtained from NISRA Customer Services:
  - Telephone: 028 9034 8160
  - Fax: 028 9034 8161
  - E-mail: [census.nisra@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:census.nisra@finance-ni.gov.uk)
  - Responsible Statistician: Brian Green

## Annex A: Summary Tables

The following tables<sup>12</sup> are attached:

[Table A1: Northern Ireland population estimates, by sex and selected age groups \(mid-2015\)](#)

[Table A2: Annual components of population change, Northern Ireland \(mid-2000 to mid-2015\)](#)

[Table A3: Annual population estimates for selected age groups, Northern Ireland \(mid-2001 to mid-2015\)](#)

[Table A4: Detailed annual migration estimates, Northern Ireland \(mid-2000 to mid-2015\)](#)

[Table A5: Population estimates by Local Government District \(mid-2005, mid-2014 and mid-2015\)](#)

[Table A6: Population estimates for selected age groups by Local Government District \(mid-2015\)](#)

[Table A7: Components of population change by Local Government District \(mid-2014 to mid-2015\)](#)

[Table A8: Population estimates for selected age groups by Parliamentary Constituency \(mid-2015\)](#)

[Table A9: Components of population change by Parliamentary Constituency \(mid-2014 to mid-2015\)](#)

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<sup>12</sup> All figures in tables have been rounded to the nearest 100. Therefore counts may not add to totals due to rounding.

**Table A1: Northern Ireland population estimates, by sex for selected age groups (mid-2015)**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Persons</b>
<b>0-4</b>	64,000	61,300	125,300
<b>5-9</b>	64,000	60,800	124,800
<b>10-14</b>	57,400	54,500	111,900
<b>15-19</b>	62,100	58,500	120,600
<b>20-24</b>	61,500	59,100	120,500
<b>25-29</b>	61,700	62,600	124,300
<b>30-34</b>	60,500	63,100	123,600
<b>35-39</b>	56,800	60,400	117,200
<b>40-44</b>	60,200	63,000	123,200
<b>45-49</b>	64,400	67,100	131,500
<b>50-54</b>	63,700	65,700	129,400
<b>55-59</b>	55,500	56,900	112,300
<b>60-64</b>	47,400	47,700	95,100
<b>65-69</b>	42,900	45,900	88,800
<b>70-74</b>	34,800	39,000	73,800
<b>75-79</b>	24,600	30,200	54,800
<b>80-84</b>	16,000	22,900	38,900
<b>85-89</b>	8,100	14,900	23,000
<b>90+</b>	3,500	9,000	12,400
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>909,100</b>	<b>942,500</b>	<b>1,851,600</b>

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**Table A2: Annual components of population change, Northern Ireland (mid-2000 to mid-2015)**

Period	Population at start of period	Births <sup>1</sup>	Deaths <sup>1</sup>	Natural Change	Net Migration	Other Changes <sup>2</sup>	Population at end of period	Population Change	
								Number	%
Mid 2000 to Mid 2001	1,682,900	21,600	14,400	7,100	-1,100	-100	1,688,800	5,900	0.4
Mid 2001 to Mid 2002	1,688,800	21,500	14,400	7,000	1,000	700	1,697,500	8,700	0.5
Mid 2002 to Mid 2003	1,697,500	21,400	14,600	6,800	200	400	1,704,900	7,400	0.4
Mid 2003 to Mid 2004	1,704,900	22,000	14,700	7,300	1,600	200	1,714,000	9,100	0.5
Mid 2004 to Mid 2005	1,714,000	22,500	14,400	8,200	5,700	-200	1,727,700	13,700	0.8
Mid 2005 to Mid 2006	1,727,700	22,700	14,200	8,500	7,900	-1,000	1,743,100	15,400	0.9
Mid 2006 to Mid 2007	1,743,100	23,900	14,600	9,300	10,900	-1,700	1,761,700	18,600	1.1
Mid 2007 to Mid 2008	1,761,700	25,200	14,500	10,800	7,700	-1,000	1,779,200	17,500	1.0
Mid 2008 to Mid 2009	1,779,200	25,300	14,600	10,700	3,700	-200	1,793,300	14,200	0.8
Mid 2009 to Mid 2010	1,793,300	25,000	14,000	11,000	1,200	-600	1,804,800	11,500	0.6
Mid 2010 to Mid 2011	1,804,800	25,400	14,200	11,200	-1,500	-300	1,814,300	9,500	0.5
Mid 2011 to Mid 2012	1,814,300	25,300	14,200	11,100	-1,300	-500	1,823,600	9,300	0.5
Mid 2012 to Mid 2013	1,823,600	24,500	15,000	9,600	-2,300	-1,100	1,829,700	6,100	0.3
Mid 2013 to Mid 2014	1,829,700	24,200	14,300	9,800	1,600	-600	1,840,500	10,800	0.6
Mid 2014 to Mid 2015	1,840,500	24,200	15,400	8,800	2,000	300	1,851,600	11,100	0.6

<sup>1</sup> Mid-year to mid-year.

<sup>2</sup> Other changes include changes in armed forces personnel stationed in Northern Ireland.

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**Table A3: Annual population estimates for selected age groups, Northern Ireland (mid-2001 to mid-2015)**

Mid-Year	Age Groups					As a proportion of all ages			
	All Ages	0-15	16-64	65+	85+	0-15	16-64	65+	85+
<b>2001</b>	<b>1,688,800</b>	397,500	1,067,200	224,100	23,500	23.5	63.2	13.3	1.4
<b>2002</b>	<b>1,697,500</b>	391,700	1,079,000	226,800	23,700	23.1	63.6	13.4	1.4
<b>2003</b>	<b>1,704,900</b>	385,900	1,089,700	229,400	23,800	22.6	63.9	13.5	1.4
<b>2004</b>	<b>1,714,000</b>	381,200	1,100,600	232,200	24,400	22.2	64.2	13.5	1.4
<b>2005</b>	<b>1,727,700</b>	378,800	1,114,100	234,900	25,900	21.9	64.5	13.6	1.5
<b>2006</b>	<b>1,743,100</b>	377,100	1,127,900	238,100	27,000	21.6	64.7	13.7	1.6
<b>2007</b>	<b>1,761,700</b>	377,100	1,142,700	241,900	27,900	21.4	64.9	13.7	1.6
<b>2008</b>	<b>1,779,200</b>	378,500	1,153,200	247,500	28,900	21.3	64.8	13.9	1.6
<b>2009</b>	<b>1,793,300</b>	379,500	1,160,400	253,400	29,700	21.2	64.7	14.1	1.7
<b>2010</b>	<b>1,804,800</b>	380,000	1,165,200	259,600	30,800	21.1	64.6	14.4	1.7
<b>2011</b>	<b>1,814,300</b>	380,800	1,167,800	265,800	31,800	21.0	64.4	14.6	1.8
<b>2012</b>	<b>1,823,600</b>	382,100	1,168,700	272,800	32,700	21.0	64.1	15.0	1.8
<b>2013</b>	<b>1,829,700</b>	382,600	1,168,000	279,100	33,300	20.9	63.8	15.3	1.8
<b>2014</b>	<b>1,840,500</b>	383,800	1,170,800	285,900	34,400	20.9	63.6	15.5	1.9
<b>2015</b>	<b>1,851,600</b>	<b>385,200</b>	<b>1,174,600</b>	<b>291,800</b>	<b>35,500</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>

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**Table A4: Detailed annual migration estimates, Northern Ireland (mid-2000 to mid-2015)**

Period	Migration From / To Rest of UK			International Migration			Total Migration		
	Inflows	Outflows	Net Migration <sup>1</sup>	Inflows	Outflows	Net Migration <sup>2</sup>	Inflows	Outflows	Net Migration
Mid 2000 to Mid 2001	11,600	11,700	0	6,500	7,600	-1,100	18,200	19,300	-1,100
Mid 2001 to Mid 2002	12,500	11,600	900	6,500	6,400	100	19,000	18,000	1,000
Mid 2002 to Mid 2003	11,100	11,000	100	6,800	6,700	100	17,900	17,700	200
Mid 2003 to Mid 2004	12,200	11,900	400	8,200	7,000	1,200	20,400	18,900	1,600
Mid 2004 to Mid 2005	13,300	11,300	2,000	12,500	8,900	3,700	25,800	20,200	5,700
Mid 2005 to Mid 2006	12,400	11,500	900	15,800	8,800	7,000	28,200	20,300	7,900
Mid 2006 to Mid 2007	12,900	11,100	1,800	19,800	10,600	9,100	32,700	21,800	10,900
Mid 2007 to Mid 2008	12,100	10,700	1,400	18,300	12,000	6,300	30,400	22,700	7,700
Mid 2008 to Mid 2009	10,900	10,200	700	14,400	11,400	3,000	25,300	21,600	3,700
Mid 2009 to Mid 2010	10,700	11,300	-600	13,900	12,100	1,800	24,500	23,400	1,100
Mid 2010 to Mid 2011	10,300	11,100	-800	13,400	14,100	-700	23,700	25,200	-1,500
Mid 2011 to Mid 2012	10,300	12,100	-1,800	12,900	12,500	400	23,300	24,600	-1,300
Mid 2012 to Mid 2013	10,400	11,800	-1,500	12,700	13,600	-900	23,100	25,400	-2,300
Mid 2013 to Mid 2014	11,100	11,700	-700	13,300	11,100	2,200	24,400	22,800	1,600
Mid 2014 to Mid 2015	<b>10,500</b>	<b>11,200</b>	<b>-800</b>	<b>13,100</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>23,600</b>	<b>21,500</b>	<b>2,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Net UK migration relates to population migration flows within the United Kingdom (inflows from the rest of the UK minus outflows to the rest of the UK).

<sup>2</sup> Net International migration relates to migration flows with the Rest of the World, including the Republic of Ireland.

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**Table A5: Population estimates by Local Government District (mid-2005, mid-2014 and mid-2015)**

Local Government District	Area Code	Population Estimates			Percentage Change	
		2005	2014	2015	2014-15	2005-15
Antrim & Newtownabbey	N09000001	132,400	140,000	140,500	0.4	6.1
Ards & North Down	N09000011	152,200	157,900	158,800	0.5	4.3
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	N09000002	183,900	205,700	207,800	1.0	13.0
Belfast	N09000003	325,500	336,800	338,900	0.6	4.1
Causeway Coast & Glens	N09000004	136,300	142,300	143,100	0.6	5.0
Derry City & Strabane	N09000005	145,400	149,200	149,500	0.2	2.8
Fermanagh & Omagh	N09000006	108,600	115,000	115,300	0.3	6.2
Lisburn & Castlereagh	N09000007	127,000	138,600	140,200	1.1	10.4
Mid & East Antrim	N09000008	131,000	136,600	137,100	0.4	4.7
Mid Ulster	N09000009	124,900	142,900	144,000	0.8	15.3
Newry, Mourne & Down	N09000010	160,500	175,400	176,400	0.6	9.9
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>N92000002</b>	<b>1,727,700</b>	<b>1,840,500</b>	<b>1,851,600</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>7.2</b>

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**Table A6: Population estimates for selected age groups by Local Government District (mid-2015)**

Local Government District	Area Code	All Ages	Age				As a proportion of all ages			
			0-15	16-64	65+	85+	0-15	16-64	65+	85+
Antrim & Newtownabbey	N09000001	140,500	29,500	88,600	22,400	2,600	21.0	63.1	15.9	1.9
Ards & North Down	N09000011	158,800	29,800	97,300	31,700	3,800	18.8	61.3	19.9	2.4
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	N09000002	207,800	46,000	130,800	31,000	3,600	22.2	62.9	14.9	1.7
Belfast	N09000003	338,900	66,600	223,000	49,300	7,100	19.6	65.8	14.5	2.1
Causeway Coast & Glens	N09000004	143,100	28,500	90,200	24,400	2,800	19.9	63.0	17.1	2.0
Derry City & Strabane	N09000005	149,500	32,700	95,800	20,900	2,100	21.9	64.1	14.0	1.4
Fermanagh & Omagh	N09000006	115,300	24,900	72,200	18,200	2,300	21.6	62.7	15.7	2.0
Lisburn & Castlereagh	N09000007	140,200	28,100	88,500	23,600	2,800	20.0	63.1	16.9	2.0
Mid & East Antrim	N09000008	137,100	26,200	86,100	24,900	3,000	19.1	62.8	18.1	2.2
Mid Ulster	N09000009	144,000	33,100	91,300	19,600	2,300	23.0	63.4	13.6	1.6
Newry, Mourne & Down	N09000010	176,400	39,700	110,800	25,900	3,000	22.5	62.8	14.7	1.7
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>N92000002</b>	<b>1,851,600</b>	<b>385,200</b>	<b>1,174,600</b>	<b>291,800</b>	<b>35,500</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>

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**Table A7: Components of population change by Local Government District (mid-2014 to mid-2015)**

Local Government District	Area Code	Population at start of period	Population Change					Population at end of period	Population Change	
			Births	Deaths	Natural Change	Net Migration	Other Changes		Number	%
Antrim & Newtownabbey	N09000001	140,000	1,800	1,200	600	-100	0	140,500	500	0.4
Ards & North Down	N09000011	157,900	1,700	1,500	200	200	500	158,800	900	0.5
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	N09000002	205,700	2,900	1,500	1,400	1,000	-300	207,800	2,100	1.0
Belfast	N09000003	336,800	4,600	3,300	1,400	700	100	338,900	2,100	0.6
Causeway Coast & Glens	N09000004	142,300	1,800	1,100	600	100	200	143,100	800	0.6
Derry City & Strabane	N09000005	149,200	2,100	1,100	1,000	-800	100	149,500	300	0.2
Fermanagh & Omagh	N09000006	115,000	1,400	900	500	-200	0	115,300	300	0.3
Lisburn & Castlereagh	N09000007	138,600	1,700	1,100	600	900	100	140,200	1,600	1.1
Mid & East Antrim	N09000008	136,600	1,600	1,200	300	200	0	137,100	500	0.4
Mid Ulster	N09000009	142,900	2,100	1,000	1,100	200	-300	144,000	1,100	0.8
Newry, Mourne & Down	N09000010	175,400	2,500	1,300	1,100	0	-200	176,400	1,000	0.6
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>N92000002</b>	<b>1,840,500</b>	<b>24,200</b>	<b>15,400</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>1,851,600</b>	<b>11,100</b>	<b>0.6</b>

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**Table A8: Population estimates for selected age groups by Parliamentary Constituency (mid-2015)**

Parliamentary Constituency	Area Code	All Ages	Persons				As a proportion of all ages			
			0-15	16-64	65+	85+	0-15	16-64	65+	85+
Belfast East	N06000001	94,600	17,800	60,600	16,200	2,600	18.8	64.0	17.1	2.7
Belfast North	N06000002	103,700	21,800	65,200	16,700	2,300	21.0	62.9	16.1	2.2
Belfast South	N06000003	113,600	18,600	79,500	15,500	2,400	16.4	70.0	13.7	2.1
Belfast West	N06000004	94,600	21,600	60,300	12,600	1,600	22.9	63.8	13.3	1.6
East Antrim	N06000005	90,100	16,800	57,200	16,000	1,800	18.7	63.5	17.8	2.0
East Londonderry	N06000006	100,900	20,100	63,800	17,100	2,000	19.9	63.2	16.9	1.9
Fermanagh & South Tyrone	N06000007	106,100	23,300	66,500	16,300	2,000	21.9	62.7	15.4	1.9
Foyle	N06000008	102,300	22,600	66,000	13,700	1,300	22.1	64.5	13.4	1.2
Lagan Valley	N06000009	106,000	21,500	66,300	18,100	2,100	20.3	62.6	17.1	2.0
Mid Ulster	N06000010	102,400	23,600	64,800	14,000	1,700	23.0	63.3	13.7	1.7
Newry & Armagh	N06000011	116,900	27,000	73,200	16,600	1,900	23.1	62.6	14.2	1.6
North Antrim	N06000012	110,900	22,300	69,300	19,300	2,400	20.1	62.5	17.4	2.1
North Down	N06000013	90,800	16,900	55,200	18,700	2,400	18.6	60.8	20.6	2.7
South Antrim	N06000014	101,600	22,100	64,100	15,300	1,600	21.8	63.1	15.1	1.5
South Down	N06000015	111,100	24,900	69,600	16,700	2,000	22.4	62.6	15.0	1.8
Strangford	N06000016	90,400	17,100	56,300	17,000	1,900	19.0	62.2	18.8	2.2
Upper Bann	N06000017	123,600	27,100	78,400	18,000	2,100	22.0	63.5	14.6	1.7
West Tyrone	N06000018	92,300	20,000	58,300	14,000	1,600	21.7	63.2	15.1	1.8
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>N92000002</b>	<b>1,851,600</b>	<b>385,200</b>	<b>1,174,600</b>	<b>291,800</b>	<b>35,500</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>

[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 1,516 Kb)

**Table A9: Components of population change by Parliamentary Constituency (mid-2014 to mid-2015)**

Parliamentary Constituency	Area Code	Population at start of period					Population Change			
		Births	Deaths	Natural Change	Net Migration	Other Changes	Population at end of period	Number	%	
Belfast East	N06000001	93,900	1,200	1,000	200	400	0	94,600	600	0.7
Belfast North	N06000002	103,100	1,500	1,100	300	400	-200	103,700	500	0.5
Belfast South	N06000003	112,500	1,300	900	400	500	200	113,600	1100	0.9
Belfast West	N06000004	94,600	1,500	900	600	-600	-100	94,600	-100	-0.1
East Antrim	N06000005	90,100	900	800	100	-200	100	90,100	0	0.0
East Londonderry	N06000006	100,300	1,300	800	500	0	100	100,900	600	0.6
Fermanagh & South Tyrone	N06000007	105,500	1,400	900	600	100	-100	106,100	600	0.6
Foyle	N06000008	102,100	1,500	800	700	-600	200	102,300	200	0.2
Lagan Valley	N06000009	104,600	1,400	900	500	700	100	106,000	1,300	1.3
Mid Ulster	N06000010	101,700	1,500	700	800	0	-100	102,400	600	0.6
Newry & Armagh	N06000011	116,000	1,800	900	1000	0	-100	116,900	900	0.8
North Antrim	N06000012	110,200	1,400	1000	400	200	0	110,900	600	0.6
North Down	N06000013	90,100	1,000	900	0	200	500	90,800	700	0.8
South Antrim	N06000014	100,700	1,300	700	600	300	-100	101,600	800	0.8
South Down	N06000015	110,500	1,500	900	600	100	-100	111,100	600	0.6
Strangford	N06000016	90,300	1000	800	200	-100	0	90,400	100	0.2
Upper Bann	N06000017	122,100	1,700	900	800	900	-200	123,600	1,500	1.2
West Tyrone	N06000018	92,100	1,200	600	500	-300	0	92,300	200	0.3
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>N92000002</b>	<b>1,840,500</b>	<b>24,200</b>	<b>15,400</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>1,851,600</b>	<b>11,100</b>	<b>0.6</b>

[Download Chart](#) (XLS Format – 4,150 Kb)

## **Annex B: Population Factsheets for Local Government Districts**

[Antrim & Newtownabbey \(N09000001\)](#)

[Ards & North Down Local Government District \(N090000011\)](#)

[Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon \(N09000002\)](#)

[Belfast \(N09000003\)](#)

[Causeway Coast & Glens \(N09000004\)](#)

[Derry City & Strabane \(N09000005\)](#)

[Fermanagh & Dungannon \(N09000006\)](#)

[Lisburn & Castlereagh \(N09000007\)](#)

[Mid & East Antrim \(N09000008\)](#)

[Mid Ulster \(N09000009\)](#)

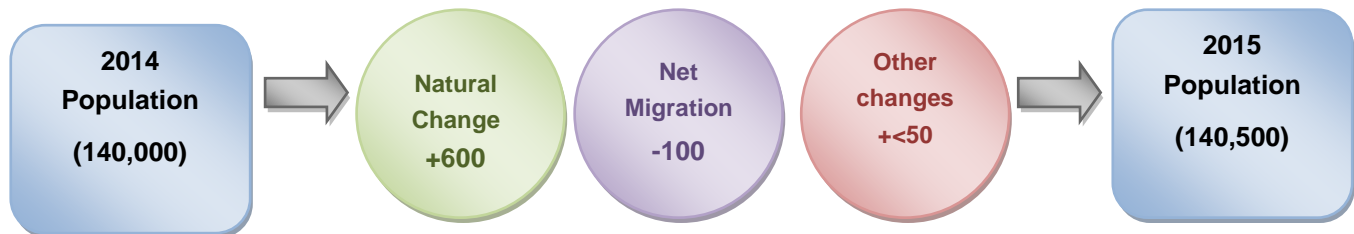
[Newry, Mourne & Down \(N090000010\)](#)

**Note:** Throughout the report figures have been presented in a rounded form to ease readability. For example population figures have been presented to the nearest 100 and percentage changes have been presented to one decimal place. However, all calculations have been undertaken on the basis of unrounded numbers which will, in some instances, give rise to apparent discrepancies.

## Population Estimates (2015) Antrim & Newtownabbey Local Government District



### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 500 people (0.4 per cent) to 140,500 (68,100 males, and 72,300 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 600 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net loss of 100 people due to migration, and a negligible addition due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 400 people (1.8 per cent) to 22,400. There was an increase of 100 people in the **working age population** (0.1 per cent) to 88,600 people. There was a similar percentage increase in the population of **children** (0.1 per cent) to 29,500.

### Population by age

Age	Mid-Year		Population Change				
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	28,500	29,400	29,500	0	0.1	900	3.3
<b>16-64</b>	86,200	88,500	88,600	100	0.1	2,500	2.8
<b>65 and over</b>	17,700	22,000	22,400	400	1.8	4,700	26.8
65-84	15,900	19,400	19,700	300	1.7	3,900	24.5
85 and over	1,800	2,600	2,600	100	2.3	800	46.7
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>132,400</b>	<b>140,000</b>	<b>140,500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>6.1</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding

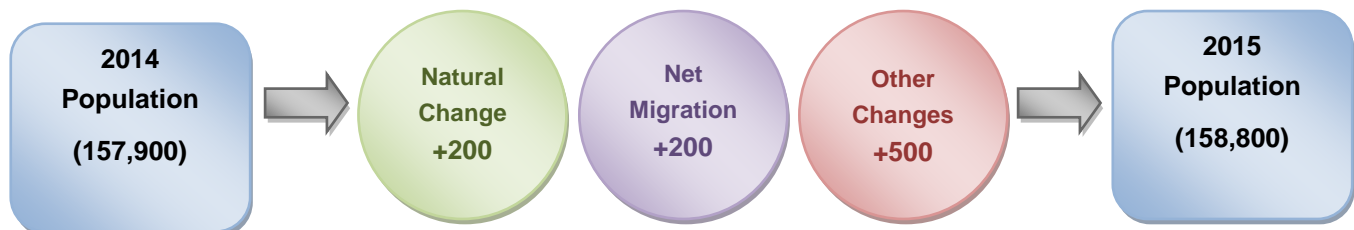
# Population Estimates (2015)

## Ards & North Down

### Local Government District



#### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 900 people (0.5 per cent) to 158,800 (76,900 males, and 81,900 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 200 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net gain of 200 people due to migration, and an addition of 500 people due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 800 people (2.4 per cent) to 31,700. There was an increase of 100 people in the **working age population** (0.1 per cent) to 97,300 people. The number of **children** remained stable at 29,800 people.

#### Population by age

Age	Mid-Year			Population Change			
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	29,300	29,800	29,800	0	0.0	500	1.8
<b>16-64</b>	99,100	97,200	97,300	100	0.1	-1,800	-1.8
<b>65 and over</b>	23,800	30,900	31,700	800	2.4	7,900	33.0
65-84	20,600	27,100	27,800	700	2.5	7,200	35.0
85 and over	3,200	3,800	3,800	100	1.6	600	20.3
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>152,200</b>	<b>157,900</b>	<b>158,800</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>4.3</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding



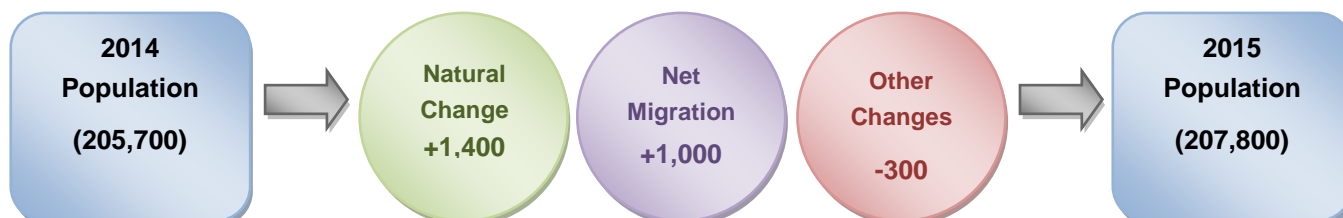
## Population Estimates (2015)

### Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon

### Local Government District



#### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 2,100 people (1.0 per cent) to 207,800 (103,000 males, and 104,800 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 1,400 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net gain of 1,000 people due to migration, and a loss of 300 people due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 700 people (2.4 per cent) to 31,000. There was an increase of 1,000 people in the **working age population** (0.8 per cent) to 130,800 people. The number of **children** increased by 400 people (0.8 per cent) to 46,000.

#### Population by age

Age	Mid-Year			Population Change			
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	41,900	45,700	46,000	400	0.8	4,100	9.8
<b>16-64</b>	118,100	129,800	130,800	1,000	0.8	12,700	10.7
<b>65 and over</b>	23,900	30,200	31,000	700	2.4	7,100	29.7
65-84	21,400	26,800	27,400	600	2.3	6,000	28.2
85 and over	2,500	3,400	3,600	100	3.7	1,100	42.3
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>183,900</b>	<b>205,700</b>	<b>207,800</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>23,900</b>	<b>13.0</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding

## Population Estimates (2015)

### Belfast

### Local Government District



#### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 2,100 people (0.6 per cent) to 338,900 (163,600 males, and 175,300 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 1,400 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net gain of 700 people due to migration, and an addition of 100 people due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 100 people (0.3 per cent) to 49,300. There was an increase of 1,500 people in the **working age population** (0.7 per cent) to 223,000 people. The number of **children** increased by 400 people (0.6 per cent) to 66,600.

#### Population by age

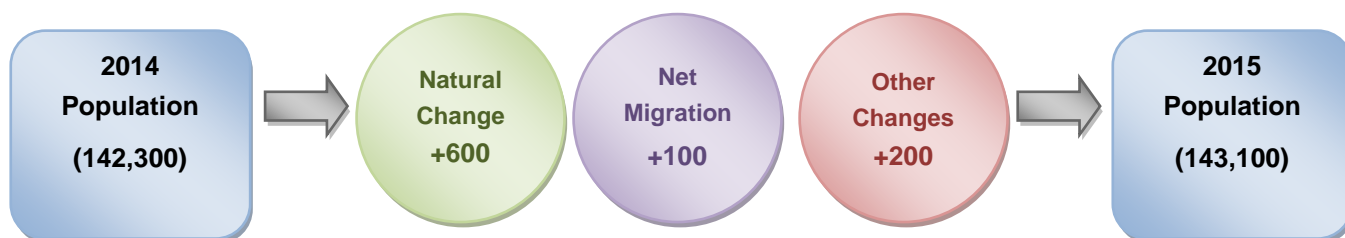
Age	Mid-Year		Population Change				
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	66,900	66,200	66,600	400	0.6	-300	-0.4
<b>16-64</b>	210,500	221,500	223,000	1,500	0.7	12,500	5.9
<b>65 and over</b>	48,100	49,200	49,300	100	0.3	1,200	2.5
65-84	42,400	42,200	42,200	0	0.1	-200	-0.5
85 and over	5,700	7,000	7,100	100	1.6	1,400	25.3
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>325,500</b>	<b>336,800</b>	<b>338,900</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>13,400</b>	<b>4.1</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding

# Population Estimates (2015) Causeway Coast & Glens Local Government District



## Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 800 people (0.6 per cent) to 143,100 (70,900 males, and 72,200 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 600 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net gain of 100 people due to migration, and an addition of 200 people due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 600 people (2.7 per cent) to 24,400. There was an increase of 100 people in the **working age population** (0.1 per cent) to 90,200 people. The number of **children** increased by 100 people (0.3 per cent) to 28,500.

## Population by age

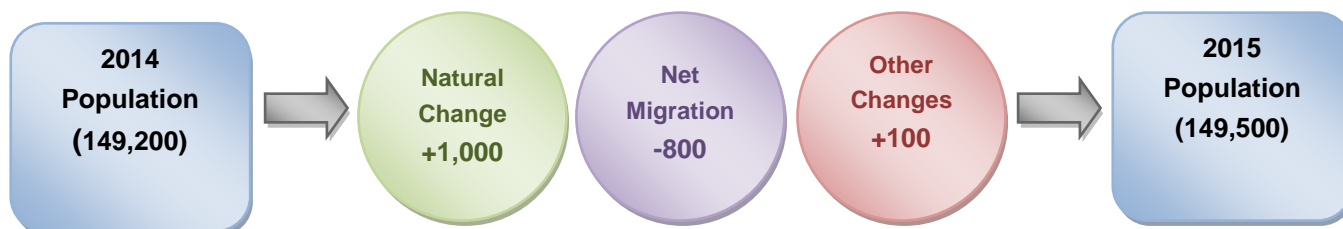
Age	Mid-Year			Population Change			
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	29,300	28,400	28,500	100	0.3	-800	-2.8
<b>16-64</b>	88,300	90,100	90,200	100	0.1	1,900	2.2
<b>65 and over</b>	18,700	23,800	24,400	600	2.7	5,700	30.5
65-84	16,700	21,100	21,600	500	2.4	4,900	29.5
85 and over	2,000	2,700	2,800	100	5.0	800	38.7
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>136,300</b>	<b>142,300</b>	<b>143,100</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>6,800</b>	<b>5.0</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding

## Population Estimates (2015) Derry & Strabane Local Government District



### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 300 people (0.2 per cent) to 149,500 (73,400 males, and 76,100 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 1,000 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net loss of 800 people due to migration, and an addition of 100 people due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 600 people (2.9 per cent) to 20,900. There was a decrease of 300 people in the **working age population** (0.3 per cent) to 95,800 people. There was a percentage decrease in the population of **children** (0.1 per cent) to 32,700 people.

### Population by age

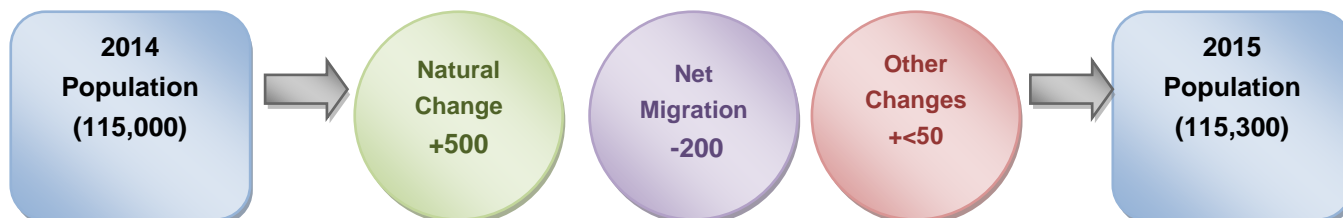
Age	Mid-Year			Population Change			
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	35,200	32,800	32,700	0	-0.1	-2,500	-7.0
<b>16-64</b>	94,300	96,100	95,800	-300	-0.3	1,500	1.6
<b>65 and over</b>	15,900	20,300	20,900	600	2.9	5,000	31.4
<b>65-84</b>	14,500	18,300	18,900	500	3.0	4,400	30.0
<b>85 and over</b>	1,400	2,000	2,100	0	2.0	600	45.3
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>145,400</b>	<b>149,200</b>	<b>149,500</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>2.8</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding

## Population Estimates (2015) Fermanagh & Omagh Local Government District



### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 300 people (0.3 per cent) to 115,300 (57,700 males, and 57,600 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 500 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net loss of 200 people due to migration, and a negligible addition due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 500 people (2.7 per cent) to 18,200. There was a decrease of 200 people in the **working age population** (0.2 per cent) to 72,200 people. The number of **children** remained unchanged at 24,900 people.

### Population by age

Age	Mid-Year			Population Change			
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	24,700	24,900	24,900	0	0.0	200	0.8
<b>16-64</b>	69,600	72,400	72,200	-200	-0.2	2,600	3.8
<b>65 and over</b>	14,300	17,700	18,200	500	2.7	3,900	27.4
65-84	12,600	15,500	15,900	400	2.6	3,300	26.4
85 and over	1,700	2,200	2,300	100	3.6	600	34.8
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>108,600</b>	<b>115,000</b>	<b>115,300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>6.2</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding

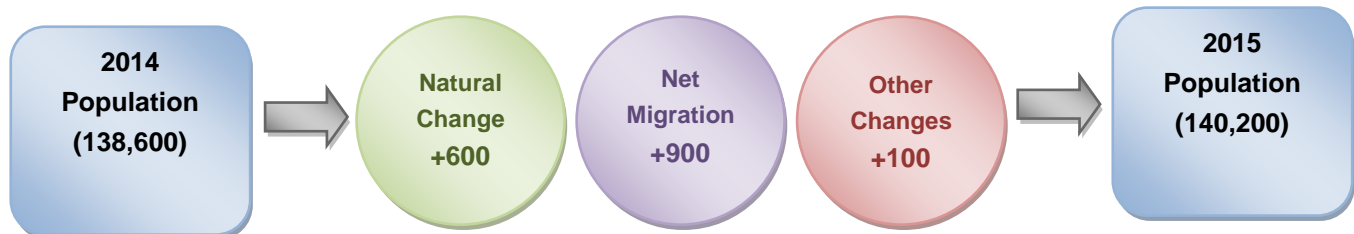
# Population Estimates (2015)

## Lisburn & Castlereagh

### Local Government District



#### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 1,600 people (1.1 per cent) to 140,200 (68,700 males, and 71,500 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 600 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net gain of 900 people due to migration, and an addition of 100 people due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 500 people (2.2 per cent) to 23,600. There was an increase of 700 people in the **working age population** (0.8 per cent) to 88,500 people. The number of **children** increased by 400 people (1.3 per cent) to 28,100.

#### Population by age

Age	Mid-Year		Population Change				
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	26,800	27,700	28,100	400	1.3	1,300	4.7
<b>16-64</b>	82,200	87,800	88,500	700	0.8	6,400	7.7
<b>65 and over</b>	18,100	23,100	23,600	500	2.2	5,500	30.7
65-84	16,200	20,400	20,800	400	1.8	4,600	28.2
85 and over	1,900	2,700	2,800	100	4.8	1,000	52.4
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>127,000</b>	<b>138,600</b>	<b>140,200</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>10.4</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding

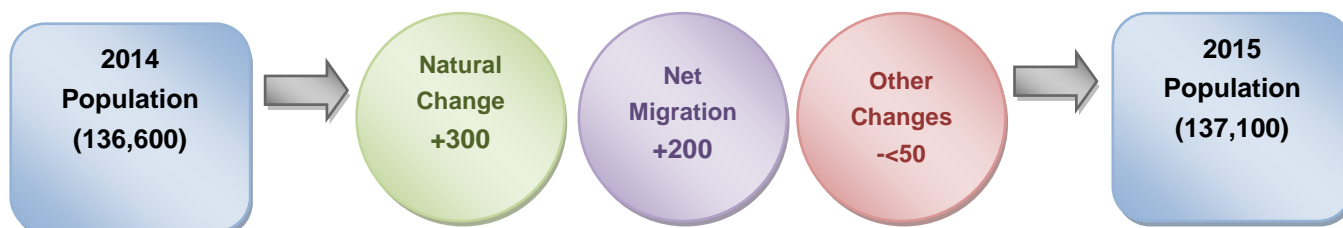
# Population Estimates (2015)

## Mid & East Antrim

### Local Government District



#### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 500 people (0.4 per cent) to 137,100 (67,100 males, and 70,100 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 300 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net gain of 200 people due to migration, and a negligible loss due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 500 people (2.0 per cent) to 24,900. There was an increase of 100 people in the **working age population** (0.1 per cent) to 86,100 people. The number of **children** decreased by 100 people (0.2 per cent) to 26,200.

#### Population by age

Age	Mid-Year			Population Change			
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	27,200	26,300	26,200	-100	-0.2	-1,000	-3.7
<b>16-64</b>	84,300	86,000	86,100	100	0.1	1,800	2.1
<b>65 and over</b>	19,500	24,400	24,900	500	2.0	5,400	27.8
65-84	17,400	21,500	21,900	400	1.9	4,500	25.8
85 and over	2,100	2,900	3,000	100	2.7	900	44.3
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>131,000</b>	<b>136,600</b>	<b>137,100</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>4.7</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding



**Population Estimates (2015)**  
**Mid Ulster**  
**Local Government District**



**Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:**



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 1,100 people (0.8 per cent) to 144,000 (72,200 males, and 71,800 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 1,100 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a net gain of 200 people due to migration, and a loss of 300 people due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 500 people (2.6 per cent) to 19,600. There was an increase of 500 people in the **working age population** (0.5 per cent) to 91,300 people. The number of **children** increased by 100 people (0.4 per cent) to 33,100.

**Population by age**

Age	Mid-Year		Population Change					
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015		
				Number	%	Number	%	
<b>0-15</b>	30,000	33,000	33,100	100	0.4	3,100	10.4	
<b>16-64</b>	79,800	90,800	91,300	500	0.5	11,500	14.4	
<b>65 and over</b>	15,100	19,100	19,600	500	2.6	4,500	29.6	
65-84	13,500	16,900	17,300	400	2.3	3,800	27.8	
85 and over	1,600	2,200	2,300	100	4.6	700	44.7	
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>124,900</b>	<b>142,900</b>	<b>144,000</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>19,100</b>	<b>15.3</b>	

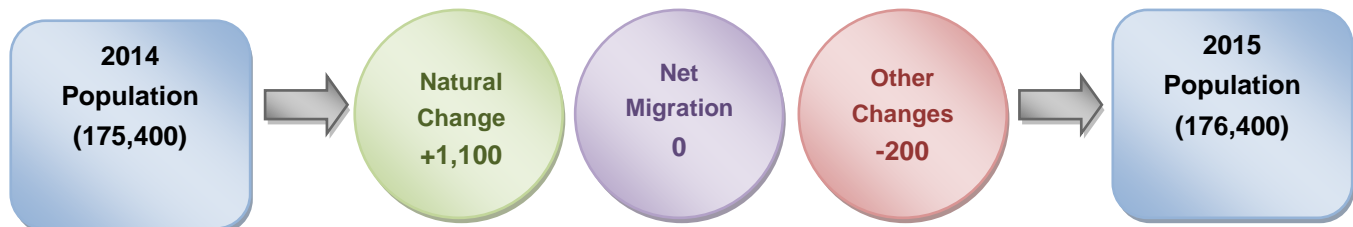
Figures may not sum due to rounding



## Population Estimates (2015) Newry Mourne & Down Local Government District



### Components of Population Change, mid-2014 to mid-2015:



- Over the year ending mid-2015, the **population** increased by 1,000 people (0.6 per cent) to 176,400 (87,400 males, and 89,000 females).
- This can be attributed to natural growth of 1,100 people (i.e. more births than deaths), a negligible amount of net change resulting from migration, and a loss of 200 people due to other changes.
- The **population aged 65 and over** increased by 700 people (2.7 per cent) to 25,900. There was an increase of 200 people in the **working age population** (0.1 per cent) to 110,800 people. The number of **children** increased by 100 people (0.3 per cent) to 39,700.

### Population by age

Age	Mid-Year		Population Change				
	2005	2014	2015	Year ending mid-2015		Decade ending mid-2015	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>0-15</b>	38,900	39,600	39,700	100	0.3	900	2.2
<b>16-64</b>	101,700	110,600	110,800	200	0.1	9,100	8.9
<b>65 and over</b>	19,900	25,200	25,900	700	2.7	6,000	30.0
<b>65-84</b>	17,900	22,200	22,800	600	2.6	5,000	27.8
<b>85 and over</b>	2,000	3,000	3,000	100	3.1	1,000	49.2
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>160,500</b>	<b>175,400</b>	<b>176,400</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>15,900</b>	<b>9.9</b>

Figures may not sum due to rounding