

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

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- Statistical Analysis
- Census
- Registration and Genealogy Services
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NISRA

Northern Ireland
Statistics and Research Agency
Gníomhaireacht Thuaisceart Éireann
um Statistíci agus Taighde

Population Statistics User Engagement Event

13th February 2020

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Population Statistics Publications

Annual Publications

2018 Mid-Year Population Estimates – June 2019

Long-Term International Migration Statistics (2018) – August 2019

Estimates of the Population Aged 85 and Over (2018) – September 2019

Population Estimates for Small Areas (2018) – November 2019

Biennial Publications

2018-based Population Projections for Northern Ireland – October 2019

2018-based Population Projections for Areas Within Northern Ireland – April 2020

Commissioned Products

Northern Ireland Household Projections (2016-based) – Dec 2018

Mid-Year Population Estimates

Current Release: 2018 mid-year population estimates for Northern Ireland

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/2018-mid-year-population-estimates-northern-ireland>

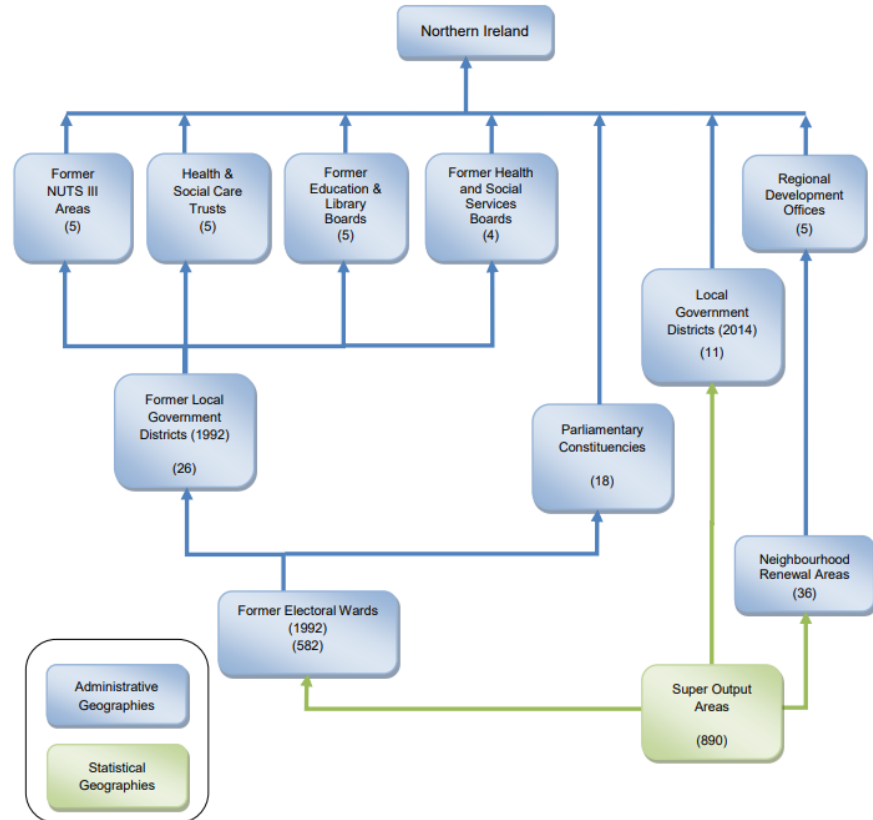
Population of Northern Ireland at 30 June 2018

1,881,600

Mid-Year Population Estimates G

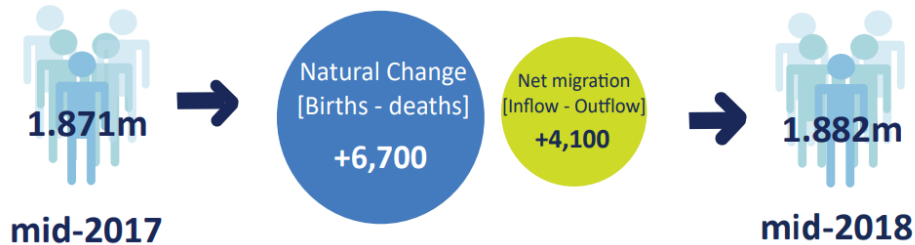
Ten different geographies:

1. Northern Ireland
2. Local Government Districts (LGD2014)
3. Parliamentary Constituencies (2008)
4. Health and Social Care Trusts
5. Former Local Government Districts (LGD1992)
6. Former Education and Library Boards
7. Former NUTs Level 3 Areas
8. Former Health and Social Services Boards
9. Former Electoral Wards(1992)
10. Super Output Areas

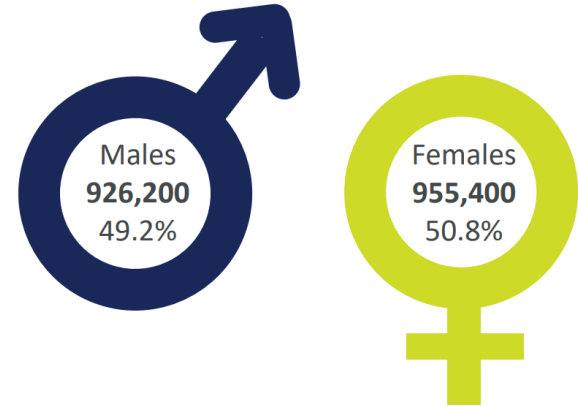


How has the population increased since 30 June 2017?

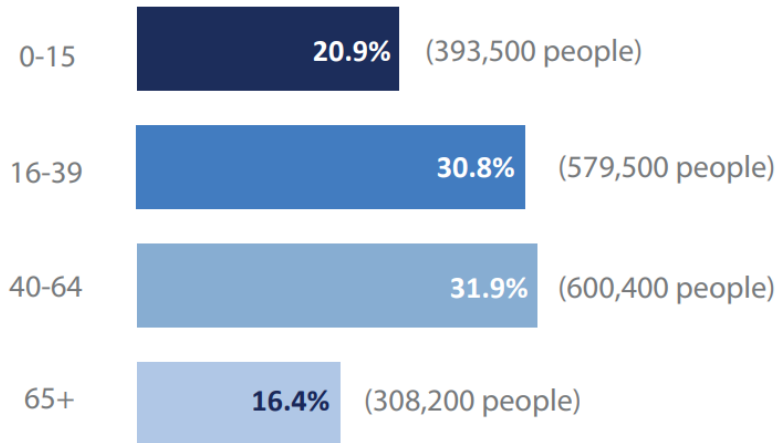
+10,800 people
(0.6% growth)



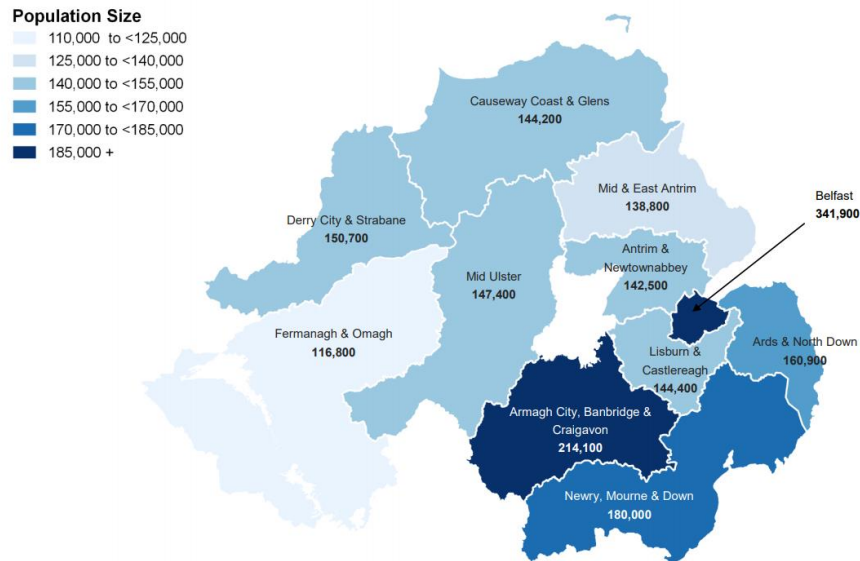
Population by Gender



Population by Age



Population by Local Government District (2014)



New Wards (2014)

Aggregating SOAs or SAs up to New Wards (2014) did not produced sufficiently robust population estimates.

| Difference between exact and approximation of 2011 usual resident population | Small Area | |
|---|------------|---------------|
| | Number | Proportion |
| Less than 1 per cent | 95 | 20.6% |
| Between 1 and 2 per cent | 47 | 10.2% |
| Between 2 and 3 per cent | 33 | 7.1% |
| Between 3 and 5 per cent | 96 | 20.8% |
| Between 5 and 10 per cent | 109 | 23.6% |
| More than 10 per cent | 82 | 17.7% |
| All Electoral Wards | 462 | 100.0% |

Census Rebasing

After each Census mid-year population estimates are reviewed.

With Census 2021 the mid-year estimates and their time series will again be reviewed, and any revisions published.

Review will look at the series from 1971 to 2021 (50 years).

The current time series is consistent for the period 1981-2018.

Review range of geographies produced

Long-Term International Migration Statistics for Northern Ireland

Current Release: Long-Term International Migration Statistics for Northern Ireland (2018)

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/long-term-international-migration-statistics-northern-ireland-2018>

**Immigration
or Inflow**

10,500
From rest of UK

13,100
From outside UK

23,600
Total inflows



**Net Migration
(Inflows minus Outflows)**

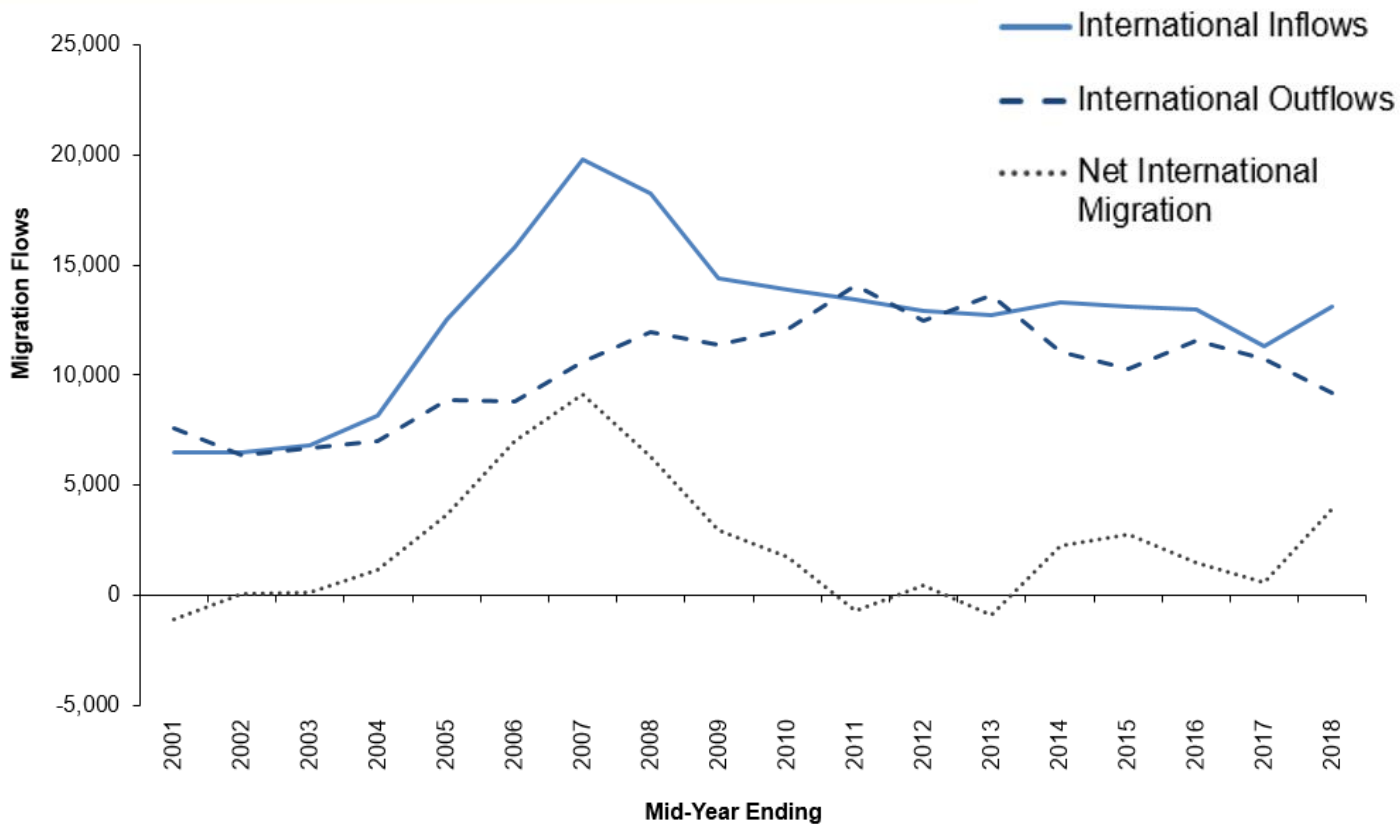


**Emigration
or Outflow**

10,200
To rest of UK

9,200
To outside of UK

19,400
Total outflows



Do you use the LTIM bulletin?

- Website analysis shows low use of the LTIM statistical bulletin.
- Users are going to be asked for there option on changing to a statistical tables only publication for LTIM.

NISRA STATISTICAL BULLETIN

Frequency: Annual

Coverage: Northern Ireland

Date: 22 August 2019 (9.30am)

Geographical Area: Northern Ireland

Theme: Population and migration

Time period: 2018

Long-term International Migration Statistics for Northern Ireland (2018)



This statistical report provides official population and migration estimates for Northern Ireland alongside supplementary administrative statistics from a range of sources that provide some insight into recent changes/trends in international migration to/from Northern Ireland.


Long-Term International Migration Statistics

Estimates of long-term international migration for Northern Ireland



Following the reclassification of the Migration Statistics Quarterly Report published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) as Experimental Statistics we would like to make our users aware that Northern Ireland migration estimates remain unaffected. Migration estimates for Northern Ireland are produced using administrative data and do not rely on the International Passenger Survey as part of the production process.



If you would like to know more about why the ONS has moved to experimental statistics during its period of development, please see [this statement](#)  by the ONS Director General, Iain Bell.

Most recent documents

[Long-Term International Migration Statistics for Northern Ireland \(2018\)](#)

22 August 2019

[Long-Term International Migration Statistics for Northern Ireland \(2018\) Charts](#)

22 August 2019

ONS Migration Statistics

ONS uses a range of sources to produce their long term international migration estimates:

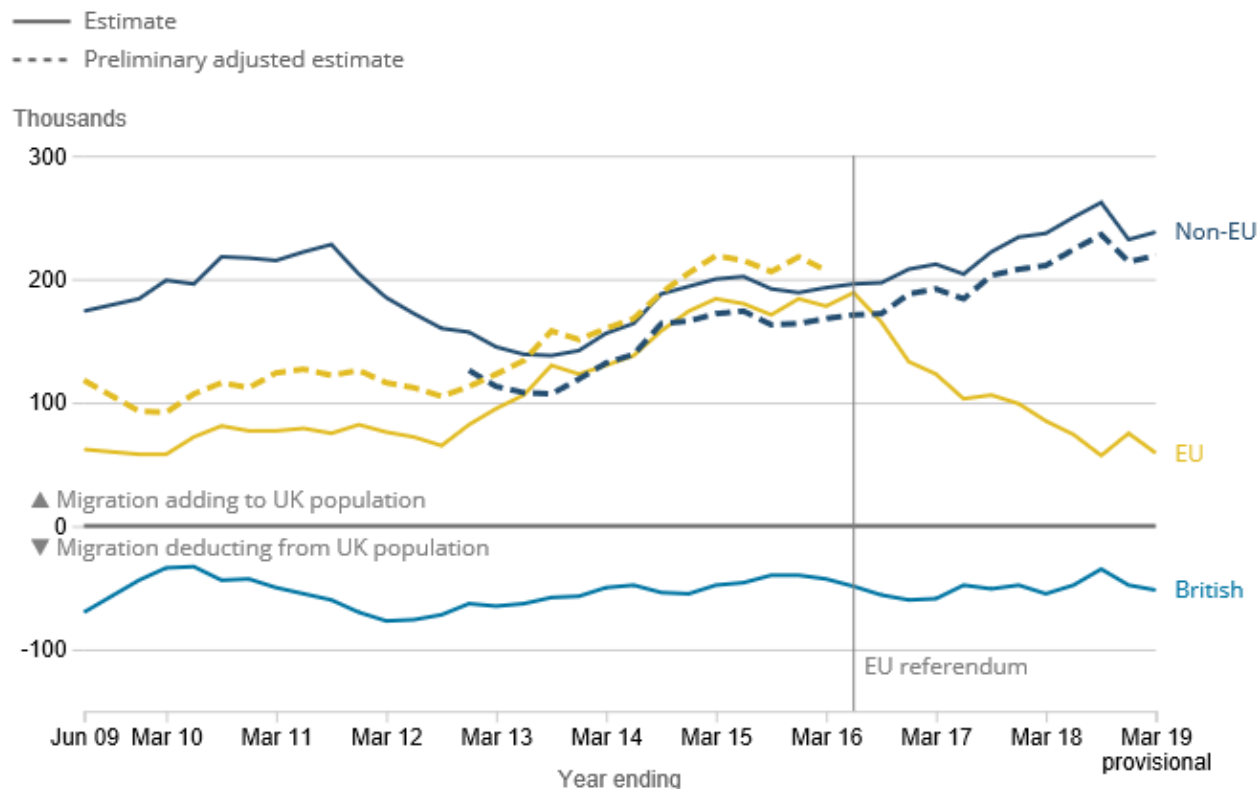
- **The International Passenger Survey (IPS)** - estimates of inflows and outflows
- **Information held by the Home Office** - refugees, asylum seekers and their dependants
- **Annual Population Survey (APS)** where international migrants live

ONS previously stated that the International Passenger Survey (IPS) has been stretched beyond its original purpose.

ONS have started to apply **adjustments** to their International Passenger Survey estimates.

Migration estimates for Northern Ireland are not affected, they are produced using administrative data and do not rely on the International Passenger Survey (LPS) as part of the production process.

Net migration by citizenship, UK, year ending June 2009 to year ending March 2019



Source: Office for National Statistics – Long-Term International Migration (LTIM), LTIM with preliminary adjustments based on DWP and Home Office data

Estimates of the Population Aged 85 and Over

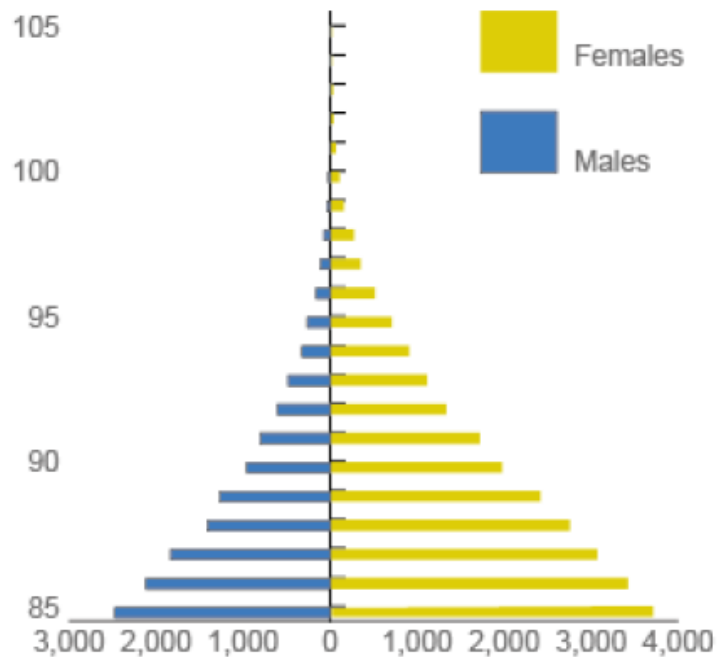
Current Release: Estimates of the Population Aged 85 and Over, Northern Ireland, 2018 (and 2001 to 2017 revised)

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/estimates-population-aged-85-and-over-northern-ireland-2018-and-2001-2017-revised>

Population of Northern Ireland aged 85 and over at 30 June 2018

37,700

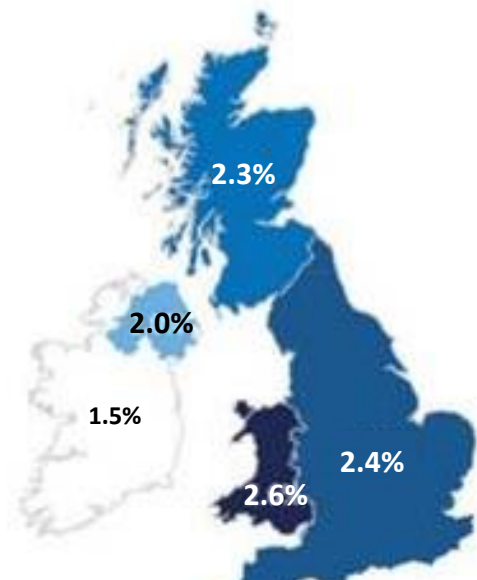
Females make up most of the 85 and over population in 2018



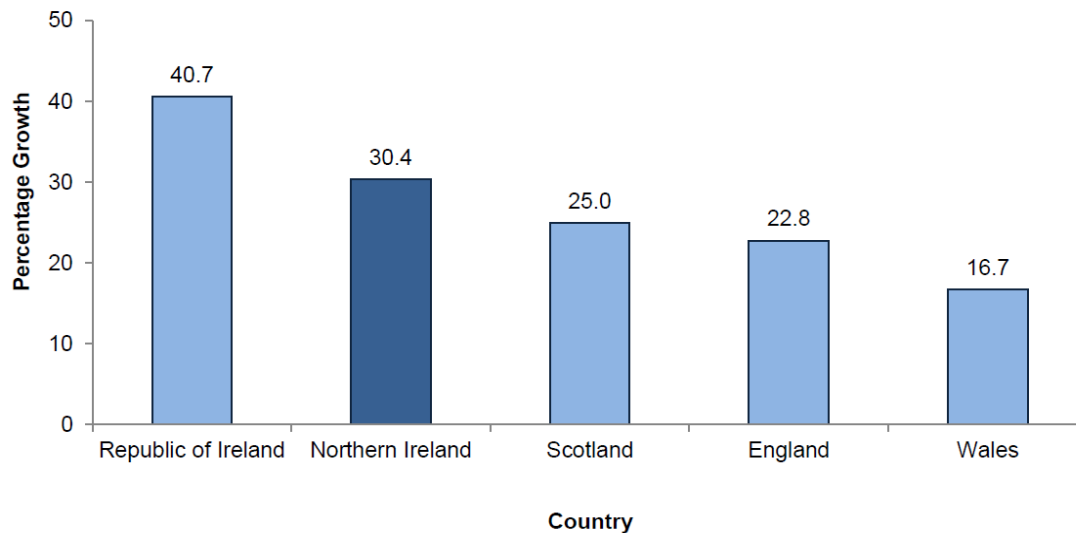
Aged 85 and over in mid-2018

- 24,800 females
- 13,000 males

Percentage of Population aged 85 or Over



Growth of population aged 85 and over by country (2008 to 2018)



Population Estimates for Small Areas

Current Release: 2018 Mid Year Population Estimates for Small Areas

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/2018-mid-year-population-estimates-small-areas>

- Mid-2018 estimates of the total population for the 4,537 Census Small Areas in Northern Ireland
- Mid-2018 population estimates by broad age bands for the 36 Neighbourhood Renewal Areas (NRAs) in Northern Ireland
- Mid-2018 population estimates by broad age bands for the 80 District Electoral Areas (DEAs) in Northern Ireland

District Electoral Areas

- Developed primarily by aggregating population estimates for Small Areas.
- Second step for any SA split by DEA boundary, attributed using Census 2011 proportion.
- Proportions applied unadjusted throughout time series and to each broad age-sex band.
- Comparison to Census 2011 exact count for DEAs used as a measure of the quality.

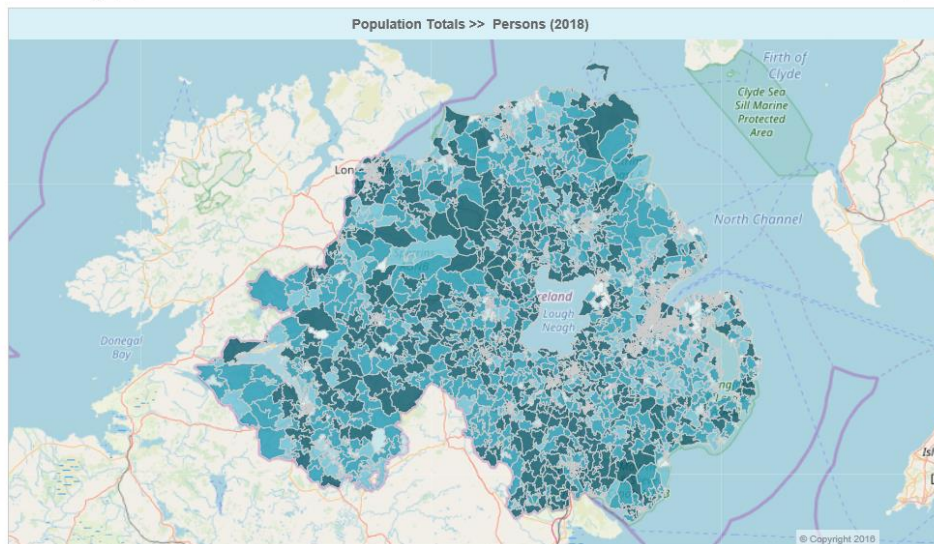
| Percentage difference in estimates (2011 Census vs mid-2011 population estimates) | Count of DEAs |
|---|---------------|
| Between -1.0 and <-0.5 per cent | 1 |
| Between -0.5 and <0.0 per cent | 21 |
| Between 0.0 and <0.5 per cent | 45 |
| Between 0.5 and 1.0 per cent | 12 |
| more than 1.0 per cent | 1 |
| All DEAs | 80 |

Data ▾
Geography ▾
Filter ▾

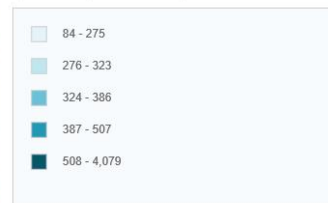
| Name | Persons (2018) |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| ● N00000001 (Aldergrove ward) | 1,026 |
| ● N00000002 (Aldergrove ward) | 422 |
| ○ N00000003 (Aldergrove ward) | 256 |
| ● N00000004 (Aldergrove ward) | 647 |
| ● N00000005 (Aldergrove ward) | 475 |
| ● N00000006 (Aldergrove ward) | 316 |
| ○ N00000007 (Aldergrove ward) | 239 |
| ● N00000008 (Aldergrove ward) | 304 |
| ● N00000009 (Aldergrove ward) | 809 |
| ○ N00000010 (Aldergrove ward) | 255 |
| ○ N00000011 (Balloo ward) | 322 |
| ○ N00000012 (Balloo ward) | 250 |
| ○ N00000013 (Balloo ward) | 253 |
| ● N00000014 (Balloo ward) | 492 |
| ○ N00000015 (Balloo ward) | 239 |
| ○ N00000016 (Balloo ward) | 215 |

Clear ✕ Filter ✕

Current Geography: Small Area

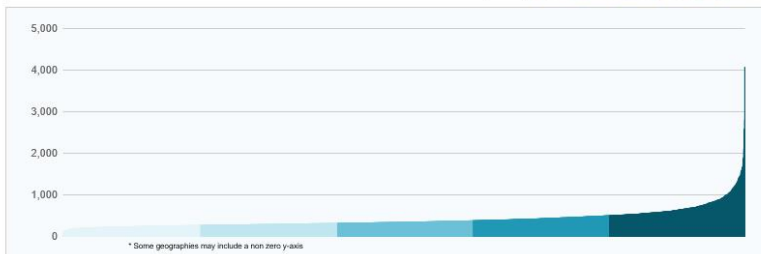


Help
Print
Share
Data Source



| Name | Persons (2018) |
|------|----------------|
| ● NI | 1,881,641 |

[Further Information](#)



<https://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/InteractiveMaps/Population/Population%20Change/Population%20Totals/atlas.html>

Break

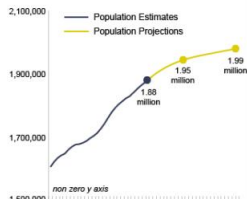


Population Projections for Northern Ireland - Background

- Biennial publication produced by ONS on behalf of the National Statistician and the Registrars General of Northern Ireland and Scotland.
- Latest National Population Projections: **2018-based**
- Population projections are **not** forecasts – what is the difference?
- Based on principal assumptions around fertility, mortality and migration to project the future population. What are the key principal assumptions?
 1. **Fertility** – 1.92 children in a hypothetical woman's lifetime.
 2. **Mortality** – 1.2 per cent improvement in mortality rates per annum.
 3. **Migration** – net international migration set at +1,500 inflows.
- Are there any alternative scenarios? – **Variant projections.**

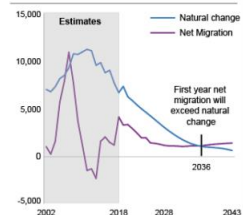
Population Projections for Northern Ireland – Key Findings

2018-based Population Projections for Northern Ireland Summary



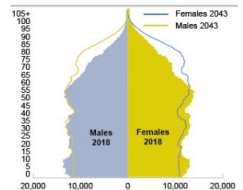
The population of Northern Ireland is projected to reach **1.99 million**

The population of Northern Ireland is projected to increase by 85,800 people in the first 10 years to mid-2028. Over the next 25 years the population is projected to grow by 107,600 people to reach 1.99 million in mid-2043.



Natural change and net migration are projected to remain positive over the next 25 years

Natural change (births minus deaths) will remain the main driver of population growth for most of the projection period, adding an average 2,800 people to the population, annually. However, by mid-2036 net migration is projected to exceed natural change for the first time since mid-2007.



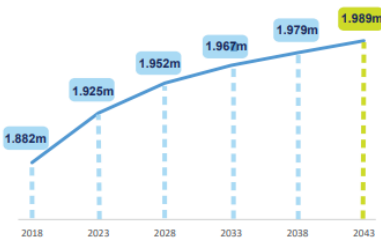
The ageing of the population is projected to continue

The population of Northern Ireland is projected to become older. The population pyramid shows that by mid-2043 the older age population (65 and over) is projected to increase. The median age is projected to increase from 38.7 to 44.0 years between 2018 and 2043.

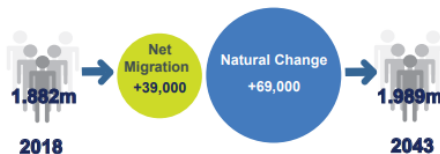
2018-based Population Projections for Northern Ireland

The population of Northern Ireland at mid-2043 is projected to be

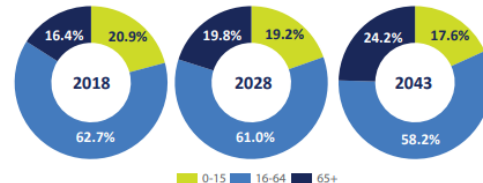
1.989 million



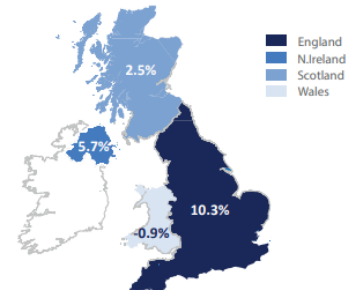
Between mid-2018 and mid-2043, the population is projected to increase by 107,600 people, primarily due to natural change



The proportion of older people (aged 65+) will increase to 24.2% by mid-2043, overtaking that of children (aged 0-15) by mid-2028



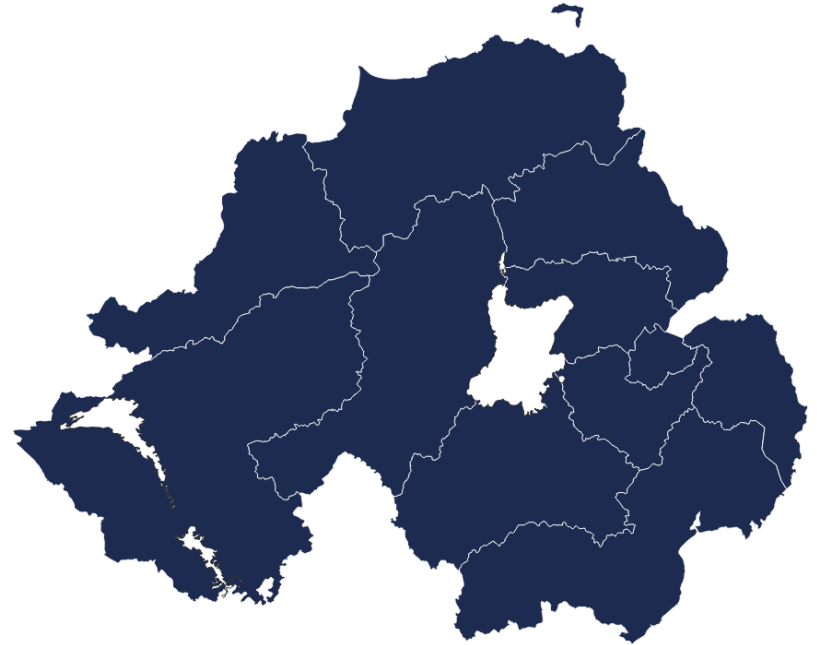
Between mid-2018 and mid-2043, the Northern Ireland population is projected to grow by 5.7%, compared to 9.0% for the rest of the UK



* Figures may not always add up to 100% due to rounding
* Source: NI Population Projections (2018-based)

Population Projections for areas within Northern Ireland - Background

- Sub National Population Projections follow on from the National Population Projections.
- Latest Sub National Population Projections: **2016-based**
- Produced for a number of key NI geographies but focus on 11 Local Government Districts.
- Regional scaling factors applied to fertility, mortality and migration assumptions.
- Variant Projections
- Constrained to National Projections.
- Next release: **April 2020, 2018-based**



Assumptions paper - Scaling Factors

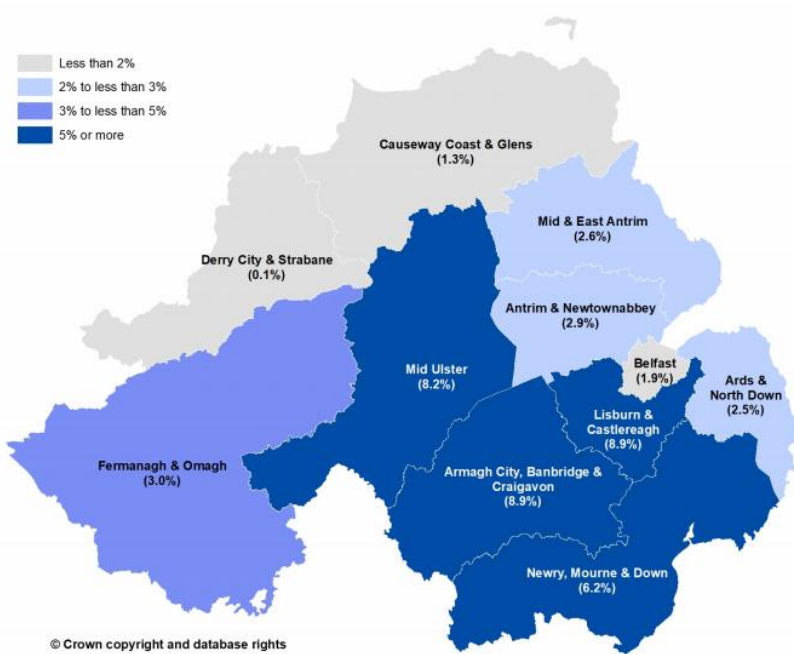
Table 1: Proposed TPF and fertility scaling factors for the 11 LGDs

| Area Name | Area Code | 2016-based projections | | 2014-based projections |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Five year average TPF | Proposed Fertility Scaling Factor | Fertility Scaling factor |
| Ards and North Down | N09000011 | 1.87 | 0.94 | 0.94 |
| Antrim and Newtownabbey | N09000001 | 1.91 | 0.96 | 0.97 |
| Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon | N09000002 | 2.14 | 1.08 | 1.09 |
| Belfast | N09000003 | 1.82 | 0.92 | 0.92 |
| Causeway Coast and Glens | N09000004 | 1.96 | 0.99 | 0.97 |
| Derry City and Strabane | N09000005 | 2.05 | 1.03 | 1.03 |
| Fermanagh and Omagh | N09000006 | 2.03 | 1.03 | 1.03 |
| Lisburn and Castlereagh | N09000007 | 1.96 | 0.99 | 1.01 |
| Mid and East Antrim | N09000008 | 1.86 | 0.94 | 0.94 |
| Mid Ulster | N09000009 | 2.15 | 1.08 | 1.08 |
| Newry, Mourne and Down | N09000010 | 2.17 | 1.10 | 1.10 |
| Northern Ireland | N92000002 | 1.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 |

- What do the scaling factors for each area look like?
- How are they calculated?
- Example – **Fertility scaling factors**

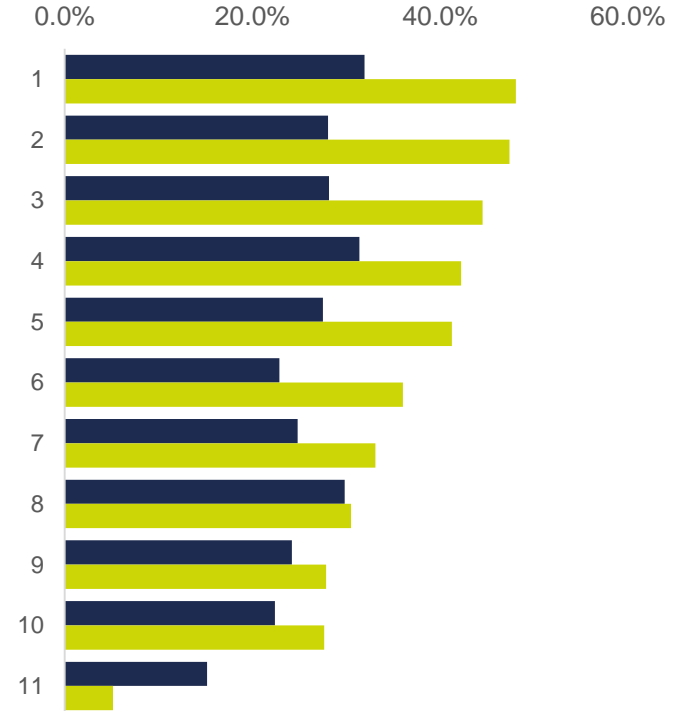
$$\text{Scaling Factor} = \frac{\text{TPFR of LGD}}{\text{TPFR of NI}}$$

Population Projections for areas within Northern Ireland – Key Findings



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■ Series1 ■ Series2



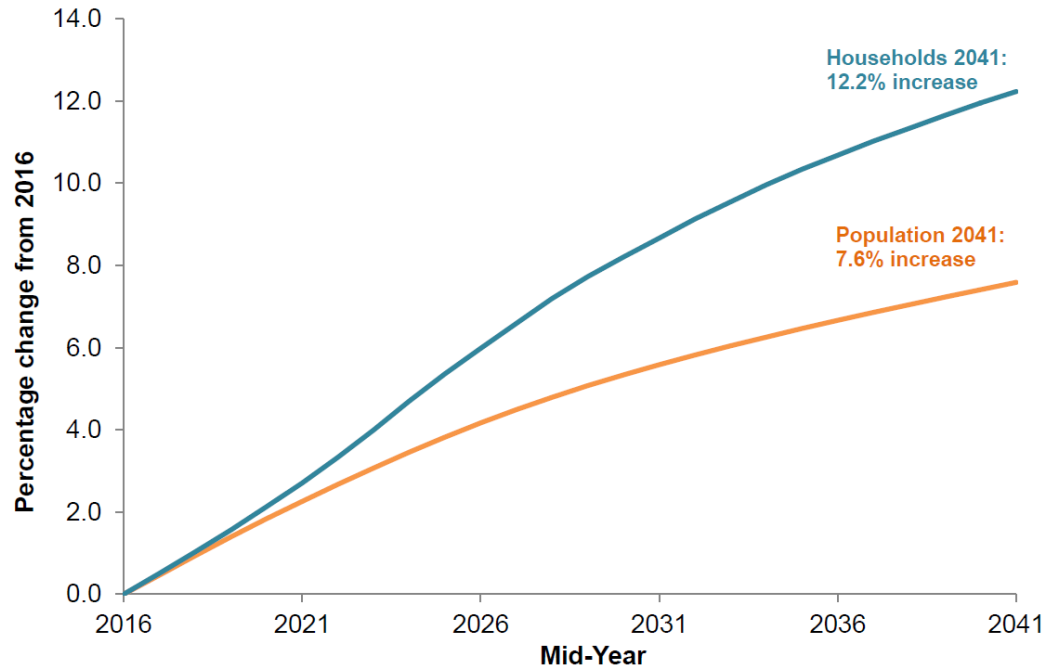
Population Projections – Post Census 2021

census
2021



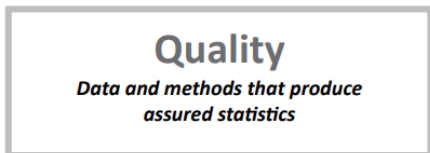
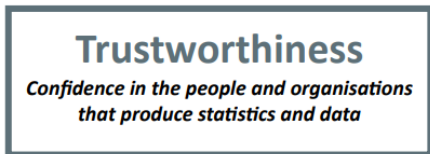
- Census 2021
- Proposal to defer the next set of National Population Projections (due October 2021) to the **end of 2022**. What are your thoughts?
- Users can email Census@nisra.gov.uk with any feedback.

Northern Ireland Household Projections



- Larger increase in the number of households – changing composition of the population.

Population Projections – UKSA Compliance checks



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Mark Pont, Assessment Programme Lead

Iain Bell, Office for National Statistics (ONS)
Amy Wilson, National Records of Scotland (NRS)
Siobhán Carey, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA)
(by email)

29 March 2019

Dear all

NATIONAL POPULATION PROJECTIONS

I am writing to you following our recent review against the Code of Practice for Statistics of the three National Population Projections published by ONS, NRS and NISRA:

- National Population Projections
- Population Projections of Scotland
- Population Projections for Northern Ireland

I am pleased to be able to confirm that the National Population Projections should continue to be designated as National Statistics.

In considering the statistics against the three pillars of the Code – Trustworthiness, Quality and Value – we found many encouraging behaviours and practices, which help to ensure that these statistics serve the needs of users. Across the three producer teams, we have been impressed by the commitment and professionalism of the statisticians and analysts that we have spoken to. We particularly welcome the collaborative working of the teams through the National Population Projections Committee and the involvement of subject experts when agreeing on methods and assumptions. We also found some common areas where we consider that improvements should be made to better support users:

- Be transparent about your planned developments for the projections, your approach to public engagement with users and your progress towards meeting your set priorities and objectives
- Consider, in conjunction with users, how some additional key information on quality, rationale for methods, limitations and the uses of statistics might be helpfully brought forward into the main bulletin to further add value
- Consider how to balance possible user interest in a wider range of variants to enhance value, with the need to provide appropriate caveating to help ensure informed and appropriate use.

Each producer has different strengths and areas where they might make improvements. Through working together to share good practice, expertise and resource, your teams could provide a more common and enhanced user experience across the three National Population Projections.

ONS's National Population Projections bulletin is readable and concise with a range of supporting documents for users to draw on. ONS told us about plans to develop a new tool to allow the production of tailored variant projections to meet the needs of expert users; this reflects the team's motivation to improve the statistics and recognise users' needs. The decisions on methods and

Mark Pont, Assessment Programme Lead

Iain Bell, Office for National Statistics (ONS)
Pete Whitehouse, National Record Scotland (NRS)
Glyn Jones, Welsh Government
Dr David Marshall, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA)
(by email)

28 January 2020

Dear all

STATISTICS ON SUBNATIONAL POPULATION PROJECTIONS

I am writing to you following our recent review against the Code of Practice for Statistics of the four sets of subnational population projections published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), National Records of Scotland (NRS), Welsh Government and Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA):

- Subnational population projections for England
- Population Projections for Scottish Areas
- Local authority population projections for Wales
- Population Projections for areas within Northern Ireland

I am pleased to confirm that all four sets of subnational population projections should continue to be designated as National Statistics.

Subnational population projections are widely used for local planning purposes and the outputs are subject to high user interest. This review focussed mainly on the accessibility of the data, statistics and supporting information, and supplements our previous compliance check of the national population projections in April 2019. We welcome the way that the teams have responded to our earlier letter, and in particular how they are planning to apply the findings there to the Subnational projections.

In reviewing the subnational projections, we found several examples of good quality assurance, clear analysis and explanations, and demonstrable trustworthiness, which we detail separately for each country later in this letter. However, we have identified some key areas for improvement across the four producer teams, some similar themes have emerged, and therefore there are some common recommendations. In order to improve the public value of these statistics, the teams should:

- Continue to apply the findings from the previous review to ensure the positive changes to presentation and supporting documentation in the national publications are applied for the subnational publication planned for later in 2020.
- Consider how existing channels can be used to enhance collaboration between all the producer teams. Cross-producer working arrangements and collaboration for national projections has been effective. However, discussion and consideration of issues relating to subnational projections are not normally included. While this is primarily due to subnational projections being produced separately by different producers with some differing methods, potential opportunities for collaboration and sharing of best practice at subnational level are being overlooked.

Population Projections – UKSA Compliance checks



We particularly welcome the collaborative working of the teams through the National Population Projections Committee and the involvement of subject experts when agreeing on methods and assumptions.

NISRA's National Population Projections are presented as a comprehensive package and the users are given a good sense of the value of the statistics through broad use cases included in the bulletin and supporting information.

NISRA's Population projections for areas within Northern Ireland are comprehensive, accessible and the analysis and data are demonstrably valuable to users. NISRA's supporting material on methodology and data quality are thorough and assure users of the trustworthiness of the publication.



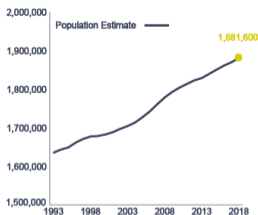
Be transparent about your planned developments for the projections, your approach to public engagement with users and your progress towards meeting your set priorities and objectives.

Consider, in conjunction with users, how some additional key information on quality, rationale for methods, limitations and the uses of statistics might be helpfully brought forward into the main bulletin to further add value.

NISRA could improve the accessibility of the bulletin by reviewing its readability and the level of insight contained within the narrative. Improving the clarity and insight of the bulletin will help users better engage with the information and support their understanding of the statistics.

Developments and future developments

2018 Mid-year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland Summary



Northern Ireland's Population grows to 1.88 million

The latest estimate of Northern Ireland's population (on 30 June 2018) was 1,881,600.

The population increased by 10,800 people between mid-2017 and mid-2018 (0.6 per cent).



Population growth has remained steady over the past decade

The annual rate of growth has fluctuated from 0.1 per cent in 1999 to 1.1 per cent in 2007.

From mid-2017 to mid-2018 population growth was 0.6 per cent. Over the decade from mid-2008 average annual growth has remained at 0.6 per cent.

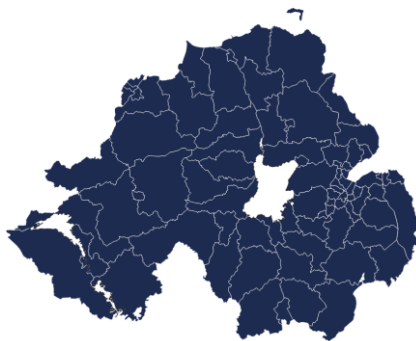
Components of Population Change



Natural change is the main driver of population growth

Growth due to natural change and net migration totalled

February 2019 – DEA Estimates



MID-2018 POPULATION ESTIMATES: Single year of age and gender Administrative Areas

| Area | Years of data |
|--|---------------|
| Northern Ireland | 1971 to 2018 |
| Local Government Districts | 2001 to 2018 |
| Parliamentary Constituencies (2008) | 2001 to 2018 |
| Former Local Government Districts | 1991 to 2018 |
| Health and Social Care Trusts | 1991 to 2018 |
| Former Education and Library Boards | 1991 to 2018 |
| Former NUTS Level 3 areas | 1991 to 2018 |
| Former Health and Social Services Boards | 1991 to 2018 |



| Population Estimates | Location |
|----------------------|----------|
| Flat file format | File |
| Tabular format | Tabular |

Notes on data :-

- The mid-year population estimates are generally quoted in rounded form, this is because population counts from the census and subsequent updates involving births, deaths and migration cannot be precise.
- In general the precision of the population estimates could be considered to be no better than to the nearest 100.
- Within this dataset, age=90 refers to those aged 90 and over.
- For further details contact NISRA Customers Services (Tel: 02890 255156 or e-mail: census@nisra.gov.uk)



Proposals

- Proposal 1 – publish LTIM tables only (no bulletin)
- Proposal 2 – discontinue unnecessary geographies
- Proposal 3 – no NPP and SNPP until Census results



ONS developments ([see link](#))

- **Administrative data-based population estimates (ABPEs) ([see link](#))**
- **Migration developments – Utilising data from Home Office and Department for Work and Pensions**
- **ONS welcome feedback - pop.info@ons.gov.uk**

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

The go-to organisation and trusted government source for an accurate and insightful account of life in Northern Ireland.

- Statistical Analysis
- Census
- Registration and Genealogy Services
- Research

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