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Social Briefing October 2011

This briefing presents key social indicators for Northern Ireland using the latest information published by government between August and October 2011. Data on the population, emergency care and hospital waiting times, people claiming benefits, public transport use and homelessness are provided. For each social indicator, headline data and an analysis of trends over time are presented. Some comparisons with other regions are also made. Links to source publications have been provided for those wishing to access more detailed information and analysis.

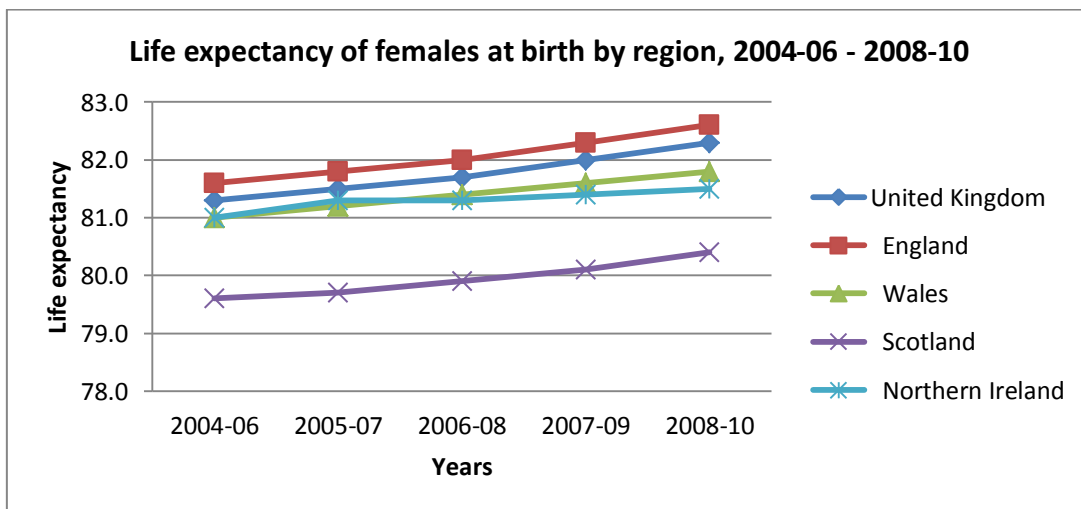
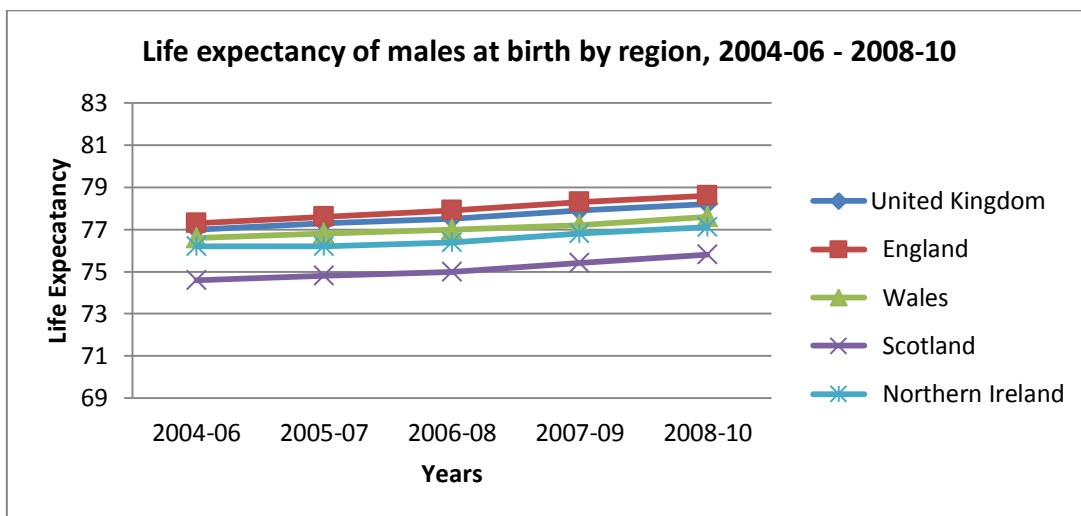
Please note that this briefing focuses key social data published in the last quarter (August-October 2011) and does not therefore cover all social aspects.

Summary Social Indicators

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Life expectancy |  | The life expectancy of males has increased from 76.8 (2007-2009) to 77.1 years (2008-2010). Over the same period, the life expectancy of females increased from 81.4 years to 81.5 years. |
| People aged 85 and over |  | Between June 2009 and June 2010, the number of people aged 85 and over increased by around 4 per cent from 28,700 to 29,700. |
| Projected population |  | The size of the population of Northern Ireland is projected to continue to increase by around 10,000 persons per year. |
| Those waiting for emergency care for more than 12 hours |  | The number of new and unplanned review attendances waiting over 12 hours at emergency care departments in 2010/11 was almost double the number in 2009/10 (7,397 compared to 3,881). |
| Waiting times for outpatients, diagnostic services and inpatients |  | The numbers of patients waiting more than 13 weeks for outpatients, diagnostic services and inpatients at 30 June 2011 have all increased when compared with the same quarter in the previous year. |
| Children living in families on benefits |  | The number of children living in families claiming a key benefit fell by 1.2 per cent between November 2009 and November 2010. |
| Bus and rail passenger journeys made |  | The number of bus passenger journeys made between April and June 2011 fell by 1 per cent when compared to the same quarter in the previous year. |
| |  | During the same period, the average weekly rail passenger journeys has remained unchanged. |
| Homelessness |  | The number of households presenting as homeless decreased by almost 10 per cent between April-June 2010 and April-June 2011 |

1 Life expectancy of males and females

- The life expectancy of those born between 2008 and 2010 in Northern Ireland is 77.1 years for males and 81.5 years for females.¹
- The life expectancy of males has increased from 76.8 years for those born between 2007 and 2009 to 77.1 years for those born between 2008 and 2010. The life expectancy of females has increased from 81.4 years for those born between 2007 and 2009 to 81.5 years for those born between 2008 and 2010.
- The life expectancy of males in Northern Ireland is higher than the life expectancy of males in Scotland, similar to that of males in Wales and lower than that of males in England. The same is true for females.



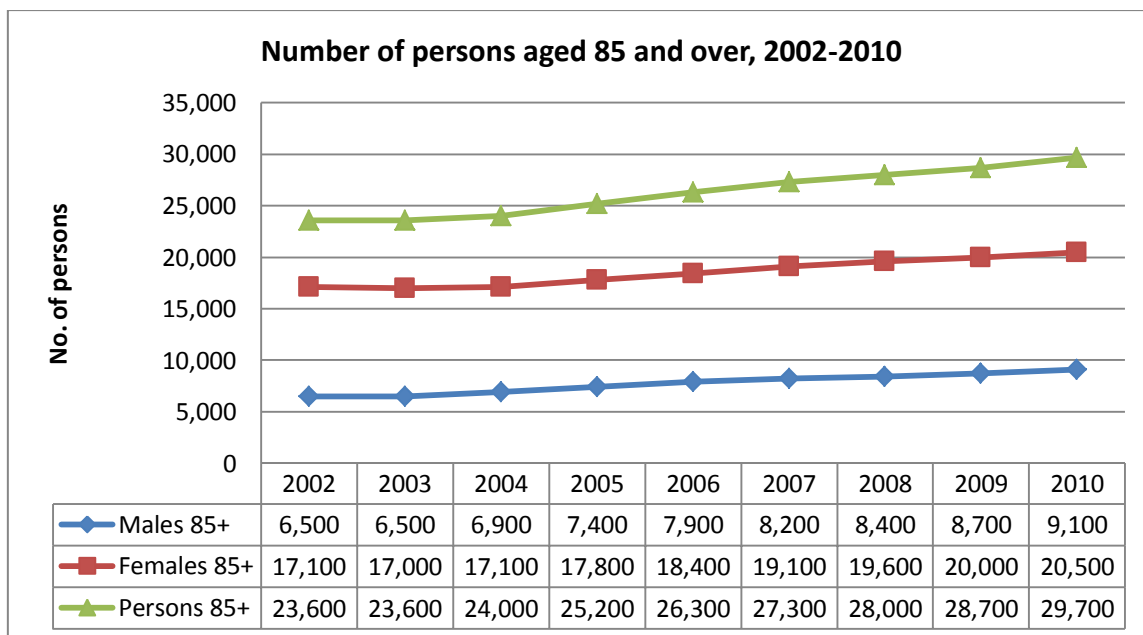
Source: Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas in the United Kingdom, 2004-06 to 2008-10, Office for National Statistics (Published 19 October 2011)

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/subnational-health4/life-expec-at-birth-age-65/2004-06-to-2008-10/index.html>

¹ Note that 2008-10 Northern Ireland figures are provisional.

2 Population – People aged 85 and over

- In June 2010, 29,700² people or around 1.7 per cent of the population were aged 85 years and over.
- The population aged 85 and over has increased by 1,000 people (almost 4 per cent) since June 2009.
- The population aged 85 and over has increased by 6,100 people (26 per cent) in the eight year period between June 2002 and June 2010, at a rate four times faster than the overall population growth for this period.
- Within the population aged 85 and over, women significantly outnumber men making up around 70 per cent of this age group.
- It is estimated that in June 2010 there were just over 200 centenarians (those aged 100 and over) living in Northern Ireland, an increase of around 70 per cent since June 2002.



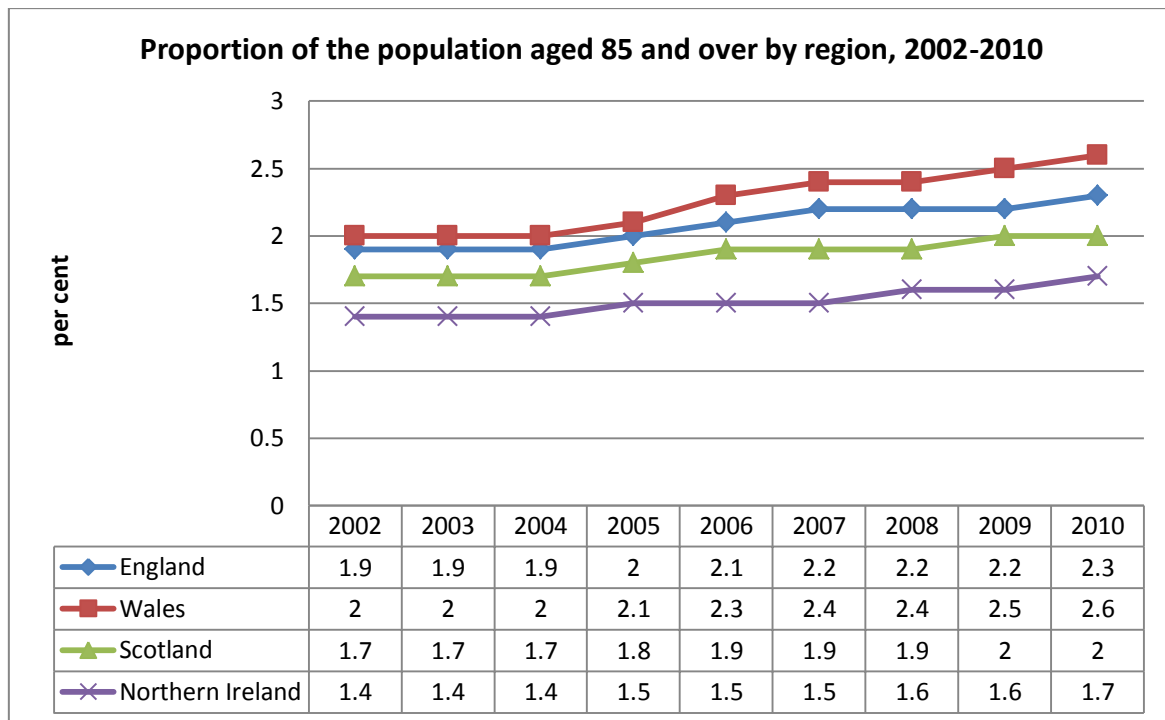
Source: *Estimates of the population aged 85 and over, Northern Ireland 2002-2010 (revised 2002-2009) – Statistical Report, NISRA (Published 29 September 2011)*

http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/OldestOld/Statistical_per_cent20Report_per_cent20- per_cent20Estimates_per_cent20of_per_cent20the_per_cent20Population_per_cent20Aged_per_cent2085_per_cent20and_per_cent20Over_per_cent20in_per_cent20Northern_per_cent20Ireland,_per_cent202002-2010.pdf

² Rounded to the nearest 100

Regional comparisons

- In June 2010, around 1.7 per cent of the Northern Ireland population were aged 85 years and over. The size of the population of Northern Ireland is projected to continue to increase by around 10,000 persons per year.
- The proportion of the Northern Ireland population aged 85 and over has increased by 0.1 of a percentage point since June 2009 and by 0.3 of a percentage point since June 2002.
- The proportion of people aged 85 and over has increased in all regions of the UK in the eight year period between June 2002 and June 2010.
- When compared with other regions of the UK, Northern Ireland has a lower proportion of people aged 85 and over. Wales has the highest proportion of people aged 85 and over.
- In June 2010, Northern Ireland had the highest proportion of females (3.9 per cent) and the lowest proportion of males (1.0 per cent) aged 85 and over when compared to England, Scotland and Wales.

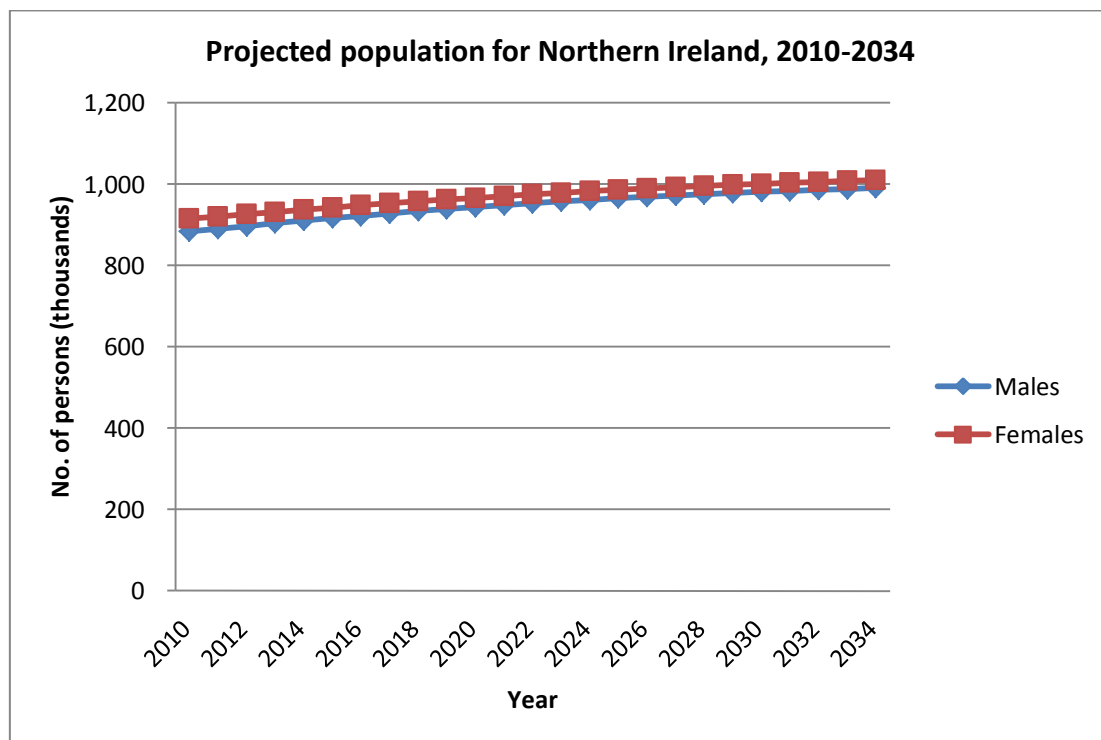


Source: Annual Abstract of Statistics, Office for National Statistics, Quarter 3, 2011

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/ctu/annual-abstract-of-statistics/quarter-3-2011/chap-15-population.xls>

3 Population Projections

- The number of older people (those aged 65 or more) is projected to increase by over a quarter in the next ten years (2010-2020).
- The population aged 85 or more is projected to rise by 51 per cent in the same period (2010-2020).
- The projected population increase will be due to more births than deaths in Northern Ireland. Between 2010 and 2020 it is projected that there will be 107 thousand more births than deaths, accounting for over 95 per cent of population growth.
- The population is projected to rise from just under 1.8 million in 2010 to 1.9 million in 2019 and 2.0 million in 2034.



Source: 2010 based population projections, NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch (Published 26 October 2010)

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/projections/Northern%20Ireland%20Population%20Projections%202010%20-%20Statistical%20Report%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

Regional comparisons

Population projections comparison for selected countries in the European Union

| | <i>millions</i> | | | % increase | % increase |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <u>2010</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2035</u> | <u>to 2020</u> | <u>to 2035</u> |
| Northern Ireland | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 6% | 11% |
| England | 52.2 | 56.6 | 62.1 | 8% | 19% |
| Wales | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 5% | 6% |
| Scotland | 5.2 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 5% | 5% |
| EU27 | 501.0 | 514.4 | 524.5 | 3% | 5% |
| Luxembourg | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 14% | 29% |
| Cyprus | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 10% | 25% |
| Ireland | 4.5 | 4.8 | 5.5 | 8% | 23% |
| UK | 62.0 | 66.3 | 71.9 | 7% | 16% |
| Belgium | 10.8 | 11.6 | 12.5 | 7% | 15% |
| Sweden | 9.3 | 10.1 | 10.7 | 8% | 15% |
| Spain | 46.0 | 48.0 | 50.9 | 4% | 11% |
| France | 64.7 | 67.8 | 71.3 | 5% | 10% |
| Italy | 60.3 | 62.9 | 65.2 | 4% | 8% |
| Denmark | 5.5 | 5.7 | 6.0 | 3% | 8% |
| Finland | 5.4 | 5.6 | 5.7 | 4% | 7% |
| Austria | 8.4 | 8.6 | 8.9 | 3% | 7% |
| Netherlands | 16.6 | 17.2 | 17.7 | 4% | 6% |
| Slovenia | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 5% | 5% |
| Greece | 11.3 | 11.5 | 11.6 | 2% | 3% |
| Czech Republic | 10.5 | 10.8 | 10.8 | 3% | 3% |
| Slovakia | 5.4 | 5.6 | 5.5 | 3% | 2% |
| Portugal | 10.6 | 10.7 | 10.8 | 1% | 1% |
| Malta | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 1% | 0% |
| Poland | 38.2 | 38.4 | 36.9 | 1% | -3% |
| Hungary | 10.0 | 9.9 | 9.6 | -1% | -4% |
| Estonia | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | -1% | -6% |
| Germany | 81.7 | 80.1 | 76.5 | -2% | -6% |
| Romania | 21.5 | 21.0 | 19.9 | -2% | -7% |
| Lithuania | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.0 | -4% | -11% |
| Latvia | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.0 | -5% | -13% |
| Bulgaria | 7.6 | 7.1 | 6.4 | -6% | -15% |

Source: Office for National Statistics (based on data from Eurostat)

http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_235886.pdf

4 Health - Emergency Care

Emergency Care Quarterly figures

- There were a total of 57,340 attendances at emergency care departments for the month of September 2011, compared with 58,922 in August 2011 and 58,704 in July 2011.

Between July and September 2011:

- The percentage of patients attending Type 1³ emergency care departments that were either treated and discharged home or admitted within four hours decreased, from 80.5% to 77.3%.
- In Type 2⁴ emergency care departments, the percentage of patients attending that were either treated and discharged home or admitted within four hours increased, from 90.5% to 94.2%.
- The percentage of patients attending Type 3⁵ emergency care departments that were either treated and discharged home or admitted within four hours remained at 100.0%.
- The number of patients that waited longer than 12 hours to be either treated and discharged home, or admitted increased by 56.4% (194), from 344 to 538.

Source: Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics (July – September 2011), Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Published 27 October 2011)

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ec1_september_2011.pdf

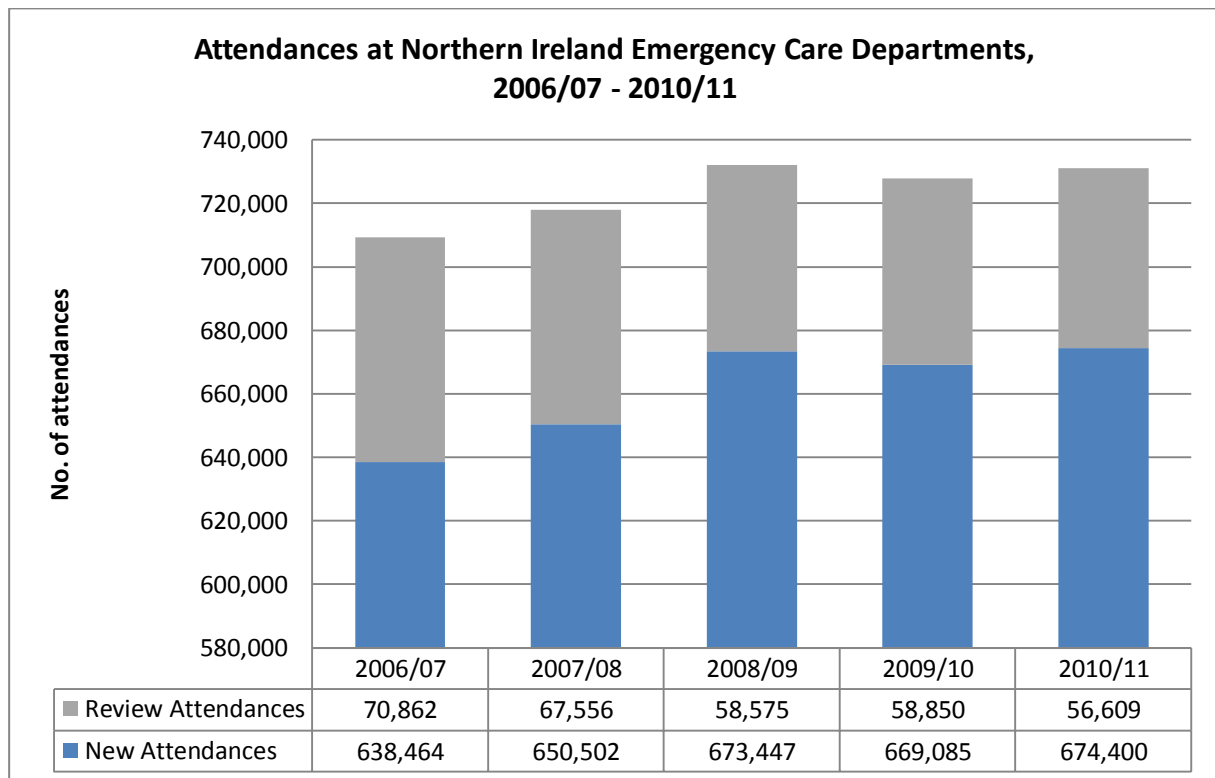
³ Type 1 Emergency Care Department - A consultant-led service with designated accommodation for the reception of emergency care patients, providing both emergency medicine and emergency surgical services on a round the clock basis.

⁴ Type 2 Emergency Care Department - A consultant-led service with designated accommodation for the reception of emergency care patients, but which does not provide both emergency medicine and emergency surgical services and/or has time-limited opening hours.

⁵ Type 3 Emergency Care Department - A minor injury unit with designated accommodation for the reception of patients with a minor injury and/or illness. It may be doctor or nurse-led. A defining characteristic of this service is that it treats at least minor injuries and/or illnesses and can be routinely accessed without appointment.

Emergency Care Annual figures

- Between 2006/07 and 2010/11, the total number of attendances at emergency care departments increased by 3.1 per cent, from 709,326 to 731,009.
- In 2010/11, 82.0 per cent (574,116) of new and unplanned review attendances were either treated and discharged or admitted within four hours of arrival.
- The number of new and unplanned review attendances waiting over 12 hours at emergency care departments in 2010/11 (7,379) was almost double the number in 2009/10 (3,881).
- During the last 5 years, the proportion of immediately life threatening calls responded to within 8 minutes has increased from 55.3 per cent in 2006/07 to 69.7 per cent in 2010/11.



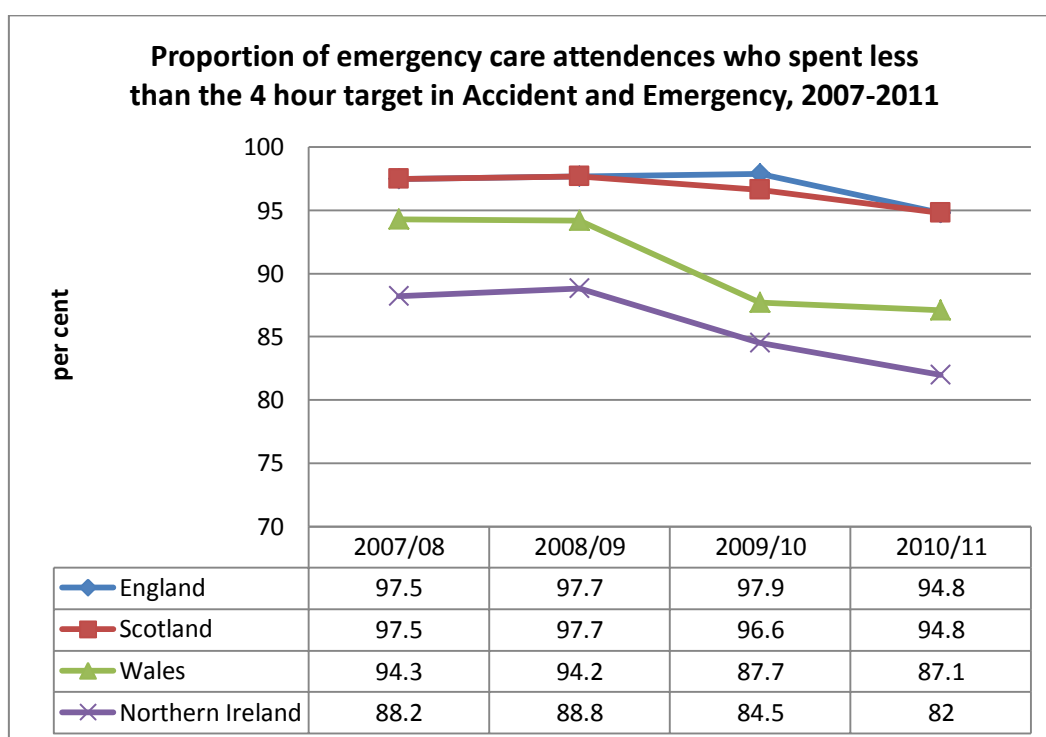
Source: Northern Ireland Hospital Statistics: Emergency Care (2010/11), Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Published 23 June 2011)

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/annual_report_2010-11_final.pdf

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/downloadable_tables_201011.xls

Regional comparisons

- In 2010/11, as in previous years, a lower proportion of attendees spent less than four hours in emergency care in Northern Ireland when compared to the rest of the UK.
- Overall, the proportion of attendees spending less than four hours in emergency care departments in Northern Ireland fell between 2007/08 and 2010/11 from 88.2 per cent to 82.0 per cent.
- This pattern of a decreasing proportion of attendees spending less than four hours in emergency care departments was also evidenced in England, Scotland and Wales. Therefore, the proportion of those waiting longer than four hours is increasing in all regions of the UK including Northern Ireland.



Sources: Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Northern Ireland), Department of Health (England), Information Services Divisions, NHS (Scotland), StatWales (Wales)

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/a_e_annual_report_2010-11_final.pdf

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Statistics/Performedataandstatistics/AcidentandEmergency/DH_087978

<http://www.isdscotlandarchive.scot.nhs.uk/isd/4024.html>

<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx>

5 Health – Waiting Times

Outpatients

- The number of patients waiting for a first outpatient appointment at the end of June 2011 stood at 117,926, 11,720 (+11.0 per cent) more than at the end of March 2011 (106,206) and 7,706 (+7.0 per cent) more than at the end of June 2010 (110,220).
- At the end of June 2011, 37.9 per cent (44,709) of the total number waiting were waiting more than nine weeks, compared with 30.0 per cent (31,909 out of 106,206 total patients waiting) waiting more than nine weeks at the end of March 2011 and 26.4 per cent (29,149 out of 110,220 total patients waiting) at the end of June 2010.

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni_outpatient_waiting_list_bulletin_june_11.pdf

Diagnostic Services

- At 30th June 2011, there were a total of 63,909 patients waiting for a diagnostic service at HSC Trusts in Northern Ireland. This represented an increase of 1,804 (+2.9 per cent) on the 62,105 waiting at the end of the previous quarter.
- 14,281 (22.3 per cent) patients were waiting longer than 9/13 weeks, an increase of 2,238 (+18.6 per cent) on the corresponding number for the previous quarter (12,043). A total of 6,504 (14.6 per cent) were waiting more than nine weeks for a diagnostic service, with 7,777 (40.3 per cent) waiting more than 13 weeks for a day case endoscopy.

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni_diagnostic_waiting_list_bulletin_june_11.pdf

Inpatients

- The total number of patients waiting to be admitted to hospitals in Northern Ireland at 30th June 2011 stood at 56,689, up 3,809 (+7.2 per cent) on the 52,880 waiting to be admitted at the end of the previous quarter, and up 15,814 (+38.7 per cent) on the number (40,875) waiting to be admitted at 30th June 2010.
- At the end of June 2011, 22,823 (40.3 per cent of total number waiting) patients were waiting more than 13 weeks for inpatient treatment. This was up 5,193 on the comparable number in the previous quarter (17,630). 2,859 patients were waiting longer than 36 weeks.

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni_inpatient_waiting_list_bulletin_june_11.pdf

6 People claiming benefits

The following information is derived from the Northern Ireland Social Security Statistics Bulletin published in August 2011, 2010 and 2009. These bulletins are based on latest data available within DSD, Analytical Services Unit at the end of August which varies across benefits.

At November 2010:

- 117,800 children (27 per cent of the total population of **children** aged under 16 and young adults aged 16 – 18 in full-time education) were living in families claiming a key benefit. This represents a 1.2 per cent decrease on the November 2009 figure of 119,200.
- Two thirds (66 per cent) were children of claimants who had been on benefit for at least 2 years.
- 228,440 **working age people** (21 per cent of all working age people) claimed a key benefit. This represents a 0.2 per cent decrease on the November 2009 figure of 228,820.

At May 2011 there were:

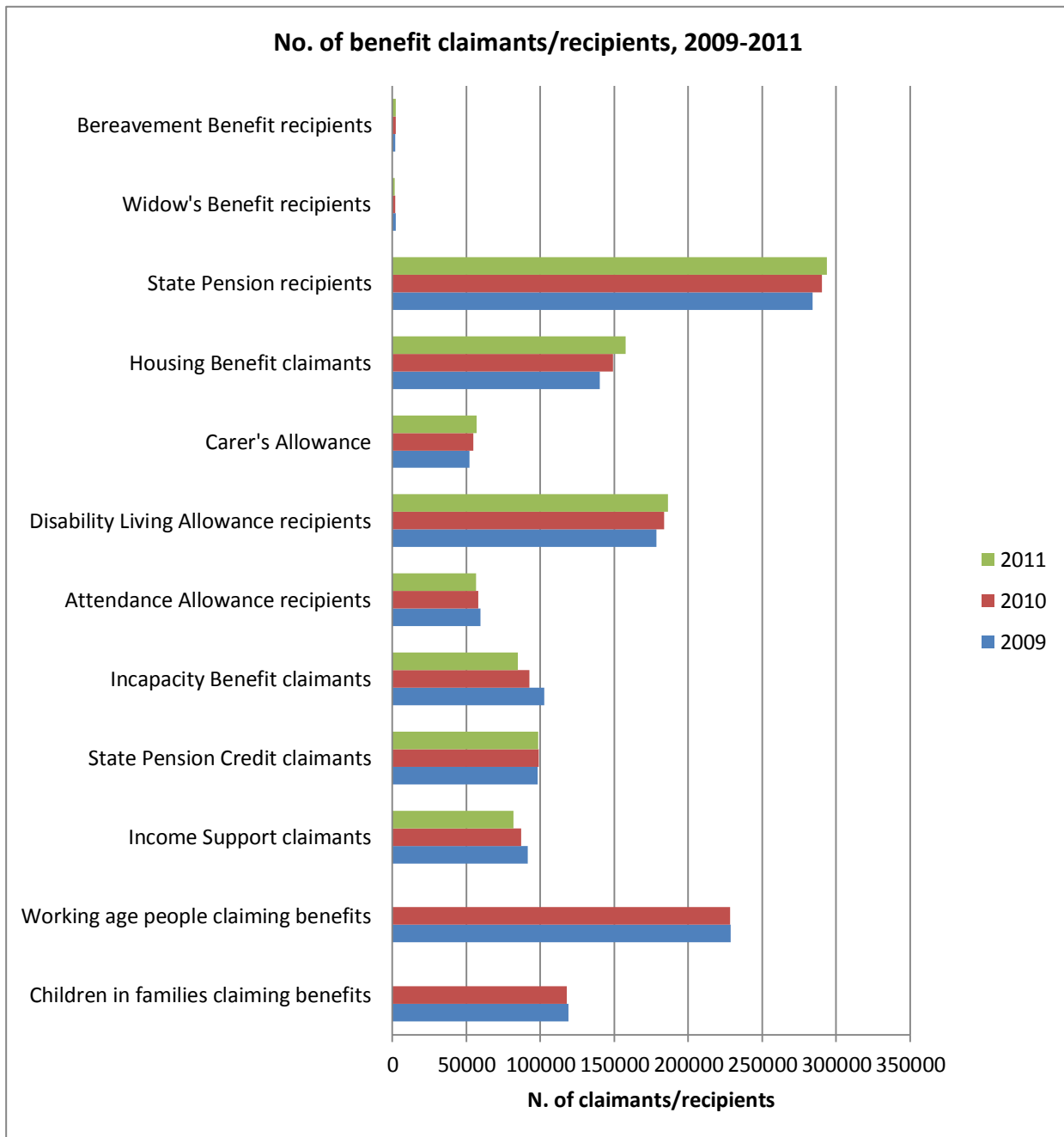
- 81,720 people (8.1 per cent of all those aged 18 and over) claiming **Income Support**, a 6.1 per cent decrease on the May 2010 figure.
- 98,500 people (31.9 per cent of all those aged 60 and over) claiming **State Pension Credit**, a 0.5 per cent decrease on the May 2010 figure.
- 84,769 people (6.0 per cent of those aged 16 and over) claiming **Incapacity Benefit**, an 8.4 per cent decrease on the May 2010 figure. Of these, 51,097 were in receipt of this benefit.
- 56,515 people (23.2 per cent of those aged 65 and over) in receipt of **Attendance Allowance**, a 2.8 per cent decrease on the May 2010 figure.
- 186,174 people (10.3 per cent of all persons) in receipt of **Disability Living Allowance**, a 1.3 per cent increase on the May 2010 figure.
- 56,932 people (30.6 per cent of people caring for those in receipt of DLA) in receipt of **Carer's Allowance**, a 4.1 per cent decrease on the May 2010 figure.

At June 2011, there were 157,808 people claiming **Housing Benefit**, a 5.9 per cent increase on the June 2010 figure.

At March 2011 there were:

- 293,803 people in receipt of **State Pension**, a 1.2 per cent increase on the March 2010 figure.
- 1,671 people in receipt of **Widow's Benefit**, a 10 per cent decrease on the March 2010 figure although it is worth noting that Widow's Benefit was replaced with Bereavement Benefit on April 9th 2001 and so a drop in the number of recipients would be expected.
- 2,306 people in receipt of **Bereavement Benefit**, an increase of 4.5 per cent on the March 2010 figure.

Please note that proportions have been calculated using 2010 Mid-Year estimates, the latest population estimates available, (Source: NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch).



Sources: Northern Ireland Social Security Statistics Bulletin, Department for Social Development (Published August 2011, August 2010, August 2009)

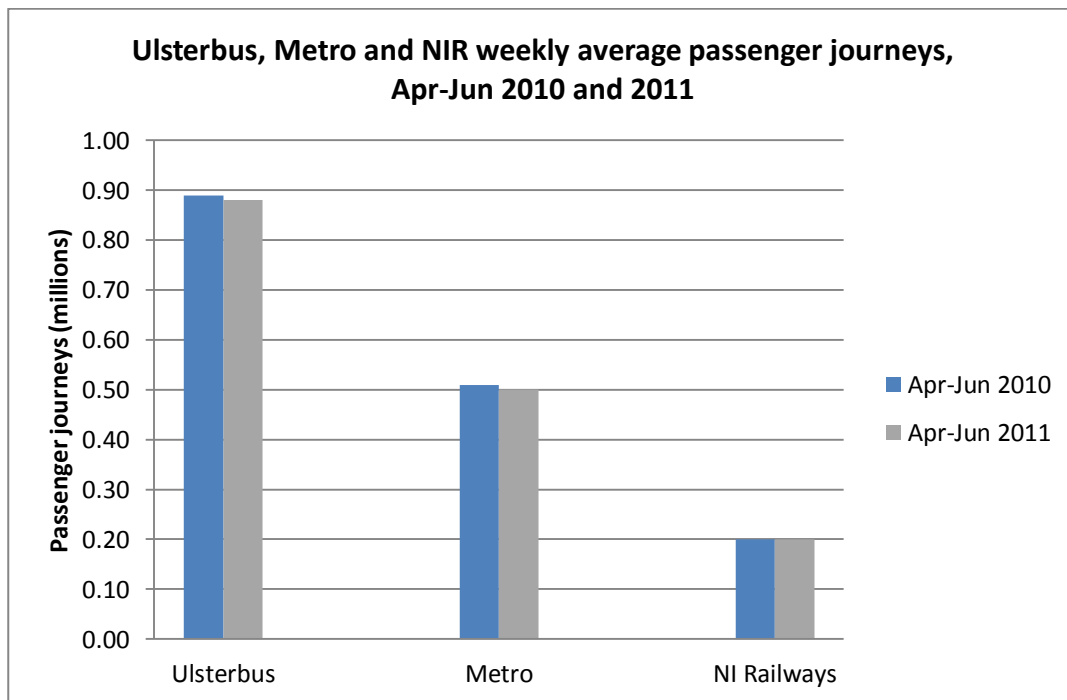
http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/bulletin_aug11.doc

http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/bulletin_august10.doc

<http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/aug09rev.doc>

7 Transport - Public transport

- There was a weekly average of 1.38 million public bus passenger journeys made during the April to June 2011 quarter, a decrease of 1% from 1.40 million in the corresponding quarter of 2010.
- During the same time period, weekly average bus passenger receipts stayed around the same (£2.4million in April-June 2010, £2.41million in April-June 2011).
- The weekly average rail passenger journeys in April to June 2011 are the same as the corresponding quarter of 2010 (0.20 million).
- During the same time period, weekly average rail passenger receipts increased by 2% to £0.61million from £0.6million.

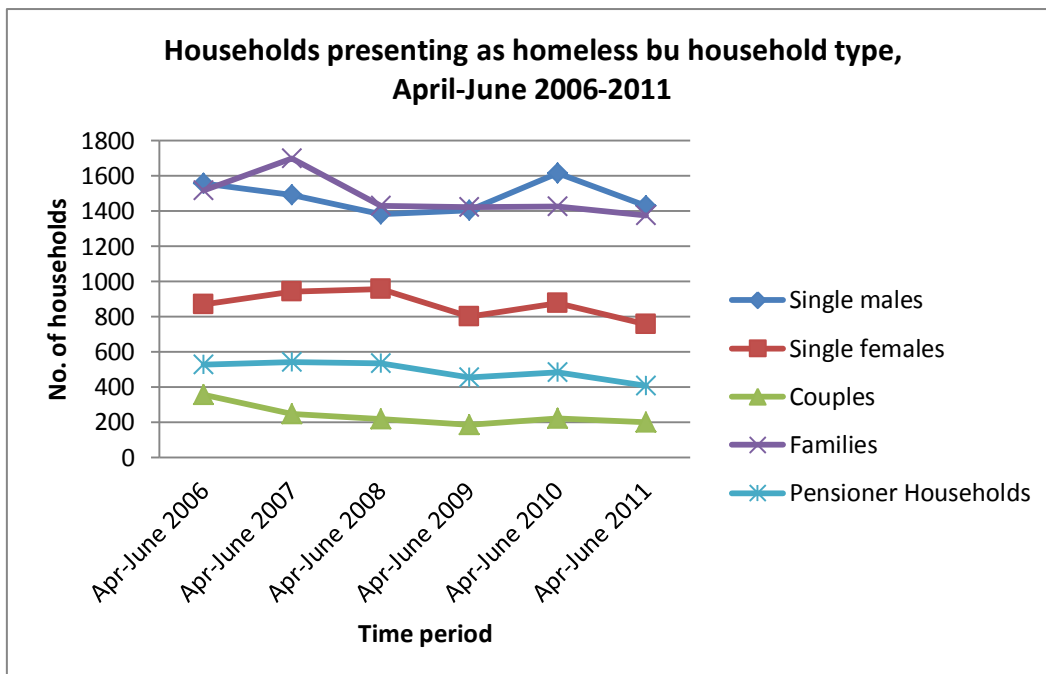


Source: Northern Ireland Road and Rail Transport Statistics, April to June 2011, Department for Regional Development (Published 27 October 2011)

http://www.drdni.gov.uk/quarterly_road_and_rail_april-june_2011.pdf

8 Homelessness

- In total, 4,169 households presented as homeless to NIHE from April - June 2011. This compares with 4,625 in the same quarter of the previous year, a decrease of almost 10 per cent.
- Twenty-four per cent (1,012) of these cited a sharing breakdown or family dispute as the reason for homelessness, with a further 15 per cent (615) citing accommodation not reasonable.
- Thirty-four per cent (1,430) of households presenting as homeless were single males, mainly aged between 26-59 years old, followed by families (33 per cent or 1,376).



Source: Northern Ireland Housing Bulletin April – June 2011, Department for Social Development (Published 27 October 2011)

<http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/april - june 2011 internet copy 2.doc>

<http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/april - june 2009 internet copy.doc>

<http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/april - june 2007-3.doc>