



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Research Paper

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# Census 2011: Detailed Characteristics of Religion, National Identity and Health at Northern Ireland level

**NIAR 397-13**

This paper contains an analysis of the Detailed Characteristics set of Census 2011 tables produced by NISRA (first release). The paper focuses on the interactions between religion, identity and health and other topics, such as age and economic activity.



## Executive Summary

### Religion / Religion brought up in and Age

- Residents who are or have been brought up as Catholics have a younger age profile than their Protestant counterparts. Over half (52 per cent) of Catholics were aged under 35, compared with 40 per cent of those from Protestant denominations. Conversely, nearly two-thirds (64 per cent) of those aged 65 or over are from a Protestant community background, compared with 34 per cent of Catholics.

### Religion / Religion brought up in and Country of Birth

- The proportion of the population born outside Northern Ireland rose from 9 per cent (151,000) in 2001 to 11 per cent (202,000) in 2011. This change was largely as a result of inward migration by people born in the 12 EU accession countries, who accounted for 2 per cent (35,700) of the population on Census Day 2011, compared with 0.1 per cent in 2001. Of the 202,000 residents born outside Northern Ireland, 34 per cent were or had been brought up as Protestants and 48 per cent as Catholics. The majority of migrants from EU accession countries were Catholic (75 per cent).

### Religion / Religion brought up in and Education

- Residents who were or had been brought up as Catholics had similar prevalence rates to those who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations for Level 4 or higher qualifications (24 per cent and 23 per cent respectively) and no qualifications (29 per cent and 30 per cent respectively).
- Comparing across the two genders and religious groups, In 2011 Catholic females accounted for the lowest proportion of residents aged 16 or over without formal qualifications (28 per cent), and the highest proportion of those with level 4 or higher qualifications (27 per cent).

### Religion / Religion brought up in and Passport held

- On Census Day, 57 per cent of residents held a UK passport only, just under a fifth (19 per cent) held an Ireland passport only, 1.7 per cent held both UK and Ireland passports, while a further 19 per cent held no passport. Other passport combinations were held by 3.4 per cent of residents.
- Similar proportions of people from a Catholic community background held either UK or Ireland passports only (36 per cent and 38 per cent respectively), while three-quarters of Protestants (76 per cent) held a UK passport only, and 2.7 per cent an Ireland passport only.

### **Religion / Religion brought up in and Economic Activity**

- Two-thirds (66 per cent) of residents aged 16-74 were economically active in the week before Census Day 2011, four percentage points higher than in 2001 (62 per cent). The differential in the overall economic activity rates between Catholics and Protestants narrowed from around four percentage points in April 2001 to half a percentage point in March 2011.
- The number of residents in employment from a Catholic community background increased by 26 per cent over the decade (2001 – 2011), with a corresponding rise of 1.9 per cent for Protestants. Substantial growth was also recorded for Other religions (163 per cent) and None (154 per cent)
- The overall unemployment rate in 2011 for those aged 16-74 was 7.5 per cent; 8.9 per cent for Catholics, 5.9 per cent (Protestants), 8.7 per cent (Other religions) and 10.0 per cent (None).
- One-third (34 per cent) of usual residents aged 16-74 years were economically inactive in the week before Census Day 2011. There were no significant differences between the Catholic and Protestant communities (both 34 per cent).

### **Religion / Religion brought up in and Household Tenure**

- People who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations were more likely than those from a Catholic community background to live in Owner-occupied households (75 per cent and 70 per cent respectively), while the converse was true of those living in the Private rented sector (13 per cent and 17 per cent respectively). Within the Social rented sector, the community profile of NIHE tenants (45 per cent Catholic, 48 per cent Protestant, 0.7 per cent Other religions and 6.3 per cent None) was very similar to that of all usual residents. However, more than half (55 per cent) of Housing Association tenants were Catholic, compared 38 per cent from a Protestant community background.

### **Religion / Religion brought up in and Occupancy Rating**

- The Occupancy rating provides a measure of under-occupancy and overcrowding, where a negative value implies a degree of overcrowding. The overall prevalence of overcrowding for the religion or religion brought up in categories were: Catholics (12 per cent), Protestants (6.5 per cent), None (11 per cent) and Others (17 per cent). In contrast, 59 per cent of residents from a Protestant community background lived in households with an occupancy rating of +2 or more (in effect having at least two rooms more than the basic standard). This compares with Catholics (48 per cent), Other religions (45 per cent), or No religion (44 per cent).

### **Religion / Religion brought up in and Household Size**

- The demographic structure of households in Northern Ireland has changed significantly over the past fifty years. In 1961, around half of Northern Ireland's population, representing 28 per cent of all households, lived in accommodation containing 5 or more people. By 2011 this proportion had fallen to 22 per cent (10 per cent of households). As a result, average household size fell from 3.70 in 1961 to 2.54 in 2011.
- Based on the religion or religion brought up in of the Household Reference Person (HRP), the average household size was largest among those who were or had been brought up as Catholics (2.72 persons), followed by No religion (2.54), Other religions (2.50) and Protestants (2.41).
- While 14 per cent of HRPs who were or had been brought up as Catholics lived in households of 5 or more people, the rates were lower for those who belonged to or had been brought up in Other religions (9.4 per cent), Protestant denominations (7.8 per cent) or those with No religion (8.3 per cent). Residents who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations or Other religions were more likely to live in one-person households (both 30 per cent) than Catholics or those with No religion (both 26 per cent).

### **National Identity and Religion / Religion brought up in**

- 40 per cent of usual residents had a British only national identity (without selecting any additional national identities), a quarter (25 per cent) had an Irish only identity and just over a fifth (21 per cent) had a Northern Irish only identity. Of the various combined national identities, British and Northern Irish Only was the most prevalent (6.2 per cent).
- With regard to the Northern Irish identity, while Protestants were almost as likely as Catholics to declare a Northern Irish identity when combined with other identities, they were much less inclined to regard themselves as exclusively Northern Irish.

### **Health and Age**

- As might be expected, the proportion of the population assessing their general health as 'bad' or 'very bad' increases with age. Similarly, the incidence of people with a long-term health problem or disability also rises continuously with increasing age. Whereas 1.4 per cent of those aged 0-4 had a long-term health problem or disability which limited their day-to-day activities 'a lot', this rises to a quarter (26 per cent) of those aged 65-69, and nearly two-thirds (62 per cent) of those aged 85 and over.

### **Health and Religion / Religion brought up in**

- Overall, those from a Catholic community background were marginally more likely than those who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations to assess their general health as either 'bad' or 'very bad' (5.9 per cent versus 5.7 per cent).
- The differences were most apparent in the older age groups. For example, among those aged 45 – 64 , 11 per cent of Catholics, compared with 8.4 per cent of Protestants, were in either 'bad' or 'very bad' general health. In addition, among those aged 65 and over, 18 per cent of Catholics, compared with 13 per cent of Protestants, were in either 'bad' or 'very bad' general health.
- In contrast, the Census reveals that, overall, people from a Catholic community background were less likely than their Protestant counterparts to experience a long-term health problem or disability which limited their day-to-day activities (20 per cent compared with 23 per cent). The difference is influenced by the fact that (i) Protestants have an older age profile than Catholics; and (ii) the incidence of having a long-term health problem or disability increases noticeably with age.

### **Health and Economic Inactivity**

- In addition to the two questions on general health and limiting long-term illness, the Census questionnaire also contained an item asking respondents about specific long-term conditions. Economic inactivity rates were highest for those experiencing 'frequent periods of confusion or memory loss' (87 per cent), 'communication difficulty' (81 per cent) or 'a mobility or dexterity difficulty' (80 per cent).

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# 1 Introduction

This paper presents an analysis at the Northern Ireland level of the Detailed Characteristics release (phase 1) from Census 2011 relating to Religion or religion brought up in, National Identity and Health.

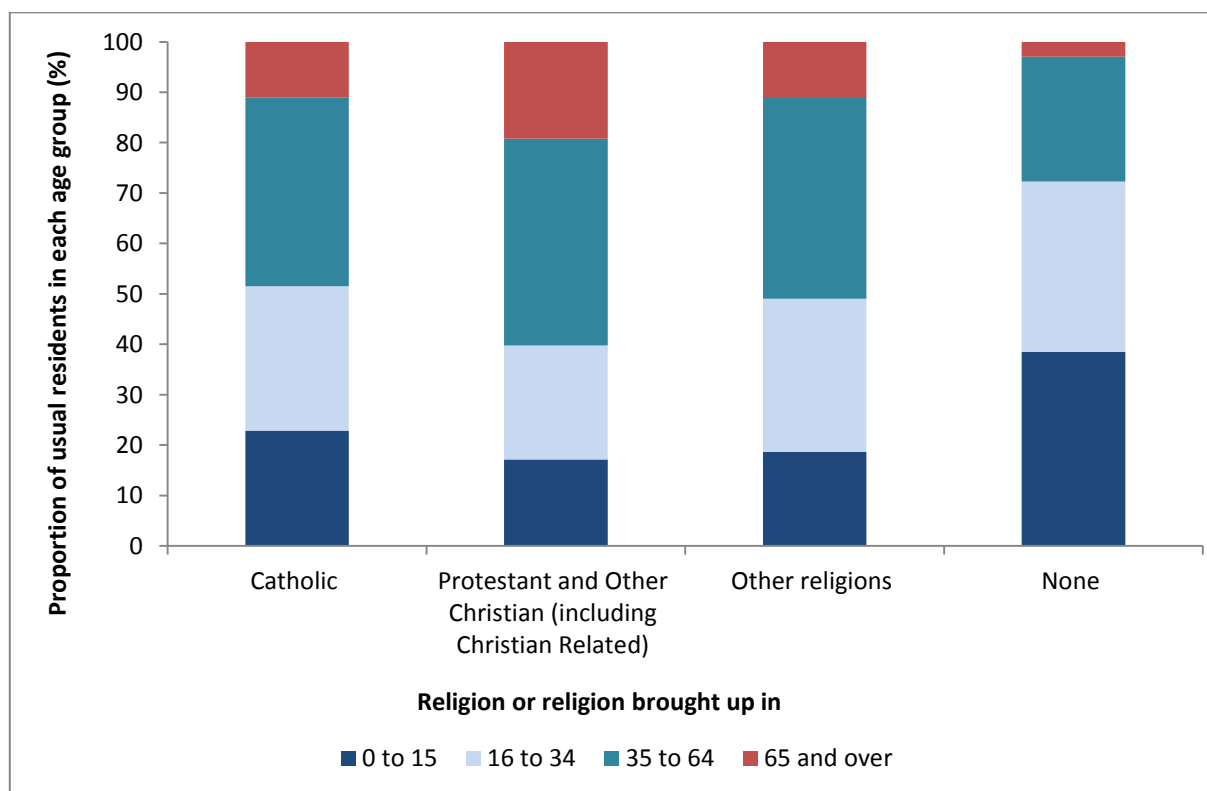
## 2 Religion or Religion brought up in

### 2.1 Religion and Age

The release of *Detailed Characteristics* data by NISRA provides the first opportunity to examine the religious composition of the usually resident population by age. The results show that the trends evident in 2001 have continued over the past decade, and have been further amplified with the addition of a new factor, namely inward migration.

In broad terms, the census reveals that the age profile of those who are Catholic, or brought up as Catholic, is considerably younger than those who are Protestant or brought up as Protestant (Fig 2.1). This finding also holds true for Other Religions and No Religion.

**Figure 2.1: Religion or religion brought up in by Broad Age Category, Census 2011**



Source: NISRA (2013) Statistics Bulletin: Census 2011, Detailed characteristics for Northern Ireland on Health, Religion and National Identity.

Data on religion (or religion brought up in) and age can be analysed either within each age category, or within each religion.

Examining the data by religion or religion brought up in, in 2011 over half (52 per cent) of usual residents from a Catholic community background (421,200) were aged under 35, compared with 40 per cent (348,400) of those who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations. Almost half (49 per cent, 8,100) of residents with Other religions and 72 per cent (73,100) of those with No religion were also aged under 35. In contrast, 11 per cent (90,600) of those who were or had been brought up as Catholics were aged 65 and over, compared with 19 per cent (168,300) from a Protestant community background, 11 per cent (1,800) in Other religions and 3 per cent (3,000) with no religion.

A similar picture emerges when the data is reviewed by age category (Table 2.1). In 2011, almost half (49 per cent) of residents aged 0 – 15 years and half (50 per cent) of those aged 16 – 34 were from a Catholic community background. In contrast, nearly two-thirds (64 per cent) of residents aged 65 and over were from a Protestant community background, a ratio of almost 2: 1 in favour of Protestants.

**Table 2.1: Age Band by Religion or Religion Brought Up In (count and per cent)**

Age Band	All residents	Catholic	Protestant and Other Christian	Other	None
	1,810,863	817,385 45.1	875,717 48.4	16,592 0.9	101,169 5.6
Aged 0 to 15	379,323	187,044 49.3	150,257 39.6	3,096 0.8	38,926 10.3
Aged 16 to 34	471,572	234,169 49.7	198,152 42.0	5,045 1.1	34,206 7.3
Aged 35 to 64	696,248	305,564 43.9	359,055 51.6	6,605 0.9	25,024 3.6
Aged 65 and over	263,720	90,608 34.4	168,253 63.8	1,846 0.7	3,013 1.1

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2117

Note: Percentages shown in Table 2.1 are row percentages, i.e. the four cells in each row sum to 100 per cent.

## 2.2 Trends in Religion / Religion brought up in and Age, 2001 – 2011

In 2001, the proportion of usual residents from a Catholic community background exceeded those from a Protestant background in each five-year age group up to and

including 20 – 24 years <sup>1</sup>. By 2011, the Catholic majority had extended to all age groups up to and including 35-39 years <sup>2</sup>.

Table 2.2 presents the proportion of each community (religion or religion brought up in) by age band in 2001 and 2011. The table also shows the percentage difference between the two communities.

**Table 2.2 Community Background by Age Band, 2001 and 2011**

Age Band	2001			2011		
	Catholic %	Protestant %	Percent Difference	Catholic %	Protestant %	Percent Difference
All residents	43.8	53.1	-9.4	45.1	48.4	-3.2
Aged 0 to 4	49.1	43.1	6.0	49.2	36.4	12.9
Aged 5 to 9	49.5	44.9	4.5	49.3	40.1	9.2
Aged 10 to 14	50.4	45.3	5.1	49.5	41.9	7.6
Aged 15 to 19	51.4	45.2	6.3	49.0	42.9	6.1
Aged 20 to 24	49.5	47.0	2.5	48.9	42.3	6.6
Aged 25 to 29	46.0	50.4	-4.4	50.9	40.7	10.2
Aged 30 to 34	44.7	51.9	-7.1	49.7	42.4	7.3
Aged 35 to 39	44.6	52.6	-8.0	46.8	46.2	0.6
Aged 40 to 44	43.7	54.0	-10.3	45.4	49.4	-4.0
Aged 45 to 49	42.2	55.6	-13.3	44.7	50.8	-6.2
Aged 50 to 54	39.7	58.6	-19.0	43.5	52.8	-9.3
Aged 55 to 59	36.6	62.0	-25.4	42.1	54.5	-12.4
Aged 60 to 64	35.8	63.0	-27.2	39.2	57.9	-18.7
Aged 65 to 69	35.1	63.9	-28.8	36.3	61.4	-25.1
Aged 70 to 74	33.4	65.8	-32.4	35.4	62.8	-27.4
Aged 75 to 79	31.8	67.6	-35.8	34.4	64.0	-29.7
Aged 80 to 84	30.0	69.4	-39.4	32.3	66.3	-34.0
Aged 85 to 89	28.4	71.2	-42.8	30.4	68.2	-37.8
Aged 90 +	25.5	73.8	-48.4	28.2	70.4	-42.2

Source: NINIS, NISRA, Table DC2117 (2013); Table S306 (2003)

Table 2.2 reveals that in 2001, the greatest differential in favour of Catholics in any particular age group was 6 percentage points (in both the 0-4 and 15-19 age groups). By 2011, the greatest differentials in favour of Catholics were 13 and 10 percentage points (in the 0 – 4 and 25 – 29 age groups respectively). From the age of 40 onwards, the differentials are in favour of the Protestant community.

As noted previously in NIAR 161-13, the observed change in the community composition of the population is a result of three broad factors, namely: births, deaths and inward migration <sup>3</sup>. The release of *Detailed Characteristics* data by NISRA reveals

<sup>1</sup> NISRA (2003) Table S306, Age by Community Background (Religion or Religion brought up in).

<sup>2</sup> In March 2011, 49 per cent (478,500) of usual residents aged 0 – 39 years were from a Catholic community background, compared with 42 per cent (404,900) from Protestant denominations.

<sup>3</sup> Northern Ireland Assembly (2013) **Census 2011: Key Statistics at Assembly Area level**. Available at: <http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Documents/RaISe/Publications/2012/general/7013.pdf>

that the migration effect has been more significant than previously thought, particularly in the young children and adult age bands (0 – 4 years and 25 – 29 respectively).

Prior to 2004, population change in Northern Ireland was largely due to natural increase (births minus deaths), with migration generally in an outward direction. The enlargement of the EU since 2004, however, has led to a significant inflow of migrants from Central and Eastern Europe. On Census Day 2011, 35,700 people born in the EU Accession states were resident in Northern Ireland, compared with under 1,000 in 2001. This has had a notable impact on the religion and age profiles of the population for two reasons <sup>4</sup>.

Firstly, as discussed in Section 2.3 below, three-quarters (75 per cent) of those residents born in the EU Accession countries were or had been brought up as Catholics, while 11 per cent were either Protestant or brought up as Protestant. Secondly, the new migrants have a much younger age profile than the general population.

This second factor may be implicated in the recent increase in the number of births. In the year ending 30 June 2011, 1,200 (5 per cent) of the 25,300 recorded births in Northern Ireland were to mothers born in the EU Accession countries, compared with 12 such births (0.1 per cent) in 2001 <sup>5</sup>. Provisional figures for 2012 show this trend is continuing, with a further 1,200 births to mothers born in the Accession states <sup>6</sup>.

Further, as noted in NIAR 161-13, the younger age profile of the Catholic population has, in turn given rise to higher fertility rates and lower death rates <sup>7</sup>.

In summary, the increase in the Catholic population, and the fall in the Protestant count, during the past decade resulted from a relatively higher Catholic birth rate, higher Protestant death rate, and the effects of inward migration.

### 2.3 Religion or Religion brought up in and Country of Birth

The proportion of the usually resident population born outside Northern Ireland rose from 9.0 per cent (151,000) in April 2001 to 11 per cent (202,000) in March 2011. As noted above, this change was largely as a result of inward migration by people born in the 12 EU accession countries.

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<sup>4</sup> NISRA (2013) **Statistical Bulletin, Census 2011, Detailed Characteristics for Northern Ireland on Health, Religion and National Identity**. Available at: [http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/detailedcharacteristics\\_stats\\_bulletin\\_2011.pdf](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/Census/detailedcharacteristics_stats_bulletin_2011.pdf)

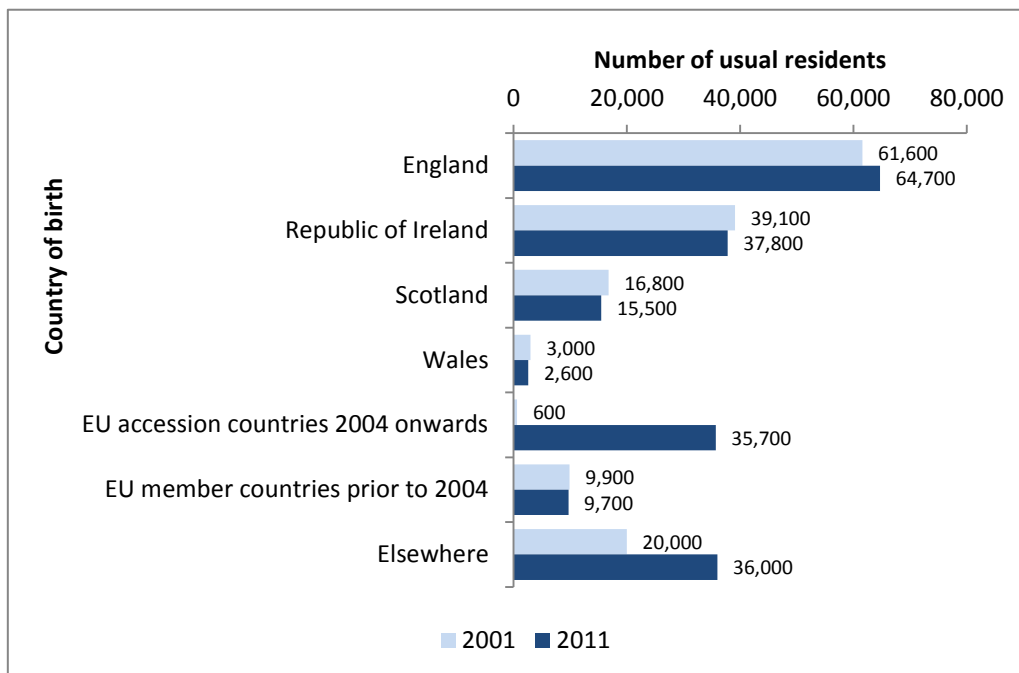
<sup>5</sup> NISRA (2012) **Statistical Bulletin, Births in Northern Ireland 2011**. Available at: [http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/publications/births\\_deaths/births\\_2011.pdf](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/publications/births_deaths/births_2011.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> NISRA (2013) **Statistical Bulletin, Births in Northern Ireland 2012**. Available at: [http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/publications/births\\_deaths/births\\_2012.pdf](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/publications/births_deaths/births_2012.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Information on religion is not collected as part of the birth or death registration process. However, using various assumptions, NISRA estimate there were a total of 89,000 Protestant and 118,000 Catholic births between 2001 and 2011. Similarly, NISRA have estimated that 95,000 Protestants and 46,000 Catholics died during the same period.

The remainder of the 2011 Census population born outside Northern Ireland consisted of people born in England (64,700; 3.6 per cent of usual residents), the Republic of Ireland (37,800; 2.1 per cent), Scotland (15,500; 0.9 per cent), Wales (2,600; 0.1 per cent), another member country of the EU prior to 2004 (9,700; 0.5 per cent) or elsewhere (36,000; 2.0 per cent), see Fig 2.2.

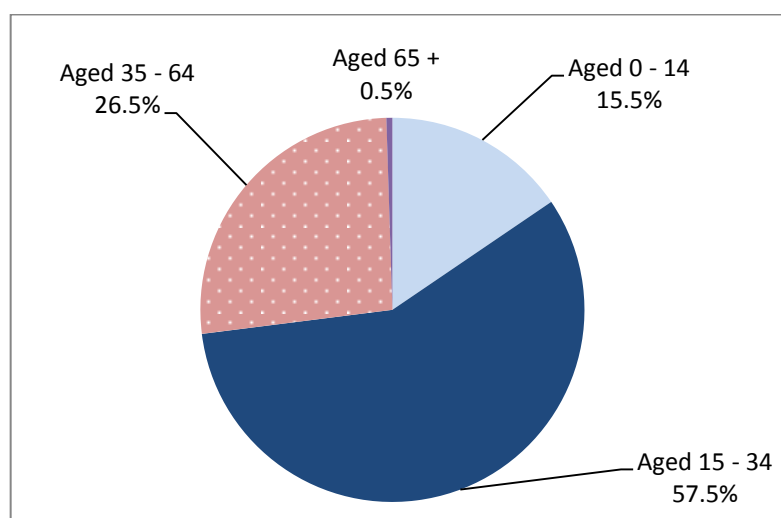
**Figure 2.2 Country of Birth of persons born outside Northern Ireland, 2001 and 2011**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Figure 2.5, Statistics Bulletin, Tables and Charts, May 2013

EU 12 residents have a lower age profile than the population as a whole. Figure 2.3 shows that nearly three-quarters (73 per cent) are aged under 35 years, with more than half (58 per cent) aged 15 – 34.

**Figure 2.3 Country of Birth of EU 12 residents by broad Age, 2011**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2254

Table 2.3 shows that on Census Day 2011, 50 per cent of the 1,608,900 usual residents who were born in Northern Ireland belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations, 45 per cent as Catholics, 0.5 per cent in Other religions, while 4.6 per cent had no religion. Thus, the indigenous population contained a higher proportion of Protestants, and a lower proportion of people with no religion, than the overall population.

For the 202,000 usual residents who were born outside Northern Ireland, the community composition was somewhat different; with a third (34 per cent) being or having been brought up as Protestants, almost half (48 per cent) as Catholics, 4.1 per cent in Other religions and 14 per cent having no religion.

The Catholic share of the 35,700 usual residents born in the 12 EU accession countries was higher again (75 per cent), while people originating from those countries were more likely to have no religion (13 per cent) than to belong to or have been brought up in Protestant denominations (11 per cent) or Other religions (1.1 per cent).

Polish residents, the largest net contributor from the EU 12 with 19,700 people, had a community composition of 87 per cent Catholic, 6.4 per cent Protestant, 0.7 per cent Other Religions, and 5.9 per cent with no religion.

**Table 2.3 Country of Birth by Religion or Religion brought up in, Census 2011**

Country of Birth	All residents	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christians %	Other %	None %
<b>All usual residents</b>	<b>1,810,863</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Born in Northern Ireland	1,608,853	44.7	50.2	0.5	4.6
Born outside Northern Ireland	202,010	48.4	34.0	4.1	13.5
<b>EU 12 Accession States</b>	<b>35,720</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>12.6</b>
Poland	19,658	86.9	6.4	0.7	5.9
Lithuania	7,341	80.7	7.6	0.7	11.0
Slovakia	2,681	61.9	8.3	1.3	28.4
Latvia	2,297	37.6	26.2	2.3	34.0
Romania	1,094	19.6	69.4	2.9	8.1
Other 2004 Accession States	2,649	38.9	24.9	2.3	33.8

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2242

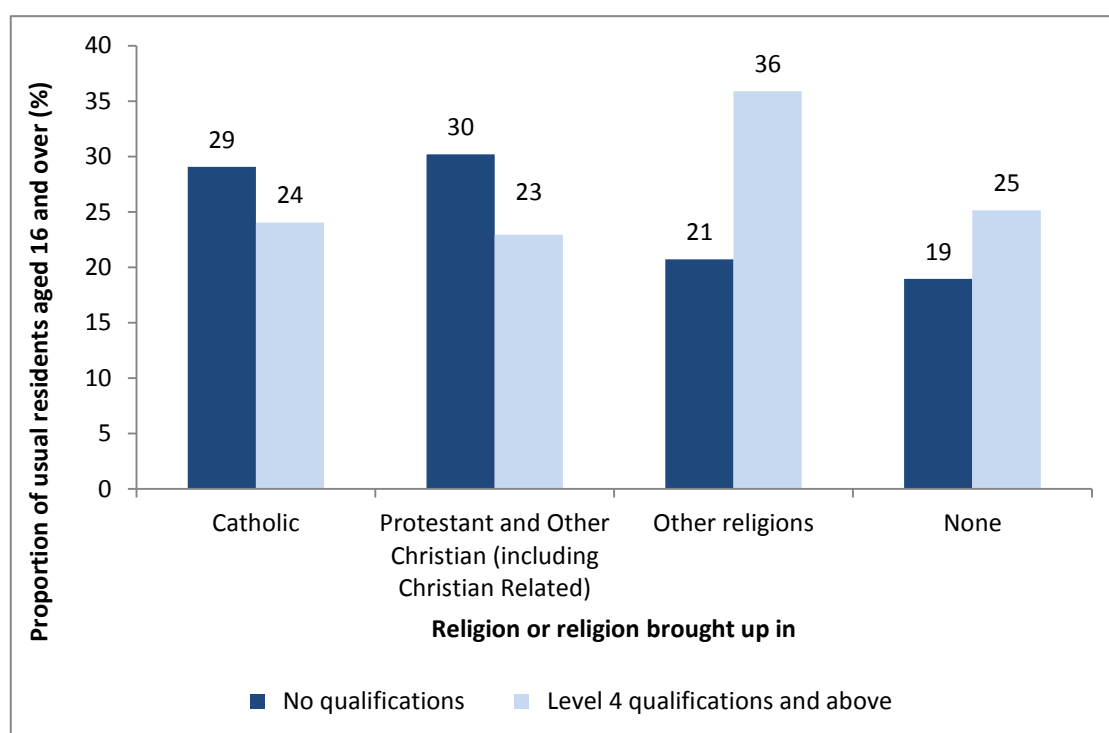
## 2.4 Religion / Religion brought up in and Education

The breakdown of the highest level of qualifications achieved by all residents aged 16 years and over on Census Day 2011, was as follows: Level 1 (12 per cent); Level 2 (15

per cent); Level 3 (12 per cent); Apprenticeships, (4.2 per cent); Level 4 or higher (24 per cent); and Other qualifications (4.3 per cent). A further 29 per cent had no qualifications<sup>8</sup>. While still sizeable, this figure is considerably smaller than the 42 per cent with no qualifications recorded in 2001.

Figure 2.4 shows that those from a Catholic community background had similar prevalence rates to Protestants for Level 4 or higher qualifications (24 per cent and 23 per cent respectively) and no qualifications (29 per cent and 30 per cent respectively). The figure also shows that those residents from Other Religions and None were most likely to have Level 4 or higher qualifications (36 per cent and 25 per cent respectively) and least likely to have no qualifications (21 per cent and 19 per cent respectively).

**Figure 2.4: Level 4 and No Qualifications by Religion or religion brought up in, Census 2011**



Source: NISRA (2013) Fig 2.14, Statistical Bulletin, Detailed Characteristics, 16 May 2013

<sup>8</sup> No qualifications (No academic or professional qualifications);

Level 1: 1-4 O Levels/CSE/GCSEs (any grades), Entry Level, Foundation Diploma, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ, Basic/Essential Skills;

Level 2: 5+ O Level (Passes)/CSEs (Grade 1)/GCSEs (Grades A\*-C), School Certificate, 1 A Level/ 2-3 AS Levels/VCEs, Intermediate/Higher Diploma, Intermediate Diploma, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma, RSA Diploma;

Apprenticeship;

Level 3: 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma, NVQ Level 3; Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma;

Level 4+: Degree (for example BA, BSc), Higher Degree (for example MA, PhD, PGCE), NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher level, Foundation degree, Professional qualifications (for example teaching, nursing, accountancy);

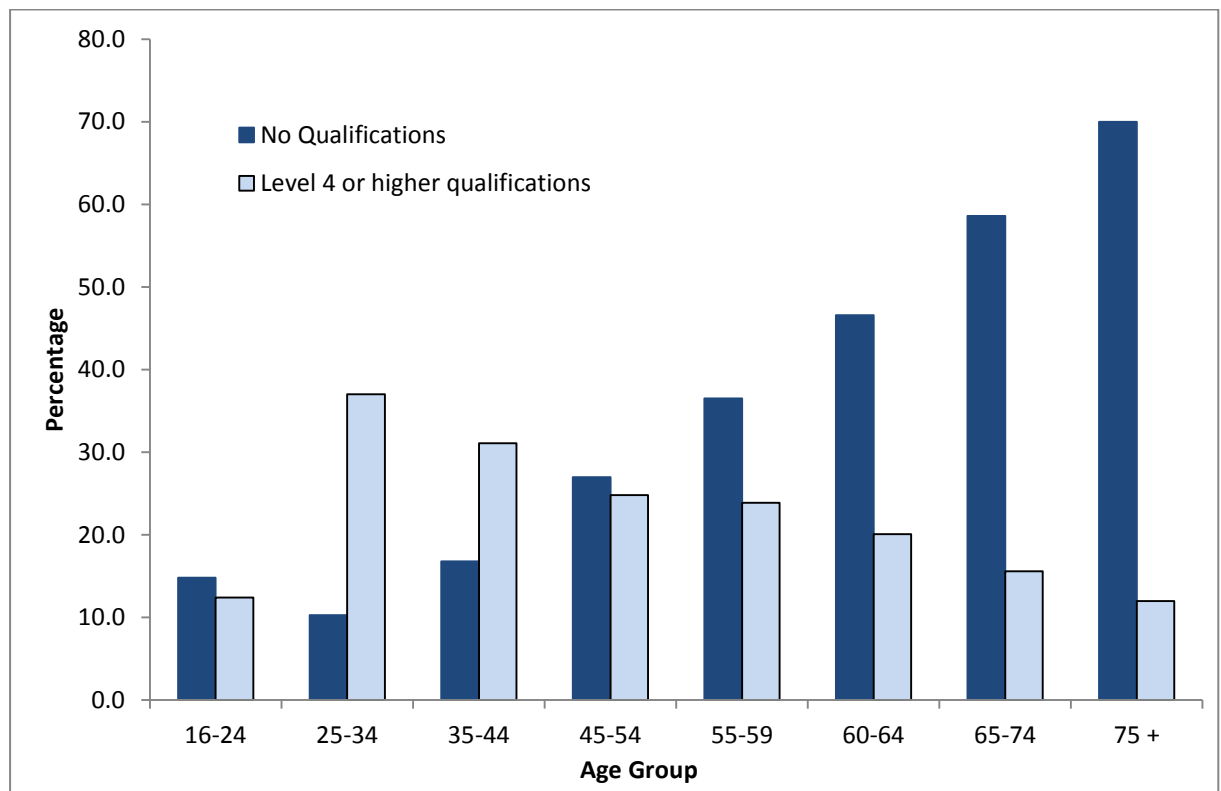
Other qualifications: Vocational/Work-related Qualifications, Qualifications gained outside the UK (Not stated/ level unknown);

### 2.4.1 Level 4 Qualifications

The level of highest qualification varied inversely with age (Fig 2.5). Persons aged 25-34, for example, were three times more likely than those aged 75 and over (37 per cent compared with 12 per cent) to have achieved Level 4 or higher qualifications.

Conversely, people aged 75 and over were seven times more likely than those aged 25-34 to have no qualifications (70 per cent compared with 10 per cent).

**Figure 2.5: Level 4 and No Qualifications by Age Group (Age 16+), Census 2011**



Source: NISRA (2013) Table DC2511NI

Among residents aged 16 and over with Level 4 or higher qualifications, 45 per cent were Catholic or brought up as Catholic, while 49 per cent were Protestant or brought up as Protestant. This is broadly in line with their respective population shares (44 per cent and 51 per cent respectively), see Table 2.4.

Important differences emerge, however, when Level 4 qualifications are examined by age band and religion. In general, the younger age bands contain a higher proportion of Catholics than Protestants, while the reverse is the case in the older age groups. For example, in the 25 – 34 age band, 50 per cent of those with Level 4 or higher qualifications were Catholic, while in the 65 – 74 age group, 63 per cent were Protestant.



**Table 2.4 Level 4 or higher qualifications by age band and Religion or Religion brought up in (Age 16+), Census 2011**

Age Band	Totals	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christians %	Other Religions %	None %
All residents, 16+	1,431,540	44.0	50.7	0.9	4.3
Level 4 and above	338,544	44.8	49.2	1.4	4.6
Aged 16-24	28,177	48.9	42.6	1.0	7.4
Aged 25-34	90,357	49.7	42.4	1.8	6.1
Aged 35-44	78,906	46.8	46.6	1.5	5.0
Aged 45-54	61,561	43.9	50.9	1.4	3.8
Aged 55-59	23,747	40.6	55.3	1.2	2.9
Aged 60-64	18,978	37.3	59.0	1.1	2.6
Aged 65-74	22,689	33.7	63.4	1.1	1.8
Aged 75 +	14,129	32.1	66.2	0.8	1.0

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2511NI

**Note:** Table 2.4 contains row percentages, i.e. the percentage cells in each row sum to 100.

The age differential in degree or higher qualifications (Level 4) has important implications for the labour market. Most recruitment and selection takes place in the younger age groups (16 – 35 years), where those who are Catholic or were brought up as Catholic predominate, not only numerically, but also in terms of higher level qualifications. Thus, the pool of qualified labour available to employers in Northern Ireland is likely to contain a higher proportion of Catholic than Protestant applicants. For this reason alone, the trend towards increased representation of Catholics in the workforce, particularly in salaried positions, seems likely to continue.

#### 2.4.2 No Qualifications

Table 2.5 (below) presents the proportion of usual residents with no qualifications by age band and religion category.

Overall, among residents aged 16 and over with no qualifications, 44 per cent were or had been brought up as Catholics and 53 per cent as Protestants, broadly in line with their respective population shares (44 per cent and 51 per cent).

However, those from a Catholic community background were proportionately more likely than would be expected from their share of the population in each age group to have no qualifications in all age groups except 16-24, where the proportions were broadly comparable. For example, among those aged 35 – 44, 46 per cent of the

population were Catholic, while 51 per cent of those with no qualifications were Catholic <sup>9</sup>.

**Table 2.5 No Qualifications by age band and Religion or Religion brought up in (Age 16+), Census 2011**

Age Band	Totals %	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christians %	Other Religions %	None %
All residents, 16+	1,431,540	44.0	50.7	0.9	4.3
No Qualifications	416,851	43.9	52.6	0.7	2.8
Aged 16-24	33,623	49.3	41.8	0.6	8.3
Aged 25-34	25,165	55.2	36.5	1.2	7.1
Aged 35-44	42,770	51.2	43.2	0.9	4.7
Aged 45-54	67,228	48.7	47.8	0.6	2.9
Aged 55-59	36,213	47.0	50.2	0.6	2.2
Aged 60-64	43,898	44.0	53.7	0.6	1.7
Aged 65-74	85,262	39.3	58.9	0.6	1.2
Aged 75 +	82,692	34.1	64.4	0.6	0.8

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2511NI

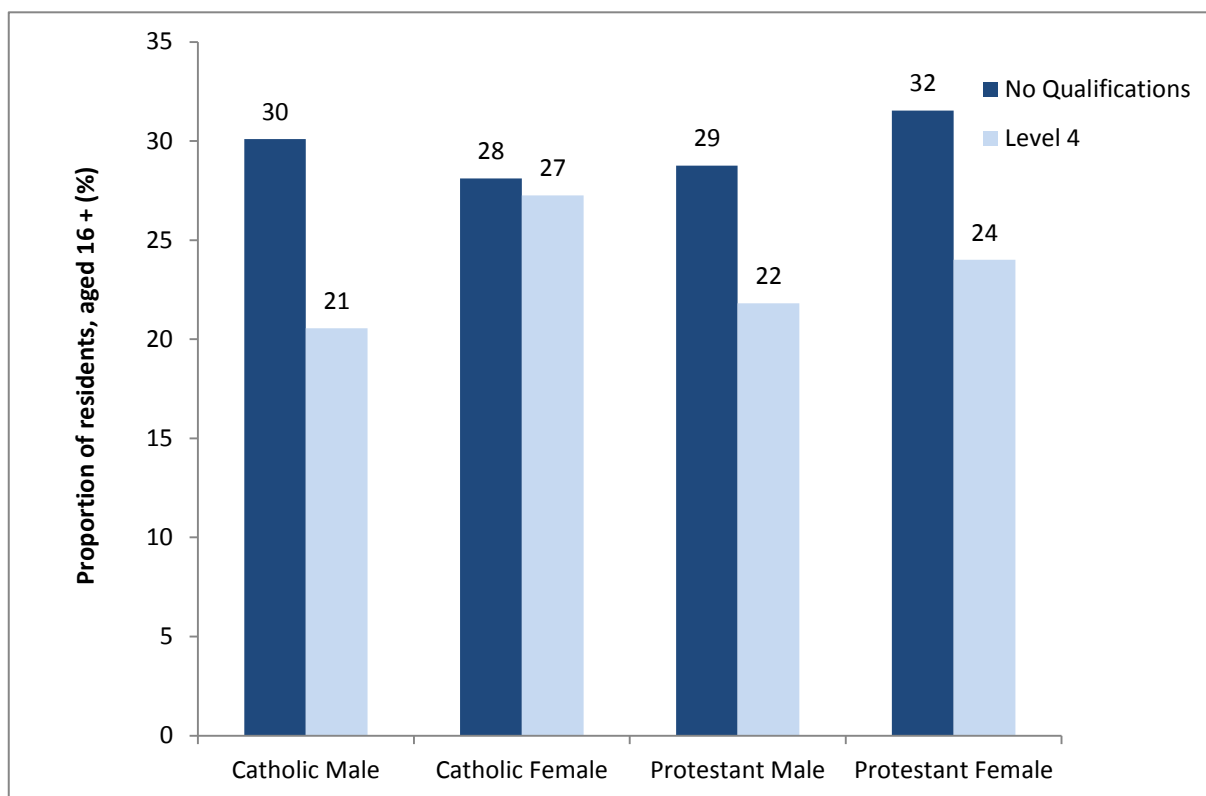
**Note:** Table 2.4 contains row percentages, i.e. the percentage cells in each row sum to 100.

### 2.4.3 Gender and Religion or Religion brought up in

Fig 2.6 provides a summary of the relationship between gender and educational achievement for the two main religious categories. Comparing across the two genders and religious groups, the Figure shows that Catholic females account for the lowest proportion of residents aged 16 or over without formal qualifications (28 per cent), and the highest proportion of those with level 4 or higher qualifications (27 per cent). Protestant females have the highest proportion of those without qualifications (32 per cent), while Catholic males have the lowest proportion of those residents with Level 4 or higher qualifications (21 per cent).

<sup>9</sup> The community composition of each age group is not shown in Table 2.5, but can be examined in Table DC2511NI, Census 2011.

**Figure 2.6: Level 4 and No Qualifications by Religion or Religion brought up in and Gender (Aged 16+), Census 2011**



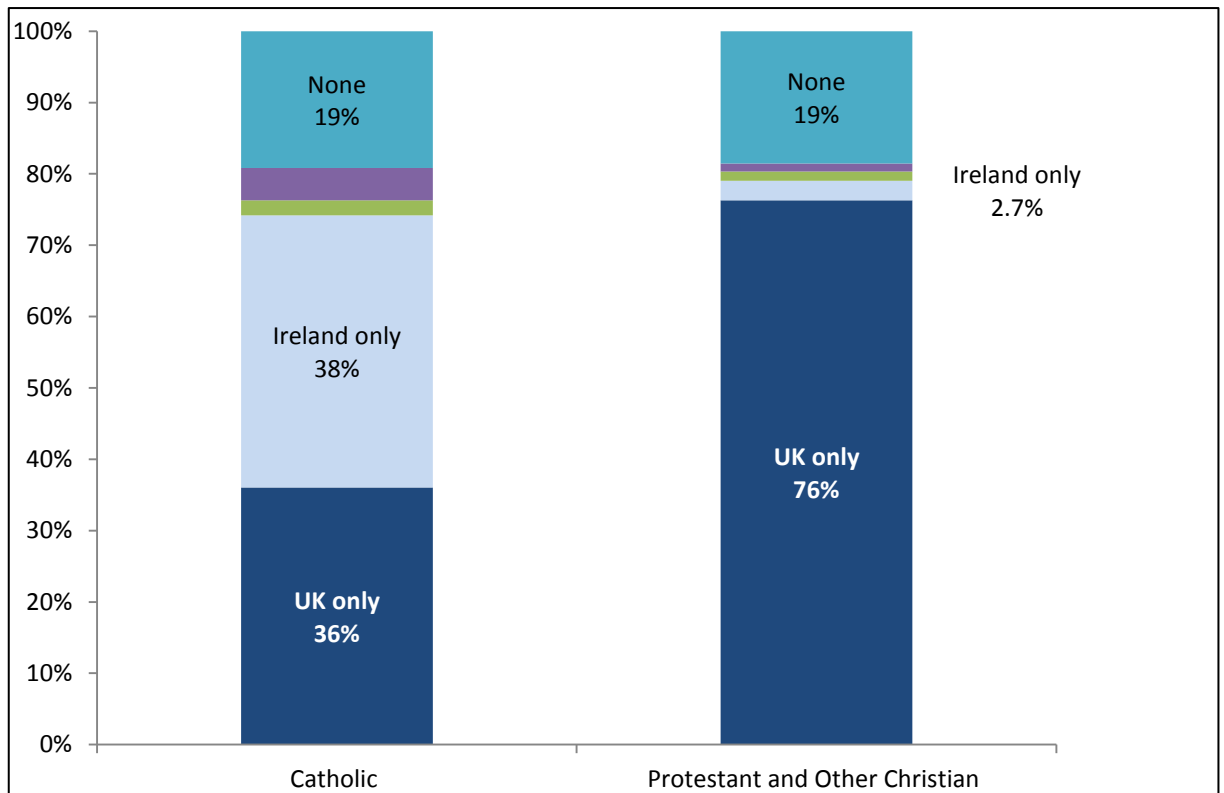
Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2509NI

## 2.5 Religion / Religion brought up in and Passport held

A new question in Census 2011 invited respondents in Northern Ireland to indicate which passports they held. On Census Day, 57 per cent of residents held a UK passport only, just under a fifth (19 per cent) held an Ireland passport only, 1.7 per cent held both UK and Ireland passports, while a further 19 per cent held no passport. Other passport combinations were held by 3.4 per cent of residents.

Fig 2.7 (below) shows the passports held in Northern Ireland by the two main religious categories. In 2011, similar proportions of people from a Catholic community background held either UK or Ireland passports only (36 per cent and 38 per cent respectively). There was a marked contrast, however, among those who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations. Three-quarters (76 per cent) held a UK passport only and 2.7 per cent an Ireland passport only. UK and Ireland only passports were held by 2.1 per cent of Catholics and 1.3 per cent of Protestants.

**Figure 2.7: Passport Held by Religion or Religion Brought Up In (Aged 16+), Census 2011**



Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2252NI

## 2.6 Religion / Religion brought up in and Economic Activity

### 2.6.1 Economic Activity

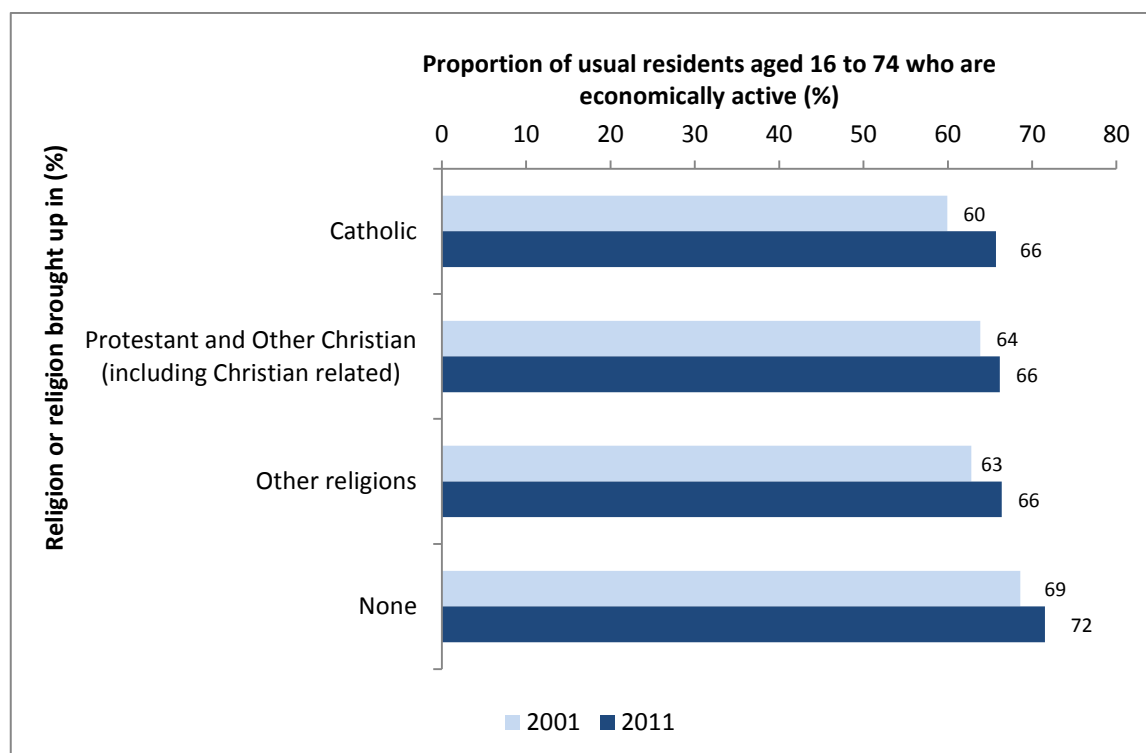
Economic activity refers to whether or not a person was working or looking for work in the week before the Census. The economically active include the employed, self-employed, the unemployed actively seeking work, and (economically active) full-time students.

Fig 2.8 shows economic activity rates (age 16 – 74) by religious category for 2001 and 2011. Overall, two-thirds (66 per cent) of residents aged 16-74 were economically active in the week before Census Day 2011, four percentage points higher than in 2001 (62 per cent). The differential in the overall economic activity rates between Catholics and Protestants narrowed from around four percentage points in April 2001 to half a percentage point in March 2011.

Compared with 2001, economic activity rates increased within each of the four religion or religion brought up in categories. Catholics experienced the largest percentage

point increase in economic activity (from 60 per cent to 66 per cent) and Protestants the smallest (from 64 per cent to 66 per cent). Three percentage point increases were experienced by both the Other religions category (from 63 per cent to 66 per cent) and the None category (from 69 per cent to 72 per cent).

**Figure 2.8: Economic Activity by Religion or Religion Brought Up In (aged 16-74), Census 2001 and Census 2011**



Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) *Statistical Bulletin: Census 2011, Detailed Characteristics*, Figure 2.15

Table 2.6 presents a breakdown of economic activity and inactivity rates by community background. In March 2011, among people aged 16-74, the economically active comprised full-time employees (36 per cent), part-time employees (13 per cent), the self-employed (8.9 per cent), unemployed people (5.0 per cent) and (economically active) full-time students (3.7 per cent).

In general, people aged 16 – 74 who belonged to, or had been brought up in, Protestant denominations, and those with no religion, were more likely to be in employment, including self-employment (both 59 per cent), than those who were or had been brought up in Other religions (57 per cent) or as Catholics (56 per cent).

**Table 2.6: Economic Activity Rates (Per cent) by Religion or Religion Brought Up In (aged 16-74), Census 2011**

Economic Activity	Total	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christians %	Other Religions %	None %
<b>Economically active</b>	<b>869,767</b>	<b>65.7</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>71.5</b>
Employee, Full-time	35.6	34.4	36.3	34.9	39.9
Employee, Part-time	13.1	12.8	13.5	11.4	11.6
Self-employed	8.9	8.6	9.3	10.4	7.5
Unemployed	5.0	5.9	3.9	5.8	7.2
Full-time student	3.7	4.0	3.1	3.8	5.4
<b>Economically inactive</b>	<b>443,653</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>28.5</b>
Retired	12.9	10.3	16.2	9.3	4.7
Long-term sick/disabled	7.3	8.4	6.4	6.1	5.2
Student	6.2	7.0	4.9	7.9	10.9
Looking after home/family	4.4	5.0	3.9	6.1	4.6
Other	2.9	3.4	2.4	4.2	3.2

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) *Table DC2617NI*

Table 2.6 shows the unemployed as a proportion of all usual residents aged 16 – 74. However, the unemployment rate is normally calculated as the number of unemployed expressed as a percentage of the economically active (excluding students). On this basis, Census 2011 shows that the overall unemployment rate for those aged 16-74 was 7.5 per cent, 8.9 per cent for Catholics, 5.9 per cent (Protestants), 8.7 per cent (Other religions) and 10.0 per cent (None) <sup>10</sup>.

Looking at both community background and gender, the unemployment rate in March 2011 was 11.7 per cent for Catholic males and 7.4 per cent for Protestant males. The equivalent rates for females were 5.9 per cent (Catholic) and 4.2 per cent (Protestant).

## 2.6.2 Religion / Religion brought up in and Employment

In March 2011, half (50 per cent) of the 795,300 persons aged 16-74 who were in employment (either employed or self-employed) belonged to, or had been brought up in, Protestant denominations, 44 per cent as Catholics, 1.0 per cent in Other religions, while 4.9 per cent had no religion.

Table 2.7 reveals that the number of usual residents in employment from a Catholic community background increased by 26 per cent over the decade, with a corresponding rise of 1.9 per cent for Protestants. Substantial growth was also recorded for Other religions (163 per cent) and None (154 per cent)

<sup>10</sup> NISRA (2013) Statistical Bulletin, Census 2011, Detailed Characteristics for Northern Ireland on Health, Religion and National Identity. *Opt cit.*

The growth in labour market participation by Catholics may reflect factors such as demographic change and educational attainment<sup>11</sup>. As indicated earlier, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of Catholics in the younger working age bands, and the proportion of Catholics with level 4 or higher qualifications in these cohorts is also substantial (see 2.4.1 above).

**Table 2.7: Changes in Employment (aged 16-74) by Religion or Religion Brought Up In, Census 2011**

Community Background	2001	2011	Percentage change 2001 - 2011
Protestant / brought up as Protestant	391,998	399,505	1.9
Catholic / brought up as Catholic	276,526	349,522	26.4
Other Religions	2,894	7,612	163.0
None	15,227	38,624	153.7
Total in Employment	686,645	795,263	15.8

Source: NISRA, Table S334 (2003), Table DC2619NI (2013)

### 2.6.3 Economic Inactivity

Table 2.6 above shows that the one-third (34 per cent) of usual residents aged 16-74 years who were economically inactive in the week before Census Day 2011 consisted of retired persons (13 per cent), long-term sick or disabled (7.3 per cent), students (6.2 per cent), looking after the home or family (4.4 per cent) and others (2.9 per cent). Overall, there were no significant differences in the proportion of residents economically inactive from a Catholic or Protestant community background (both 34 per cent).

Reflecting the older age profile of the Protestant population, those who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations were more likely to be retired (16 per cent) than those who were or had been brought up as Catholics (10 per cent), in Other religions (9.3 per cent) or those who had no religion (4.7 per cent).

Conversely, those who were or had been brought up as Catholics were more likely to be long-term sick or disabled (8.4 per cent) than those who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations (6.4 per cent). Similarly, residents from a Catholic community background were more likely to be (economically inactive) students (7.0 per cent) than their Protestant counterparts (4.9 per cent).

<sup>11</sup> An additional factor is the substantial number of usual residents from the A8 Accession countries in employment who declared they were either Catholic or brought up as Catholic.

## 2.7 Religion / Religion brought up in and Occupational Group

As noted above, in March 2011, half (50 per cent) of people aged 16-74 who were in employment (either employed or self-employed) belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations, 44 per cent as Catholics, 1.0 per cent in Other religions, while 4.9 per cent had no religion. The largest major occupational groups, based on Standard Occupation Classification 2010 (SOC 2010), were: Professional occupations (17 per cent); Administrative and secretarial occupations (14 per cent); and Skilled trades (14 per cent).

**Table 2.8: Changes in Occupational Group (aged 16-74) by Religion or Religion Brought Up In, Census 2011**

SOC Group	2001		2011		Percentage Difference 2001 -11	
	Catholic %	Prot. %	Catholic %	Prot. %	Catholic %	Prot. %
All usual residents aged 16 to 74 in employment	40.3	57.1	44.0	50.2	3.7	-6.9
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	37.7	59.0	41.1	53.0	3.4	-6.0
2. Professional occupations	44.3	52.2	47.2	47.2	2.9	-5.0
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	37.9	58.5	40.4	52.4	2.6	-6.1
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	38.0	59.6	41.1	53.8	3.0	-5.9
5. Skilled trades occupations	42.0	55.8	44.3	50.5	2.3	-5.3
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	42.4	55.6	45.2	50.1	2.7	-5.6
7. Sales and customer service occupations	40.4	57.0	44.6	48.6	4.2	-8.4
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	40.7	57.4	45.5	49.2	4.8	-8.2
9. Elementary occupations	40.3	57.5	44.3	48.8	4.0	-8.7

Source: NISRA, Table S334 (2003), Table DC2619NI (2013)

Table 2.8 illustrates the changes which have occurred in the community composition of each of the nine SOC groups during the period 2001 – 2011. For reasons of brevity, only the two major religious communities are shown. In broad terms, the proportion of residents from a Catholic and Protestant community background employed in these



major occupational groups did not significantly diverge from their respective shares of those aged 16-74 who were in employment <sup>12</sup>.

Comparing 2001 with 2011, the Catholic share of each of the nine SOC groups rose on average by around 3 percentage points over the decade, while the Protestant share typically fell by around 7 percentage points. These changes are broadly in line with demographic trends outlined earlier.

## 2.8 Religion / Religion brought up in and Household Tenure

### 2.8.1 Tenure

In March 2011, 72 per cent of usual residents lived in Owner-occupied households, 9.6 per cent lived in accommodation rented from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE), 2.7 per cent rented from Housing Associations, while 16 per cent lived in the Private rented sector <sup>13</sup>.

**Table 2.9: Changes in Household Tenure (all usual residents living in households), Census 2001 and Census 2011**

Tenure	2001		2011		Change	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
All residents in households	1,658,813	100.0	1,788,339	100.0	129,526	7.8
Owner-occupied	1,233,620	74.4	1,285,113	71.9	51,493	4.2
Social Rental	295,235	17.8	219,712	12.3	-75,523	-25.6
Private Rental	129,958	7.8	283,514	15.9	153,556	118.2

Source: NISRA, Table S365 (2003), Table DC2417NI (2013)

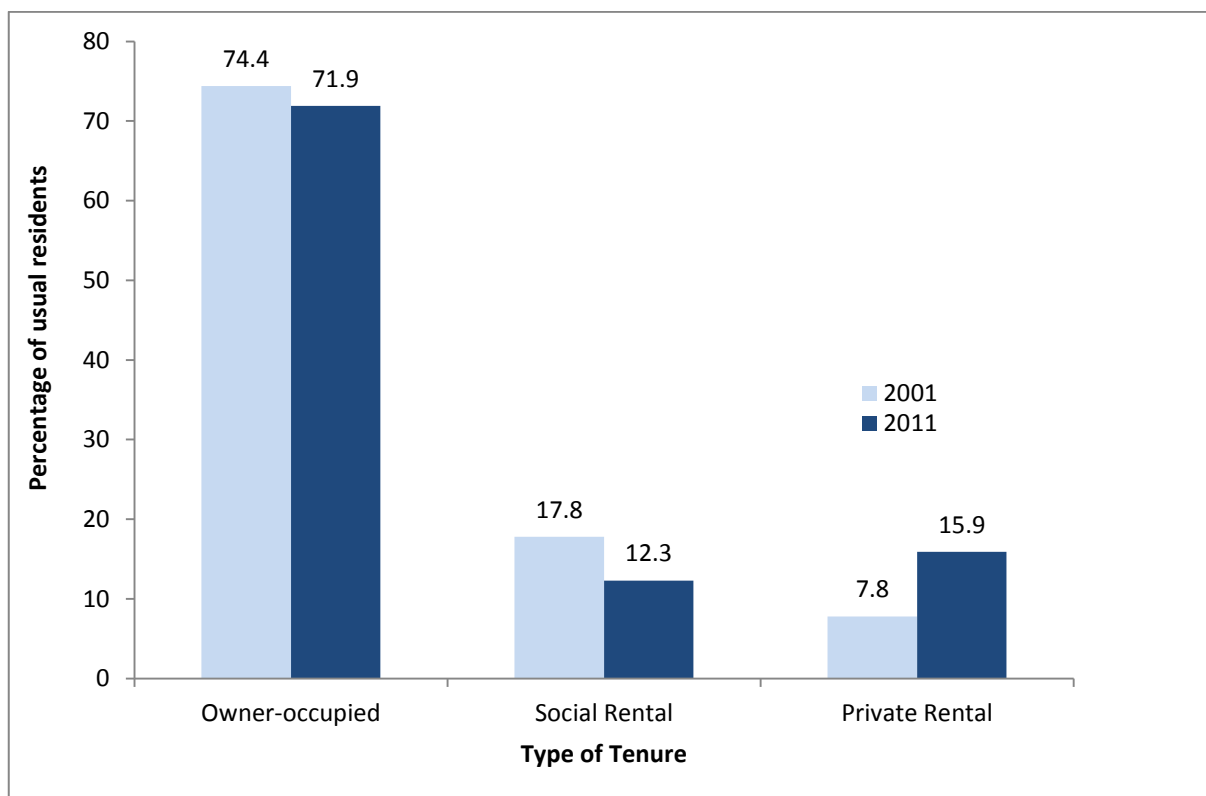
Table 2.9 and Figure 2.9 illustrate the remarkable changes which have occurred in the housing sector in Northern Ireland since 2001. While, the number of residents in social housing fell by a quarter (26 per cent) during the decade, from 295,200 in 2001 to 219,700 in 2011, those renting privately more than doubled (118 per cent), from 130,000 in 2001 to 283,500 in 2011.

Looking at the data from a different angle, in 2001 around 18 per cent of the resident population (in households) were in social rental (either NIHE or Housing Association). By 2011, this figure had fallen to 12 per cent. Conversely, the private sector accounted for 7.8 per cent of all household tenure in 2001 and 16 per cent in 2011 (Fig 2.7).

<sup>12</sup> The three exceptions were Managers and Senior officials. (SOC1), Associate Professional and Technical occupations (SOC3), and Administrative occupations (SOC4).

<sup>13</sup> The data in Section 2.6 refer to usual residents living in households, and not households. A single household, for example, might contain a number of residents.

**Figure 2. 9 Tenure Type (all usual residents living in households), 2001 and 2011**



Source: NISRA, Table S365 (2003), Table DC2417NI (2013)

Table 2.10 presents an analysis of religion or religion brought up in by Tenure (column percentages). The table reveals that residents from a Protestant community background were more likely to live in owner-occupied accommodation (75 per cent) than those from a Catholic background (70 per cent), while the converse was true of those living in the private rented sector (13 per cent and 17 per cent respectively).

**Table 2.10 Religion or Religion brought up in by Tenure, Census 2011**

Tenure	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christian %	Other Religions %	None %
Owner occupied	70.1	75.4	56.7	57.8
NIHE	9.6	9.4	7.3	10.8
Housing association	3.3	2.2	3.3	2.9
Private rented	17.0	13.0	32.6	28.6

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2417NI

Examining the data by category of tenure (row percentages), Table 2.11 shows that just over half (51 per cent) of residents living in owner-occupied accommodation were from a Protestant community background, while 44 per cent were Catholic / brought up

as Catholic. In contrast, nearly half (49 per cent) of those living in private rental were from a Catholic community background, compared with 40 per cent for Protestants. Within the social rental sector, the profile of NIHE tenants broadly reflected the community composition of the population. However, more than half of Housing Association tenants (55 per cent) were or had been brought up as Catholics, and 38 per cent as Protestants<sup>14</sup>.

**Table 2.11 Tenure by Religion or Religion brought up in, Census 2011**

Tenure	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christian %	Other Religions %	None %
Owner occupied	44.1	50.7	0.7	4.5
NIHE	45.5	47.6	0.7	6.3
Housing association	54.7	38.4	1.1	5.8
Private rented	48.6	39.5	1.9	10.0

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2417NI

## 2.8.2 Occupancy Rating (under-occupancy and overcrowding)

The occupancy rating provides a measure of both under-occupancy and overcrowding. For example, a value of -1 implies there is one room too few, and that there is a degree of overcrowding in the household. The occupancy rating assumes every household, including one person households, requires a minimum of two common rooms (excluding bathrooms)<sup>15</sup>.

On this basis, on Census Day 2011, a tenth (9.5 per cent) of usual residents lived in overcrowded households; that is, those with an occupancy rating of -1 or less, while just over half (53 per cent) of residents lived in households with an occupancy rating of +2 or more; in effect at least two rooms more than the basic standard (Table 2.12).

A comparison of overcrowding rates in 2011 with the previous census (2001) shows that the rate has fallen in the past decade. In 2001, a total of 181,200 persons (11 per cent) were living in overcrowded household spaces, compared with 170,700 (9.5 per cent) in 2011.

<sup>14</sup> NISRA (2013) suggests that this contrast relates to a combination of the transfer of responsibility for the construction of all social housing to Housing Associations in the late 1990s, and the younger age profile of the Catholic population.

<sup>15</sup> Occupancy rating provides a measure of whether a household's accommodation is overcrowded or under occupied. There are two measures of occupancy rating, one based on the number of rooms in a household's accommodation, and one based on the number of bedrooms. The ages of the household members and their relationships to each other are used to derive the number of rooms/bedrooms they require, based on a standard formula. The number of rooms/bedrooms required is subtracted from the number of rooms/bedrooms in the household's accommodation to obtain the occupancy rating. An occupancy rating of -1 implies that a household has one fewer room/bedroom than required, whereas +1 implies that they have one more room/bedroom than the standard requirement (source: ONS [2013] 2011 *Census Glossary of Terms*) Please note that the Census results may differ from the method used by social landlords to calculate Housing Benefit entitlement under the current Welfare Reform initiative.

Table 2.12 shows that in 2011, residents who belonged to or had been brought up as Catholics were twice as likely to live in overcrowded households (13 per cent) compared with those from a Protestant community background (6.5 per cent). The overall overcrowding rates for the remaining religion or religion brought up in categories were: Other religions (17 per cent) and None (11 per cent).

**Table 2.12 Religion or Religion brought up in by Occupancy Rating, Census 2011**

Occupancy Rating	Count			Per cent		
	Total	Catholic	Protestant	Total	Catholic	Protestant
All households	1,788,339	809,383	863,163	100.0	100.0	100.0
+2 or more	946,862	389,706	506,531	52.9	48.1	58.7
+1	393,463	179,716	184,438	22.0	22.2	21.4
0	277,346	138,905	116,433	15.5	17.2	13.5
-1 or less	170,668	101,056	55,761	9.5	12.5	6.5

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2417NI

In contrast, 59 per cent of residents from a Protestant community background lived in households with an occupancy rating of +2 or more. This compares with 48 per cent of those who were or had been brought up as Catholics (48 per cent) or Other religions (45 per cent), or No religion (44 per cent).

Table 2.13 examines overcrowding within each tenure category. According to the Census definition of overcrowding, in March 2011, a total of 170,700 people were living in overcrowded accommodation in Northern Ireland. Regarding the social rental sector, a quarter (25 per cent) of Housing Association tenants (12,100), and 20 per cent of NIHE tenants (33,300) were living in overcrowded households. The equivalent rates for the Private rented and Owner-occupied sectors were lower at 16 per cent and 6.3 per cent respectively.

**Table 2.13 Overcrowding by Type of Tenure, Census 2011**

Tenure	Count	Per cent
Total no. residents living in overcrowded households	170,668	
Owner occupied	80,384	6.3
NIHE	33,326	19.5
Housing association	12,076	24.7
Private rented	44,882	15.8

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2417NI

Table 2.14 presents an analysis of overcrowding (occupancy rating -1) in each class of tenure across the four main religious categories. In total, 59 per cent of residents living in overcrowded households were or had been brought up as Catholics, 33 per cent as Protestants, 1.6 per cent in Other religions, and 6.5 per cent had No religion. The overall pattern was repeated across all tenure types, with the largest Catholic – Protestant differential occurring in the Owner-occupied sector, at 63 per cent and 32 per cent respectively

**Table 2.14 Overcrowding (occupancy rating – 1) by Type of Tenure and Religion or Religion brought up in, Census 2011**

Tenure	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christian %	Other Religions %	None %
All residents living in households	59.2	32.7	1.6	6.5
Owner occupied	62.6	32.2	0.9	4.3
NIHE	56.4	36.5	0.7	6.4
Housing association	59.7	31.4	1.8	7.0
Private rented	55.0	31.1	3.4	10.5

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2417NI

Factors implicated in the differential in overcrowding across the religious categories may include a sharp decline in house building in recent years, a growth in the number of households, and the younger age-profile and larger household size of the Catholic population (see section 2.7 below).

## 2.9 Religion / Religion brought up in and Household Size

The demographic structure of households in Northern Ireland has changed significantly over the past fifty years. In 1961, around half of Northern Ireland's population, representing 28 per cent of all households, lived in accommodation containing 5 or more people. By 2011 this proportion had fallen to 22 per cent (10 per cent of households), see Figure 2.10.

Over the same period, the proportion of households containing up to two people increased from around a third (35 per cent) to over half (58 per cent), with that for single person households up from 12 per cent to 28 per cent. As a result, the average household size fell from 3.70 in 1961 to 2.54 in 2011<sup>16</sup>.

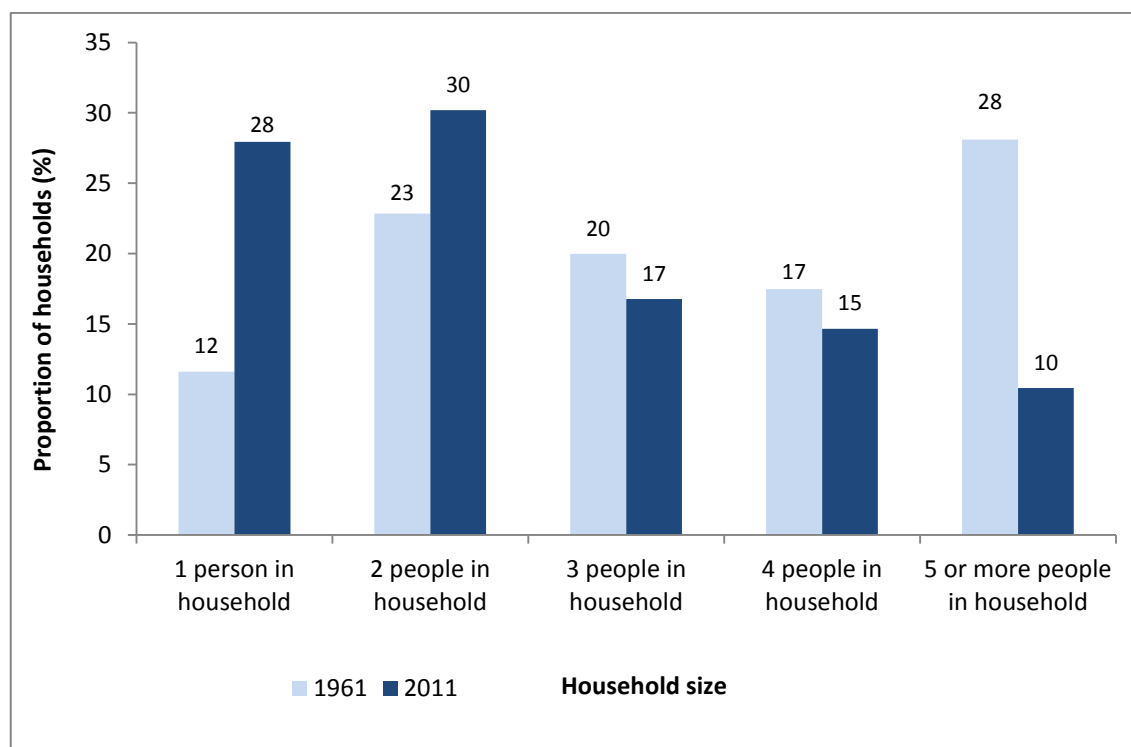
Based on the community background of the Household Reference Person (HRP)<sup>17</sup>, in 2011 the average household size was largest among those from a Catholic community

<sup>16</sup> NISRA (2013) Detailed characteristics. *Op cit*.

<sup>17</sup> The Household Reference Person (HRP) is chosen on the basis of their economic activity (in the priority order: full-time job, part-time job, unemployed, retired, other). In a couple family, if both persons have the same economic activity, the HRP is

background (2.72 persons), followed by No religion (2.54), Other religions (2.50) and Protestants (2.41).

**Figure 2. 10 Household Size, 1961 and 2011**



Source: NISRA (2013) Fig 2.21, Statistical Bulletin, Detailed Characteristics, 16 May 2013

Households with five or more persons were more likely to be occupied by persons from a Catholic community background (56 per cent) than those from a Protestant background (40 per cent). In contrast, 56 per cent of HRP who lived alone belonged to or were brought up in Protestant denominations, while 39 per cent were Catholic.

**Table 2.15 Household size by Religion or Religion brought up in of HRP, Census 2011**

Household Size	Total	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christian %	Other Religions %	None %
<b>All Households (HRP)</b>	<b>703,275</b>	42.2	52.9	0.9	4.0
1 person in household	196,414	39.0	56.3	1.0	3.6
2 persons in household	212,286	38.0	57.0	0.9	4.1
3 persons in household	117,920	43.9	50.6	1.0	4.5
4 persons in household	103,137	44.8	50.0	0.9	4.3

identified as the elder of the two or, if they are the same age, the first member of the couple on the form. In a lone parent family, the HRP is taken to be the lone parent.

Household Size	Total	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christian %	Other Religions %	None %
5 or more persons in household	73,518	56.3	39.7	0.8	3.1
<b>Average household size</b>	<b>2.54</b>	<b>2.72</b>	<b>2.41</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>2.54</b>

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2421NI

### 3 National Identity

#### 3.1 Religion or Religion brought up in

The 2011 Census introduced a new question, “How would you describe your national identity?”, which allowed respondents to indicate those countries or nations to which they most feel a sense of belonging, affiliation or attachment. Respondents could tick more than one option from British, Irish, Northern Irish, English, Scottish, Welsh or Other. Those who selected Other could specify a national identity.

As the question allowed multiple responses, *Classification 1* has been used by NISRA to report both ‘only’ and combined responses (for example, ‘Irish only’ and ‘British and Northern Irish’), while *Classification 2* reports statistics for each individual national identity, regardless of whether these options were chosen along with other national identities.

According to NISRA, for the most part, both classifications exhibit broadly similar patterns when examined with other variables. Using *Classification 1*, two-fifths (40 per cent) of usual residents had a British only national identity (without selecting any additional national identities), a quarter (25 per cent) had an Irish only identity and just over a fifth (21 per cent) had a Northern Irish only identity. Of the various combined national identities, British and Northern Irish Only was the most prevalent (6.2 per cent), while 5.0 per cent of people included national identities other than British, Irish or Northern Irish.

One of the few differences to emerge between Classifications 1 and 2 was in relation to the Northern Irish identity by community background. Table 3.1 presents the results for Classification 1 (Northern Irish only) and Classification 2 (Northern Irish when chosen with other identities) by religion or religion brought up in.

On the basis of Classification 1, 58 per cent of residents with a Northern Irish only national identity were from a Catholic community background, and 36 per cent were or had been brought up as Protestants. Classification 2, however, reveals very little difference between the proportions of people who *included* Northern Irish as a national identity, with or without other identities. Catholics accounted for 47 per cent of such residents and Protestants 46 per cent.

**Table 3.1 National Identity (Northern Irish) by Religion or Religion brought up in**

Identity	Classification	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christian %	Other Religions %	None %
Northern Irish only	1	57.8	35.7	0.5	5.9
Northern Irish + other identities	2	47.1	46.2	0.6	6.1

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Tables DC2238 and DC2240

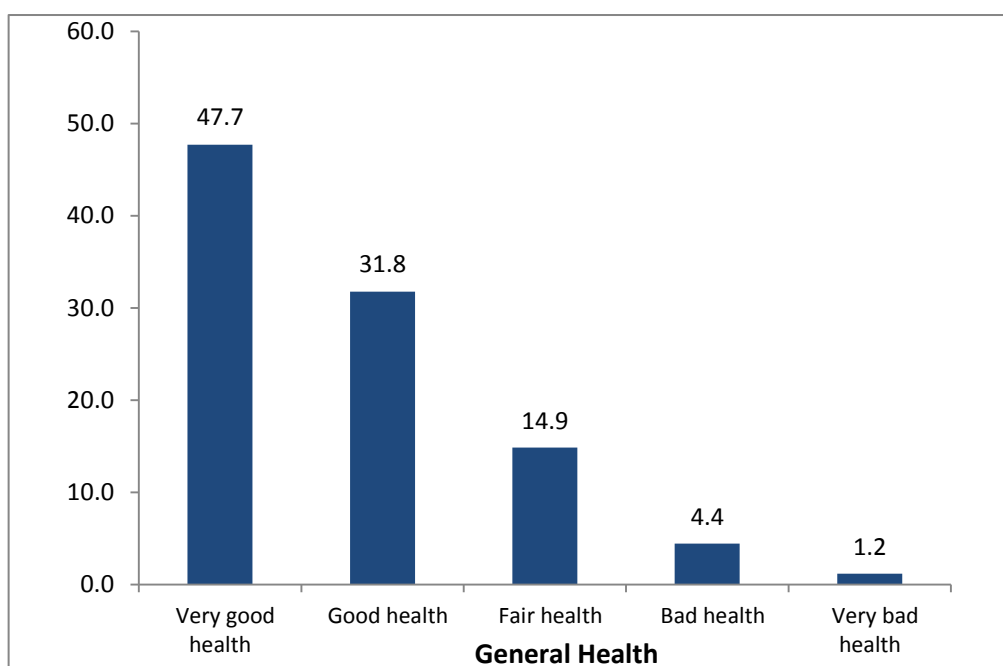
In essence, while Protestants were almost as likely as Catholics to declare a Northern Irish identity when combined with other identities (Classification 2), they were much less inclined to regard themselves as exclusively Northern Irish (Classification 1).

## 4 Health

The 2011 Census contained two broad questions on health, one that asked respondents to describe their health in general, and a second that asked respondents if their day-to-day activities were limited because of a long-standing health problem or disability.

Figure 4.1 shows that while 80 per cent of usual residents declared they had either very good or good health, 5.6 per cent had either bad or very bad health.

**Figure 4.1 General Health (self-reported) of Northern Ireland population, Census 2011**



Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2307NI



In relation to illness, 21 per cent of usual residents declared they had a long-standing health problem or disability which limited their daily activities a little or a lot<sup>18</sup>.

A strong correlation was found between the two main health questions. For example, 98 per cent of those who considered their general health to be 'very good' did not have a long-term health problem or disability. Conversely, 95 per cent of those who considered their general health to be 'very bad' did have a long-term health problem or disability<sup>19</sup>.

#### 4.1 Health and Age

As might be expected, the proportion of the population assessing their general health as 'bad' or 'very bad' increases with age. Similarly, the incidence of people with a long-term health problem or disability also rises continuously with increasing age.

**Table 4. 1 Proportion in each age band with health problem which limits daily activities 'a lot', Census 2011**

Age Band	All usual residents	Day-to-day activities limited 'a lot'	Proportion whose day-to-day activities were limited 'a lot' %
0 to 4	124,382	1,768	1.4
5 to 9	111,287	2,900	2.6
10 to 14	119,034	3,389	2.8
15 to 19	126,241	3,410	2.7
20 to 24	126,013	3,955	3.1
25 to 29	124,099	4,658	3.8
30 to 34	119,839	5,723	4.8
35 to 39	122,260	8,343	6.8
40 to 44	131,848	12,190	9.2
45 to 49	131,645	15,608	11.9
50 to 54	116,933	17,715	15.1
55 to 59	99,272	18,913	19.1
60 to 64	94,290	21,698	23.0
65 to 69	82,121	21,239	25.9
70 to 74	63,479	19,242	30.3
75 to 79	50,358	18,220	36.2
80 to 84	36,366	16,734	46.0
85 and over	31,396	19,527	62.2

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) *Statistical Bulletin: Census 2011, Detailed Characteristics*, Figure 1.2

<sup>18</sup> NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2309NI

<sup>19</sup> NISRA (2013) *Statistical Bulletin, Census 2011, Detailed Characteristics for Northern Ireland on Health, Religion and National Identity. Opt cit.*

Table 4.1 shows that, whereas 1.4 per cent of those aged 0-4 had a long-term health problem or disability which limited their day-to-day activities 'a lot', this rises to a quarter (26 per cent) of those aged 65-69, and nearly two-thirds (62 per cent) of those aged 85 and over.

#### 4.2 Health and Religion or Religion Brought Up In

Overall, those who were or had been brought up as Catholics were marginally more likely than those who belonged to or had been brought up in Protestant denominations to assess their general health as either 'bad' or 'very bad' (5.9 per cent versus 5.7 per cent).

**Table 4. 2 Proportion of residents with 'Bad' or 'Very bad' health by Age and Religion or Religion Brought Up in, Census 2011**

Age Band	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christian %	Other Religions %	None %
All ages	5.9	5.7	4.9	3.0
0 to 15	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5
16 to 44	2.8	2.5	2.6	2.3
45 to 64	11.5	8.4	10.2	9.9
65 and over	17.6	12.6	11.7	16.2

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2307NI

The differences were most apparent in the older age groups (Table 4.2). For example, among those aged 45 – 64 , 11 per cent of Catholics, compared with 8.4 per cent of Protestants, were in either 'bad' or 'very bad' general health. In addition, among those aged 65 and over, 18 per cent of Catholics, compared with 13 per cent of Protestants, were in either 'bad' or 'very bad' general health.

In contrast, the Census reveals that, overall, people from a Catholic community background were less likely than their Protestant counterparts to experience a long-term health problem or disability which limited their day-to-day activities (20 per cent compared with 23 per cent). However, as shown in Table 4.3, the overall figure varies considerably by age.

Up to the age of 44, the proportion of residents from both major religious backgrounds (Catholic and Protestant) with a limiting health problem or disability are broadly similar. Beyond age 44, the proportion of the Catholic population with a health problem or disability was higher than the corresponding figure for the Protestant population. For example, among those aged 65 and over, 64 per cent of Catholics, compared with 58 per cent of Protestants, experienced a health problem or disability which limited their

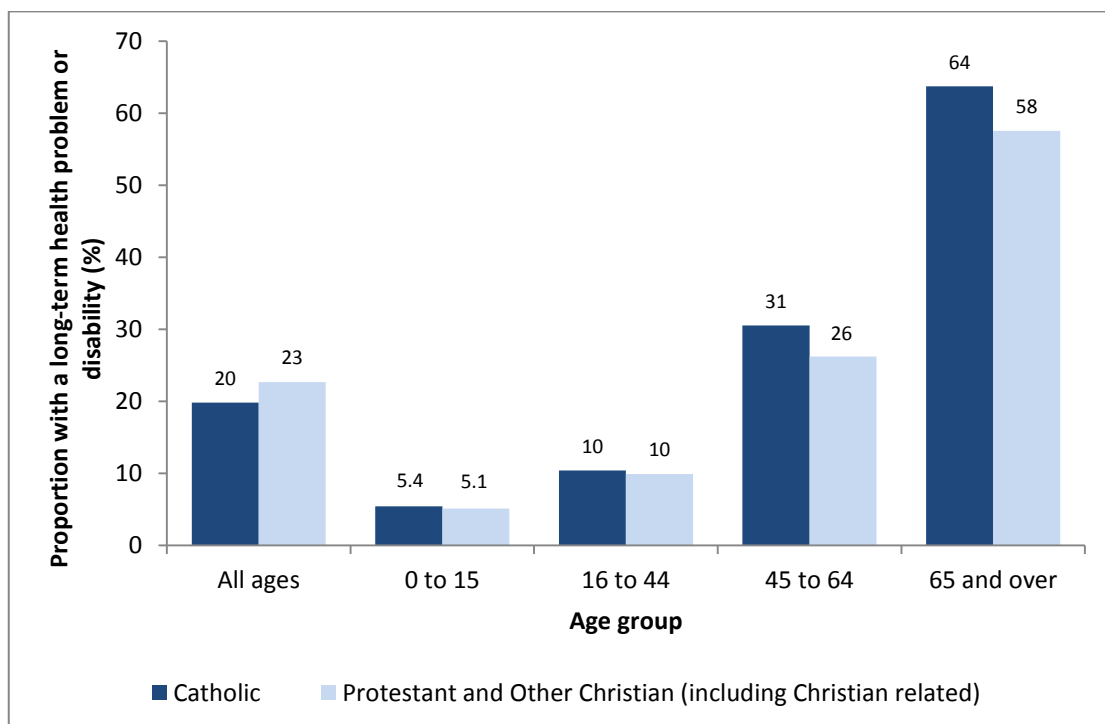
daily activities a little or a lot. The age differences for Catholics and Protestants are shown graphically in Figure 4.2.

**Table 4. 3 Proportion of residents with long-term health problem or disability which limits activities ('a little or a lot') by Religion or Religion Brought Up in and Age.**

Age Band	Catholic %	Protestant and Other Christian %	Other Religions %	None %
All ages	19.8	22.7	18.1	10.9
0 to 15	5.4	5.1	4.0	5.2
16 to 44	10.4	9.9	9.5	8.9
45 to 64	30.5	26.2	28.5	25.6
65 and over	63.7	57.5	57.4	54.3

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2309NI

**Figure 4.2 Proportion of residents with long-term health problem or disability which limits activities ('a little or a lot') by Religion or Religion Brought Up in and Age.**



Source: NISRA (2013) Fig 1.6, Statistical Bulletin, Detailed Characteristics, 16 May 2013

It is important to note that the overall higher proportion of Protestants than Catholics with a long-term health problem or disability which limited their day-to-day activities

cited earlier (i.e. 23 per cent compared with 20 per cent) is influenced by the fact that (i) Protestants have an older age profile than Catholics; and (ii) the incidence of having a long-term health problem or disability increases noticeably with age<sup>20</sup>.

### 4.3 Long-term Health Condition and Economic Activity

In addition to the two questions on general health and limiting long-term illness, the Census questionnaire also contained an item asking respondents about specific long-term conditions.

Experiencing any of the long-term conditions included on the questionnaire had an effect on respondents' economic activity. For example, whereas a majority (78 per cent) of those with no long-term condition were economically active<sup>21</sup>, a majority (58 per cent) of those with a long-term condition were economically inactive (Table 4.4).

In terms of the various conditions, economic inactivity rates were highest for those experiencing 'frequent periods of confusion or memory loss' (87 per cent), 'communication difficulty' (81 per cent) or 'a mobility or dexterity difficulty' (80 per cent).

**Table 4.4 Long-term Health Condition and Economic Activity**

Long-term health condition	Total	Economically Active (%)	Economically Inactive (%)
All residents aged 16 to 74	1,313,420	66.2	33.8
Frequent periods of confusion or memory loss	20,006	13.4	86.6
Communication difficulty	17,357	18.9	81.1
A mobility or dexterity difficulty	143,950	19.7	80.3
A learning, intellectual, social or behavioural difficulty	24,277	27.6	72.4
Long-term pain or discomfort	145,001	28.6	71.4
An emotional, psychological or mental health condition	97,574	29.1	70.9
Blindness or partial sight loss	16,375	31.7	68.3
A chronic illness	88,173	33.2	66.8
Deafness or partial hearing loss	55,984	40.4	59.6
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	110,861	42.0	58.0
Other condition	73,815	43.7	56.3
All residents with Long-term conditions	424,706	42.1	57.9
All residents with No long-term condition	888,714	77.8	22.2

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC3606NI

<sup>20</sup> Of those aged 65 and over with a long-term health problem which limits daily activities, 96,800 were from a Protestant community background and 57,700 were Catholic.

<sup>21</sup> The economically active include the employed, self-employed, unemployed and full-time students. The economically inactive include the retired, students, those looking after home / family, and the long-term sick and disabled.