



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Briefing Note

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**Keara McKay and Dr. Raymond Russell**

# Northern Ireland Qualifications per Constituency Area

## 1 Introduction

RaISe has prepared this briefing note in response to an MLA query regarding:

- *The geographical spread across Northern Ireland of graduates working in the local labour markets.*
- *The geographical spread across Northern Ireland of those working in the local labour market with vocational skills, and those without basic skills.*

The note presents data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) 2018 and Census 2011. It shows the geographical spread of the Northern Ireland (NI) workforce according to (i) highest qualification gained; and (ii) all persons with no qualifications, per constituency area.

## 2 Labour Force Survey 2018 and Census 2011 Students & Qualifications.

RaISe approached DfE and NISRA for relevant information for this query and NISRA provided data from the LFS 2018, for parliamentary constituencies. The data is not available for smaller geographies <sup>1</sup>.

**Table 1. Northern Ireland workforce in employment qualified to level 1 and above, level 2 and above, level 3 and above, and level 4 and above (16+) by parliamentary constituency.**

Parliamentary Constituency	Level 4+		Level 3+		Level 2+		Level 1+		No qualifications		Total
	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion	Number	Proportion	
Belfast East	25,000	53.8%	33,000	71.3%	38,000	82.0%	43,000	92.5%	*	*	46,000
Belfast North	12,000	30.2%	21,000	51.0%	29,000	71.5%	36,000	88.9%	*	*	41,000
Belfast South	41,000	70.1%	45,000	77.2%	51,000	87.4%	54,000	93.8%	*	*	58,000
Belfast West	11,000	36.3%	18,000	60.5%	22,000	75.2%	24,000	84.2%	*	*	29,000
East Antrim	15,000	32.9%	29,000	64.9%	36,000	79.7%	40,000	90.3%	*	*	45,000
East Londonderry	17,000	43.4%	25,000	64.0%	31,000	79.8%	34,000	87.4%	*	*	39,000
Fermanagh South Tyrone	18,000	34.5%	29,000	56.2%	36,000	69.3%	44,000	84.8%	8,000	15.2%	52,000
Foyle	18,000	46.3%	26,000	66.2%	32,000	81.6%	36,000	90.6%	*	*	39,000
Lagan Valley	25,000	46.8%	37,000	70.1%	45,000	85.4%	50,000	94.1%	*	*	53,000
Mid Ulster	22,000	44.6%	29,000	60.0%	37,000	75.2%	42,000	85.6%	7,000	14.4%	49,000
Newry & Armagh	18,000	38.9%	30,000	64.6%	38,000	81.5%	44,000	94.4%	*	*	47,000
North Antrim	18,000	36.7%	29,000	60.9%	36,000	75.3%	42,000	87.2%	6,000	12.8%	48,000
North Down	19,000	44.9%	28,000	65.3%	36,000	83.9%	40,000	93.4%	*	*	43,000
South Antrim	23,000	45.0%	34,000	67.4%	45,000	88.7%	49,000	98.3%	*	*	50,000
South Down	21,000	37.5%	36,000	64.1%	44,000	79.2%	51,000	91.2%	*	*	56,000
Strangford	16,000	42.5%	22,000	59.1%	28,000	75.8%	32,000	86.9%	*	*	37,000
Upper Bann	23,000	37.2%	37,000	60.0%	46,000	76.0%	55,000	90.1%	6,000	9.9%	61,000
West Tyrone	13,000	33.6%	22,000	57.1%	29,000	74.9%	34,000	88.3%	*	*	39,000
<b>Total Northern Ireland</b>	<b>353,000</b>	<b>42.4%</b>	<b>530,000</b>	<b>63.7%</b>	<b>659,000</b>	<b>79.2%</b>	<b>751,000</b>	<b>90.4%</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>831,000</b>

Data Source: NISRA Labour Force Survey, January-December 2018

\* Too small for a reliable estimate

### Definitions.

#### Qualified to Level 1+

Persons qualified to Level 1 and above include those listed at Level 2+, Level 3+, Level 4+ AND persons with fewer than 5 GCSE's, BTEC first/General Diploma, NVQ Level 1 or equivalent or Basic Skills Qualifications.

#### Qualified to Level 2+

Persons qualified to Level 2 and above include those listed at Level 3+ AND Level 4+ AND persons with NVQ Level 2 or equivalent, one A Level, AS Levels, 5 or more GCSE's.

<sup>1</sup> **The Labour Force Survey** (LFS) is a quarterly sample survey carried out by interviewing people about their personal circumstances and work. It is the biggest regular household survey in Northern Ireland with a typical sample size of c.2,700. The provides a rich and vital source of information about the labour force using internationally agreed concepts and definitions.

**Qualified to Level 3+**

Persons qualified to Level 3 and above include those listed at Level 4+ AND persons with NVQ Level 3, more than one A Level, Baccalaureate (Scottish, International) or Trade Apprenticeships.

**Qualified to Level 4+**

Persons qualified to Level 4 and above include Higher Degrees, First/Foundation Degrees, Diplomas Levels 4 through 8, Nursing Degrees, Teaching Degrees or NVQ Level 4+.

Numbers for those with no qualifications have been suppressed as they are too small for publication.

**2.2 Census 2011: Qualifications and Students: No Qualifications**

Due to numbers being suppressed under the Labour Force Survey 2018, data has been provided from the Census 2011, which includes all persons aged 16-74, with no qualifications at that time. This includes persons who are economically active and those who are inactive per constituency area.

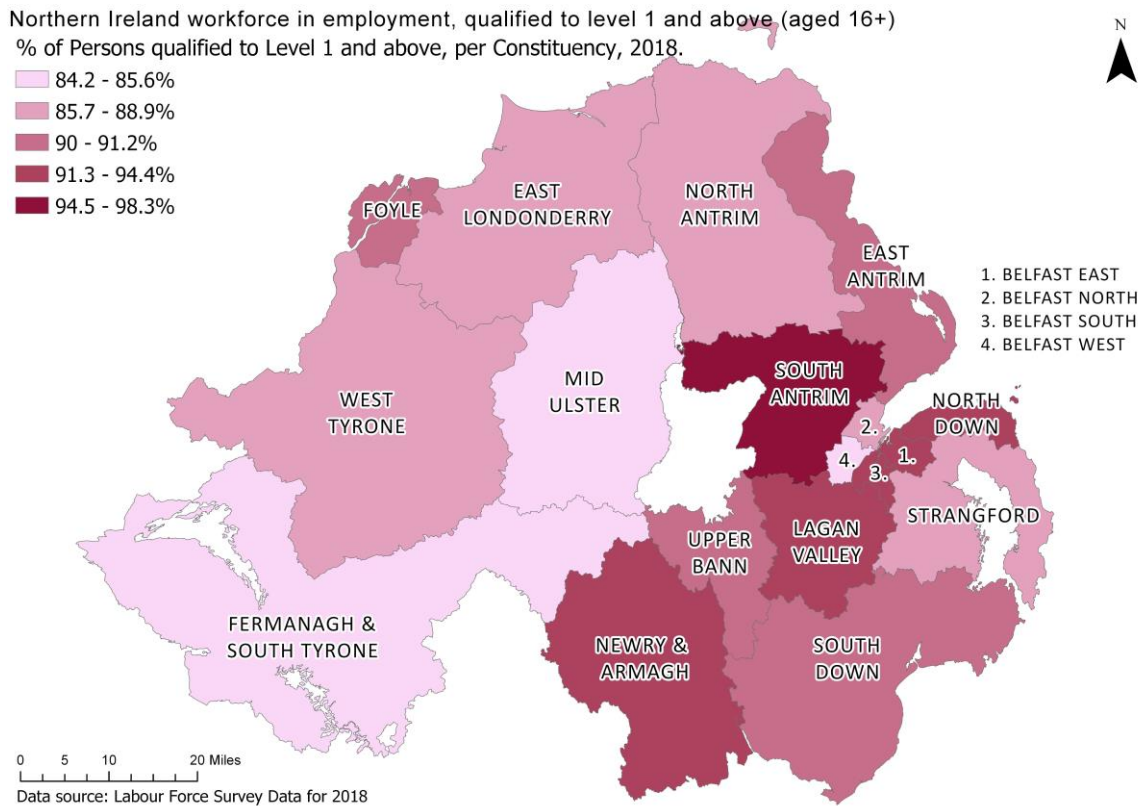
**Table 2. Census 2011 Percentage of persons aged 16-74 with No Qualifications, by parliamentary constituency.**

Parliamentary Constituency	All persons aged 16-74	Percentage of persons aged 16-74 with: No Qualifications
Belfast East	63,686	41.27%
Belfast North	72,562	49.00%
Belfast South	80,018	26.61%
Belfast West	63,173	49.74%
East Antrim	60,885	38.08%
East Londonderry	67,082	42.75%
Fermanagh and South Tyrone	63,234	44.87%
Foyle	68,433	43.44%
Lagan Valley	65,420	36.85%
Mid Ulster	59,340	45.73%
Newry and Armagh	69,832	44.66%
North Antrim	69,217	46.26%
North Down	61,680	32.14%
South Antrim	64,048	38.13%
South Down	66,257	40.57%
Strangford	60,629	38.39%
Upper Bann	72,091	44.83%
West Tyrone	59,492	48.06%
<b>Total Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1,187,079</b>	<b>41.64%</b>

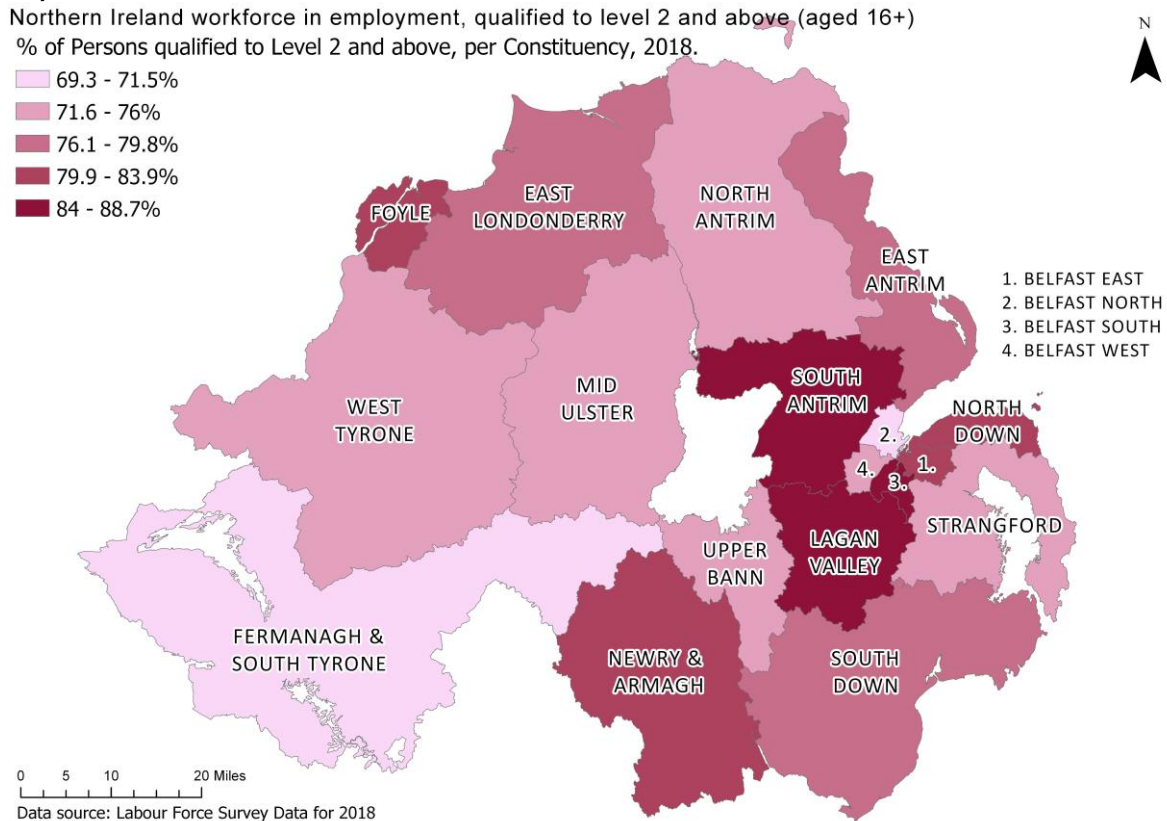
Data Source: NISRA Census 2011 Table KS13: QUALIFICATIONS AND STUDENTS.

### 3. Mapping Labour Force Survey 2018 by Qualifications.

**Map 1. Northern Ireland workforce in employment, qualified to level 1 and above (aged 16+)**



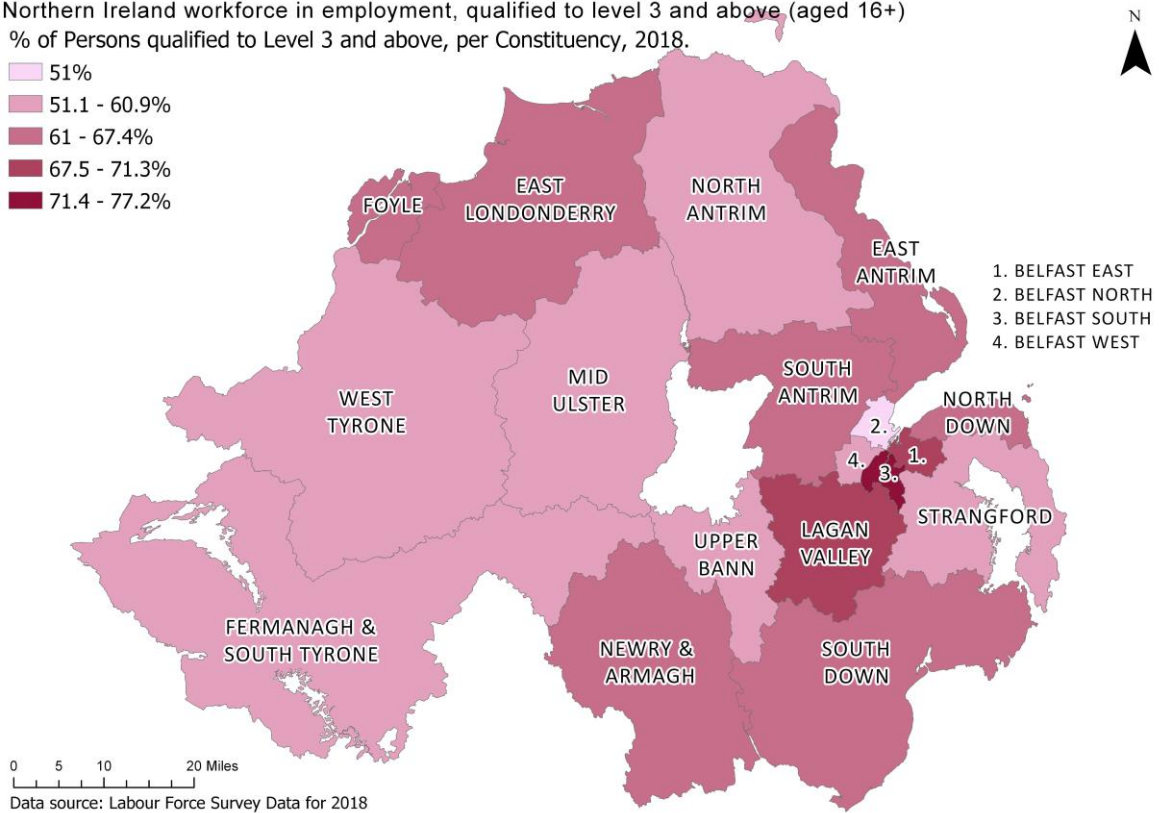
**Map 2. Northern Ireland workforce in employment, qualified to level 2 and above (aged 16+)**



**Map 3. Northern Ireland workforce in employment, qualified to level 3 and above (aged 16+).**

Northern Ireland workforce in employment, qualified to level 3 and above (aged 16+)  
 % of Persons qualified to Level 3 and above, per Constituency, 2018.

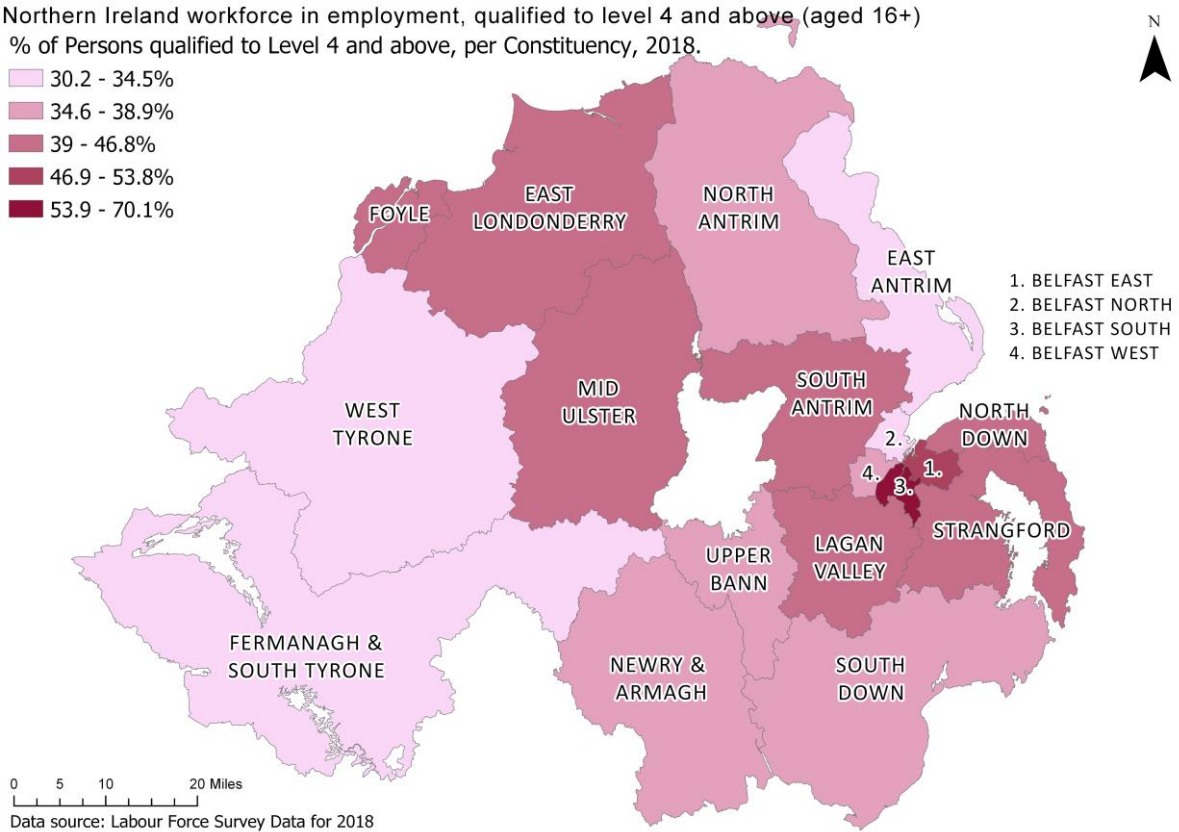
- 51%
- 51.1 - 60.9%
- 61 - 67.4%
- 67.5 - 71.3%
- 71.4 - 77.2%



**Map 4. Northern Ireland workforce in employment, qualified to level 4 and above (aged 16+).**

Northern Ireland workforce in employment, qualified to level 4 and above (aged 16+)  
 % of Persons qualified to Level 4 and above, per Constituency, 2018.

- 30.2 - 34.5%
- 34.6 - 38.9%
- 39 - 46.8%
- 46.9 - 53.8%
- 53.9 - 70.1%



## 4. Mapping Census 2011: Students and Qualifications, by No Qualifications.

**Map 5. Census 2011, No Qualifications (aged 16+).**

