



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Briefing Paper

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Paper 102/12

13 June 2012

NIAR 780-11

**Barbara Love**

# Social Briefing June 2012

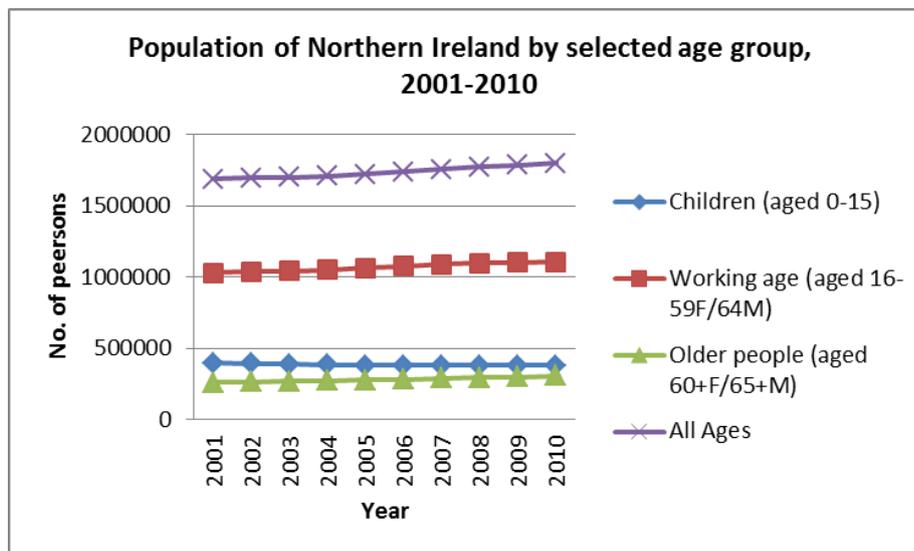
This briefing presents key social indicators for Northern Ireland using the latest information published by government as at the end of May 2012. Data on the population, health, education, welfare, homelessness, crime, road traffic casualties and public transport are provided. For each social indicator, headline data and an analysis of trends over time are presented. Some comparisons with other regions are also made where possible. Links to source publications have been provided for those wishing to access more detailed information and analysis.

## Summary Social Indicators

Theme	Indicator	Latest figure	Year previous	Annual change
Demographic profile	Population (2010)	1,799,392	1,788,896	+0.6%
	Persons aged 85 and over (2010)	29,665	28,680	+3.4%
	Net international migration (2009/10)	592	1,461	-59.5%
	Life expectancy of males (2008-10)	77 years	76.7 years	+0.3 years
	Life expectancy of females (2008-10)	81.4 years	81.3 years	+0.1 years
Health – hospital waiting times	% of patients treated within 4 hours for emergency care (Mar 2012)	75.9%	82.0%	-6.1 percentage points
	% of patients waiting more than 9 weeks for first outpatient appointment (Mar 2012)	27.5%	30.0%	-2.5 percentage pts
	% of routine diagnostic tests reported on within four weeks (Mar 2012)	99.4%	98.5%	+0.9 percentage pts
	% of patients waiting more than 13 weeks for inpatient treatment (March 2012)	35.6%	-	-
Health - Children's Social Care	Number of children listed on the Child Protection Register (31 March 2012)	2,127	2,401	-11.4%
Qualifications of school leavers	Proportion of school leavers achieving 5+ GCSEs , A* - C or equivalent (2010/11)	73.2%	71.9%	+1.3 percentage pts
Welfare –disability related benefits	Number of people in receipt of at least one component of Disability Living Allowance (At Feb 2012)	188,640	184,860	+2.0%
Homelessness	Number of households presented as homeless to NIHE (April-June 2011)	4,169	4,625	-10.9%
Crime	Recorded crime rate per 100,000 persons (2011/12)	5,670	5,800	-2.2%
Road traffic accident casualties	Number of people killed in road traffic accidents (2011/12)	52	58	-10.3%
Public transport use	Weekly average public bus journeys (Oct-Dec 11)	1.42 million	1.40 million	+1.0%
	Weekly average rail passenger journeys (Oct-Dec 11)	0.22 million	0.21 million	+5.0%

## 1 Population – Demographic Profile

- In 2010, the population of Northern Ireland was estimated to stand at just under 1.8 million, an increase of 6.5% since 2001.
- The number of children has decreased by 3.8% from 397,150 in 2001 to 382,022 in 2010.
- The number of working age people has increased by 7.7% from 1,029,958 in 2001 to 1,109,050 in 2010 while the number of older people has increased by 17.6% from 262,211 in 2001 to 308,320 in 2010.



Source: NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch, Mid-year Estimates

### Northern Ireland mid-year population estimates by age group, 2001-2010

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Children (aged 0-15)</b>	397,150	393,015	388,143	383,344	381,234
<b>Working age (aged 16-59F/64M)</b>	1,029,958	1,037,438	1,043,893	1,051,731	1,063,613
<b>Older people (aged 60+F/65+M)</b>	262,211	266,188	270,592	275,247	279,561
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>1,689,319</b>	<b>1,696,641</b>	<b>1,702,628</b>	<b>1,710,322</b>	<b>1,724,408</b>

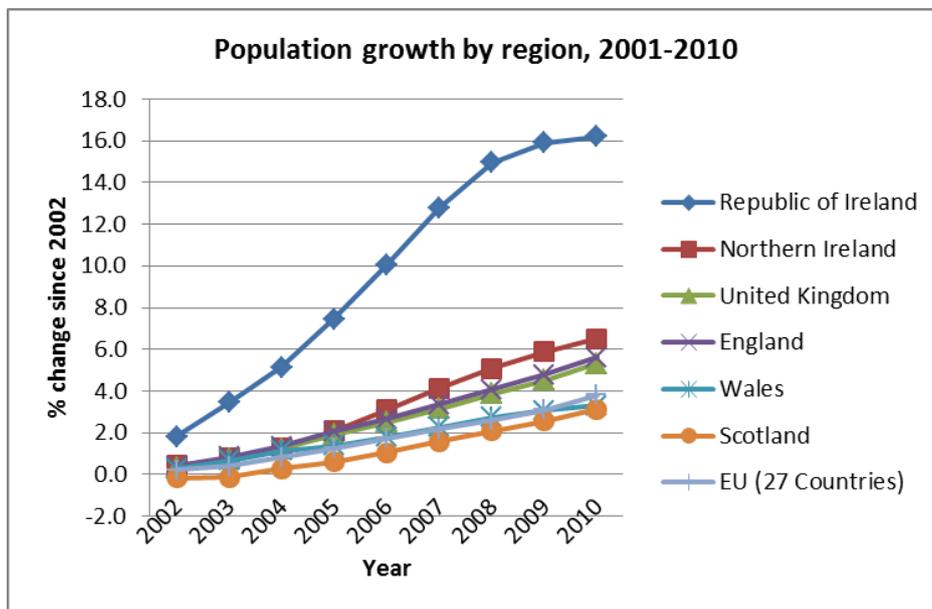
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Children (aged 0-15)</b>	380,141	380,068	381,070	382,127	382,022
<b>Working age (aged 16-59F/64M)</b>	1,077,416	1,089,389	1,098,112	1,104,902	1,109,050
<b>Older people (aged 60+F/65+M)</b>	284,062	289,691	295,821	301,867	308,320
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>1,741,619</b>	<b>1,759,148</b>	<b>1,775,003</b>	<b>1,788,896</b>	<b>1,799,392</b>

Source: NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch, Mid-year Estimates

[http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/midyear/NI\\_Home\\_Pop\\_5yrbds\(1961-2010\).xls](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/midyear/NI_Home_Pop_5yrbds(1961-2010).xls)

*Regional comparisons*

- Between 2001 and 2010, Northern Ireland had the fastest growing population of any UK region, with an estimated increase of 6.5% - higher than in England (5.6%), Wales (3.3%) and Scotland (3.1%) for the same period.
- Proportionally, population growth for Northern Ireland was lower than that for the Republic of Ireland which was estimated to have grown by 16.2%.
- The size of the Northern Ireland population increased at a faster rate than that of the EU (27 countries) which increased by 3.8% between 2001 and 2010.



Sources: ONS (UK and Constituents); Central Statistics Office Ireland (Republic of Ireland); Eurostat (EU)

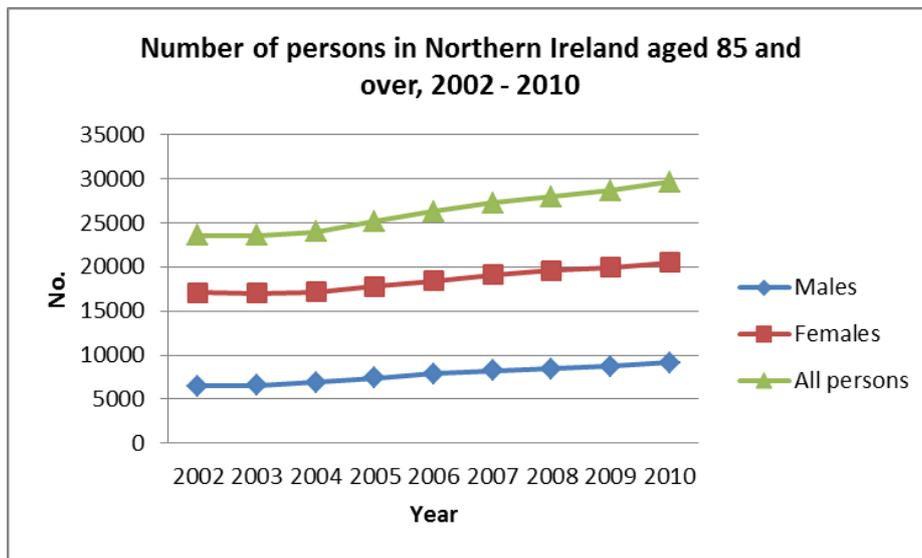
**Population estimates (in thousands) by region, 2001-2010**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Republic of Ireland	3,847	3,917	3,980	4,045	4,134	4,233	4,339	4,422	4,459	4,470
Northern Ireland	1,689	1,697	1,703	1,710	1,724	1,742	1,759	1,775	1,789	1,799
United Kingdom	59,113	59,319	59,552	59,842	60,235	60,584	60,986	61,398	61,792	62,261
England	49,450	49,649	49,863	50,110	50,466	50,764	51,106	51,465	51,810	52,234
Wales	2,910	2,918	2,929	2,943	2,950	2,962	2,976	2,990	2,999	3,006
Scotland	5,064	5,055	5,057	5,078	5,095	5,117	5,144	5,169	5,194	5,222
EU (27 Countries)	482,768	483,797	484,635	486,646	488,798	491,135	493,210	495,292	497,686	501,104

Sources: ONS (UK and Constituents); Central Statistics Office Ireland (Republic of Ireland); Eurostat (EU)

## 2 Population – People aged 85 and over

- In June 2010, 29,665 people or around 1.7% of the population were estimated to be aged 85 years and over.
- The population aged 85 and over has increased by 6,100 people (26%) 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.



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

### Number of persons in Northern Ireland aged 85 and over, 2002-2010

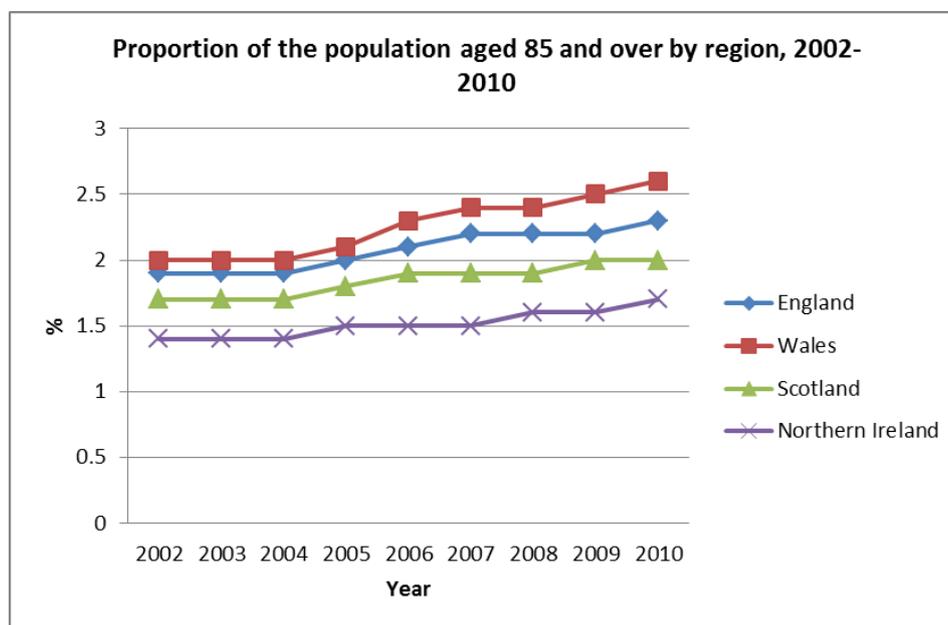
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Males</b>	6,478	6,525	6,863	7,394	7,880	8,186	8,420	8,717	9,125
<b>Females</b>	17,106	17,035	17,135	17,779	18,430	19,092	19,579	19,963	20,540
<b>All persons</b>	<b>23,584</b>	<b>23,560</b>	<b>23,998</b>	<b>25,173</b>	<b>26,310</b>	<b>27,278</b>	<b>27,999</b>	<b>28,680</b>	<b>29,665</b>

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](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/OldestOld/Statistical%20Report%20per%20cent%20-%20per%20cent%20Estimates%20of%20per%20cent%20the%20Population%20Aged%20per%20cent%2085%20and%20per%20cent%20Over%20in%20Northern%20Ireland,%20per%20cent%202002-2010.pdf)

### Regional comparisons

- 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 while Wales has the highest proportion of people aged 85 and over.
- As at June 2010, Northern Ireland had the highest proportion of females (3.9%) and the lowest proportion of males (1.0%) aged 85 and over when compared to England, Scotland and Wales.



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

### Proportion of the population aged 85 and over by region, 2002-2010

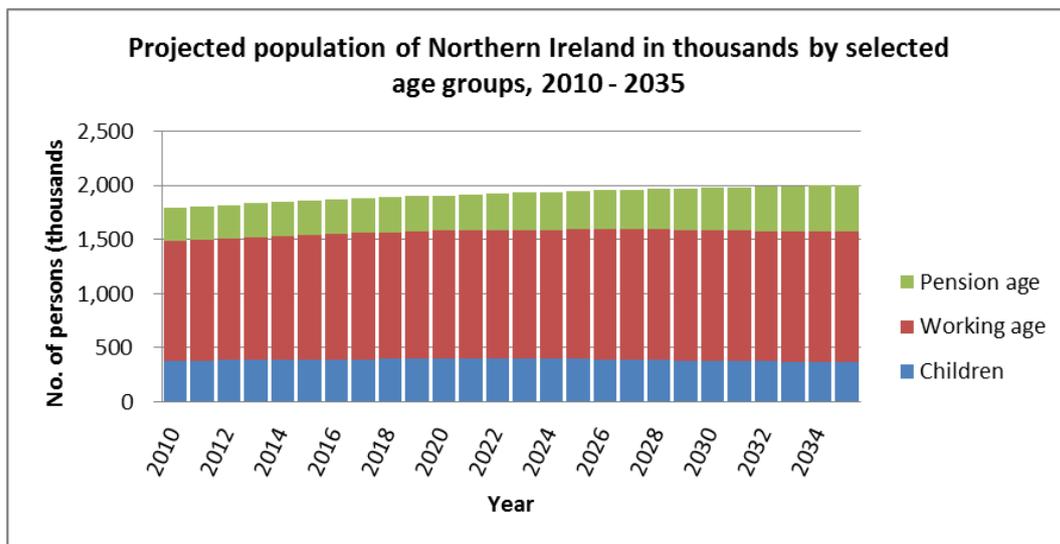
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
England	1.9	1.9	1.9	2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3
Wales	2	2	2	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6
Scotland	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	2	2
Northern Ireland	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7

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 – Population Projections

- The population of Northern Ireland is projected to rise from just under 1.8 million in 2010 to just over 1.9 million in 2020 and just over 2.0 million in 2035.
- The number of people of pension age is projected to increase by 38%, even when the planned changes in the state pension age are taken into account.
- The number of children is projected to increase from 382,000 in 2010 to 402,000 in 2022 before decreasing steadily to 366,000 by 2035.



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

#### Northern Ireland population projections by age group, 2010-2035

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2,035
<b>Children</b>	382	388	400	396	381	366
<b>Working age</b>	1,111	1,155	1,183	1,200	1,207	1,215
<b>Pension age</b>	307	316	327	355	395	424
<b>All persons</b>	1,799	1,859	1,910	1,951	1,982	2,005

Source: 2010 based population projections, NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch

Note: Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

\* Children under 16. Working age and pensionable age populations based on state pension age for given year. Between 2010 and 2020, state pension age will change from 65 years for men and 60 years for women, to 65 years for both sexes. Between 2024 and 2046, state pension age will increase in three stages from 65 years to 68 years for both sexes.

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/projections/wni10cc.xls>

<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**

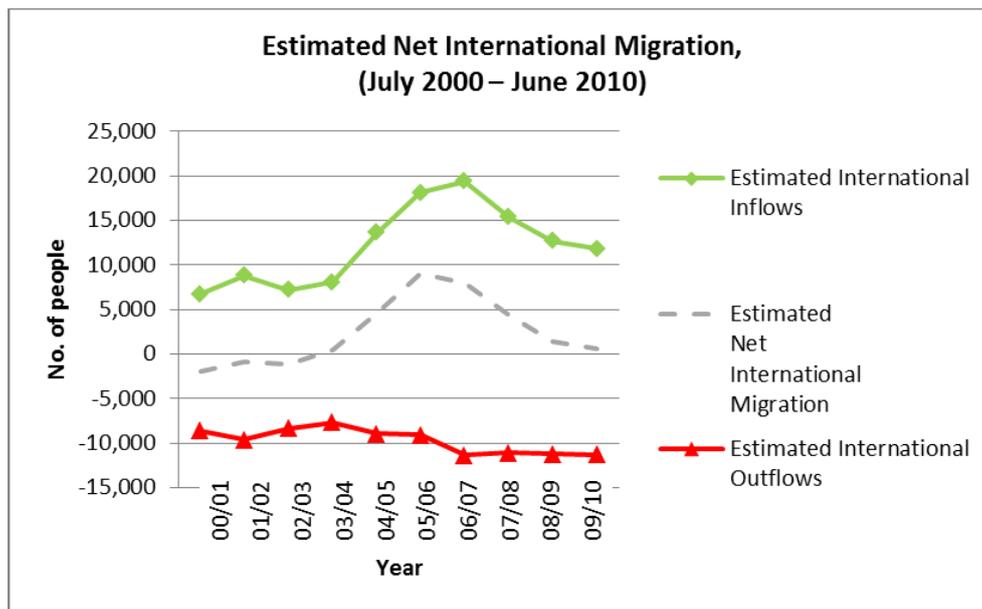
	<i>millions</i>			% increase	% increase
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2035</u>	<u>to 2020</u>	<u>to 2035</u>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>11%</b>
England	52.2	56.6	62.1	8%	19%
Wales	3.0	3.2	3.4	5%	6%
Scotland	5.2	5.5	5.8	5%	5%
<b>EU27</b>	<b>501.0</b>	<b>514.4</b>	<b>524.5</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>5%</b>
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](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_235886.pdf)

## 4 Population – Migration

- In the period July 2009 to June 2010, an estimated 11,854 international long-term migrants arrived in Northern Ireland, while 11,262 left, giving an estimated net international migration of 592.
- Net international long-term migration for July 2009 - June 2010 was higher than the same period in 2000 – 2001 when 1,868 more migrants left Northern Ireland when compared to the number that arrived in Northern Ireland.
- Net international migration continues to fall from its peak of 9,023 in 2005/06.



Source: NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch, Migration Statistics

### Estimated net international migration, July 2000 – June 2010

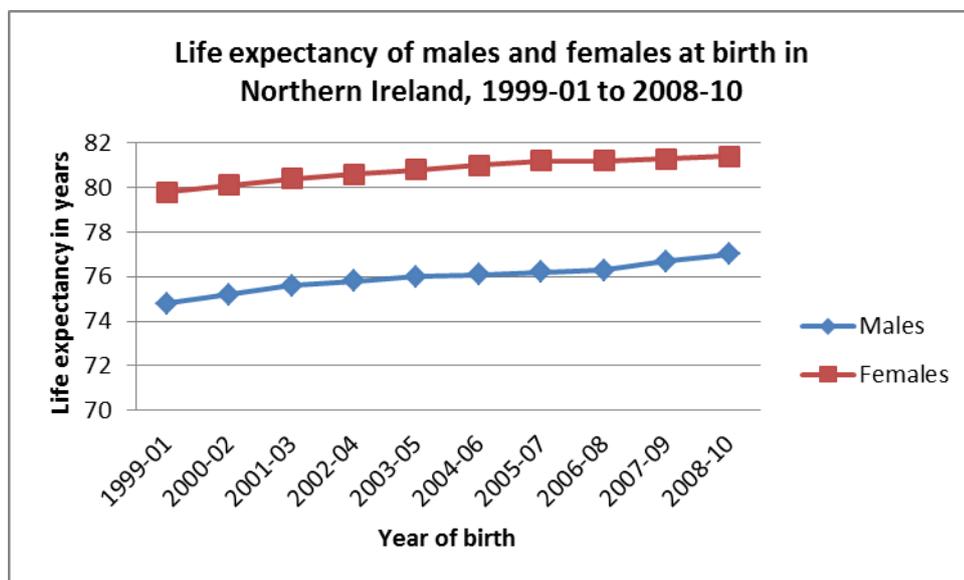
Time-period	Estimated International Inflows	Estimated International Outflows	Estimated Net International Migration
00/01	6,737	8,605	-1,868
01/02	8,791	9,613	-822
02/03	7,230	8,332	-1,102
03/04	8,060	7,644	416
04/05	13,607	8,936	4,671
05/06	18,118	9,095	9,023
06/07	19,369	11,332	8,037
07/08	15,350	11,039	4,311
08/09	12,690	11,229	1,461
09/10	11,854	11,262	592

Source: NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch, Migration Statistics

[http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/migration/Net\\_Mig0910.xls](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/migration/Net_Mig0910.xls)

## 5 Health - Life expectancy of males and females

- The life expectancy of those born between 2008 and 2010 in Northern Ireland is 77.0 years for males and 81.4 years for females.
- The life expectancy of males has increased from 74.8 years for those born between 1999 and 2001 to 77.0 years for those born between 2008 and 2010. The life expectancy of females has increased from 79.8 years for those born between 1999 and 2001 to 81.4 years for those born between 2008 and 2010.
- Over the period 1999-01 to 2008-10 the life expectancy of females was higher than that of males



Source: NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch

### Life expectancy of males and females at birth in Northern Ireland, 1999-01 to 2008-10

	1999-01	2000-02	2001-03	2002-04	2003-05
<b>Males</b>	74.8	75.2	75.6	75.8	76.0
<b>Females</b>	79.8	80.1	80.4	80.6	80.8

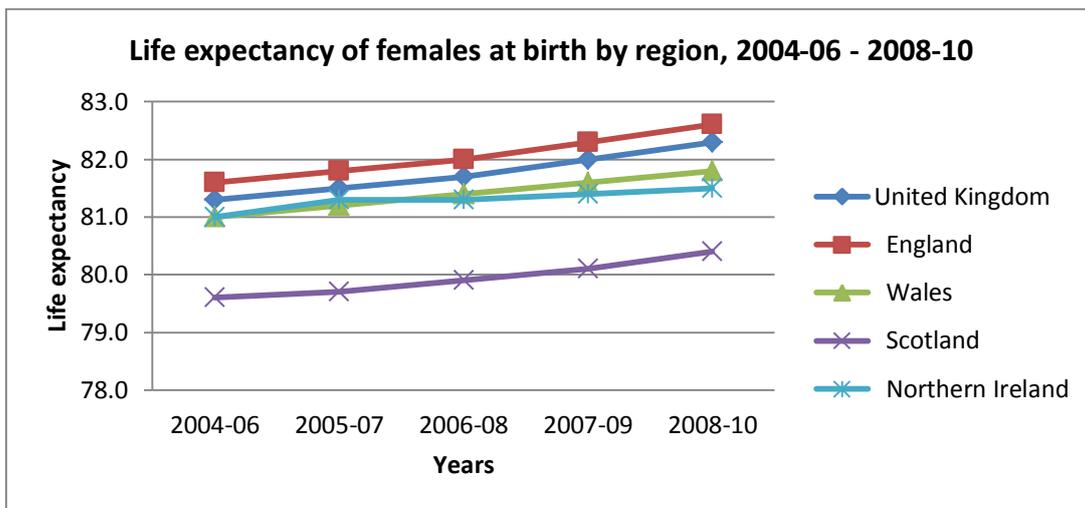
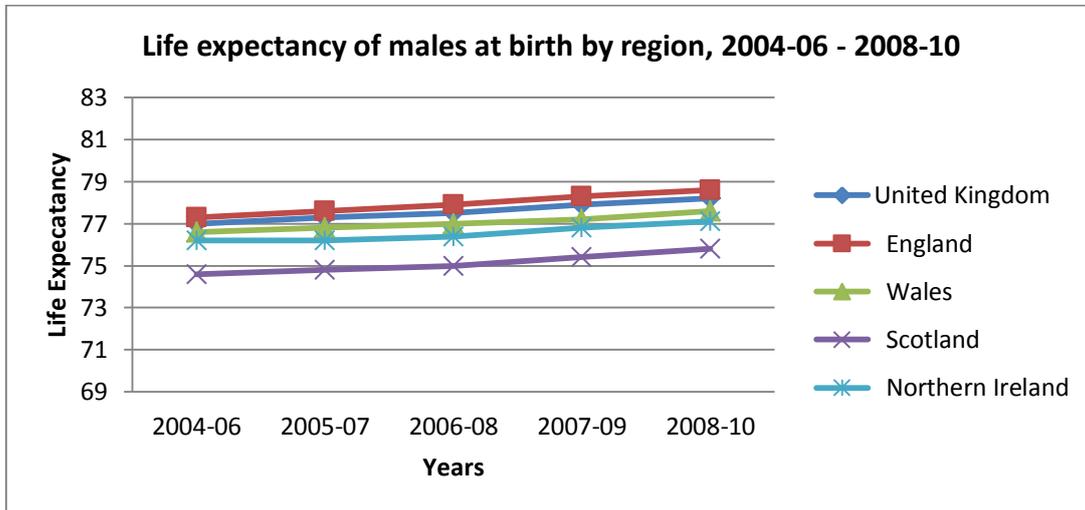
	2004-06	2005-07	2006-08	2007-09	2008-10
<b>Males</b>	76.1	76.2	76.3	76.7	77.0
<b>Females</b>	81.0	81.2	81.2	81.3	81.4

Source: NISRA, Demography and Methodology Branch

[http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/vital/deaths/life\\_tables/NI\\_life\\_1980\\_10.xls](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/vital/deaths/life_tables/NI_life_1980_10.xls)

*Regional comparisons*

- 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.



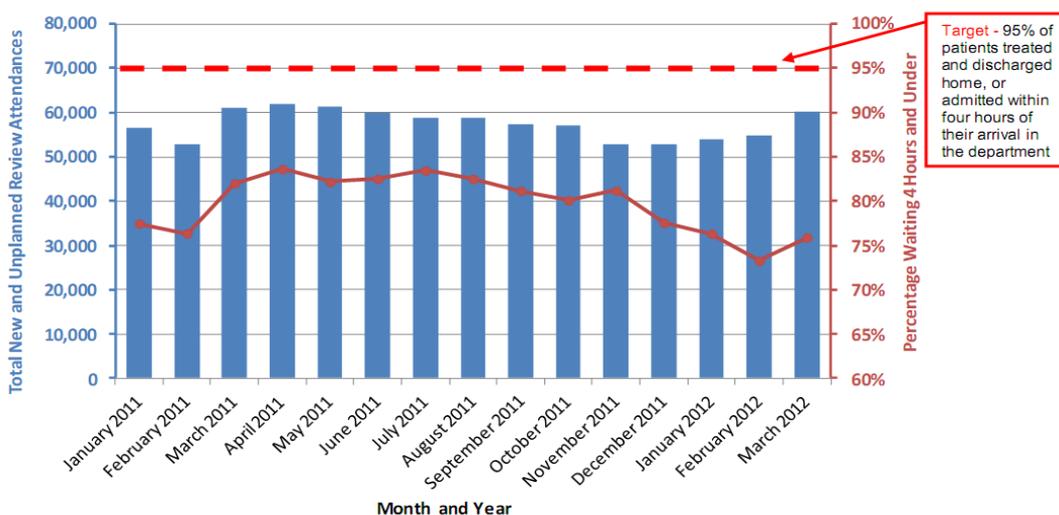
Source: *Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas in the United Kingdom, 2004-06 to 2008-10*, Office for National Statistics (Published 19 October 2011)

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

## 6 Hospital waiting times – Emergency Care

- During March 2012, there were a total of 60,284 attendances at emergency care departments in Northern Ireland, 75.9% of which were treated and discharged or admitted within 4 hours of their arrival.
- During the last 3 months (January – March 2012), the percentage of patients treated and discharged or admitted within 4 hours of their arrival decreased by 0.4 percentage points, from 76.3% in January 2012 to 75.9% in March 2012.

### Performance against the 4 hour Ministerial target for emergency care waiting times at all Emergency Care Departments(January 2011 – March 2012)



Source: *Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics, January-March 2012, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Published 26 April 2012)*

### Emergency Care statistics, January 2011 – MARCH 2012

Month	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11
% waiting 4 hours and under	77.5%	76.4%	82.0%	83.6%	82.2%	82.5%	83.5%	82.5%
Number waiting over 12 hours	1,236	1,338	850	577	921	970	344	461
Total attendances (new and unplanned review)	56,476	52,921	61,128	61,884	61,344	60,039	58,704	58,922

Month	Nov-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11	Jan-12	Feb-12	Mar-12
% waiting 4 hours and under	81.2%	80.1%	81.2%	77.6%	76.3%	73.3%	75.9%
Number waiting over 12 hours	538	834	563	995	1,501	1,525	986
Total attendances (new and unplanned review)	57,256	57,080	52,856	52,749	53,921	54,705	60,284

Source: *Emergency Care Waiting Time Statistics, January-March 2012, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Published 26 April 2012)*

[http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ec1\\_mar\\_12.pdf](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ec1_mar_12.pdf)

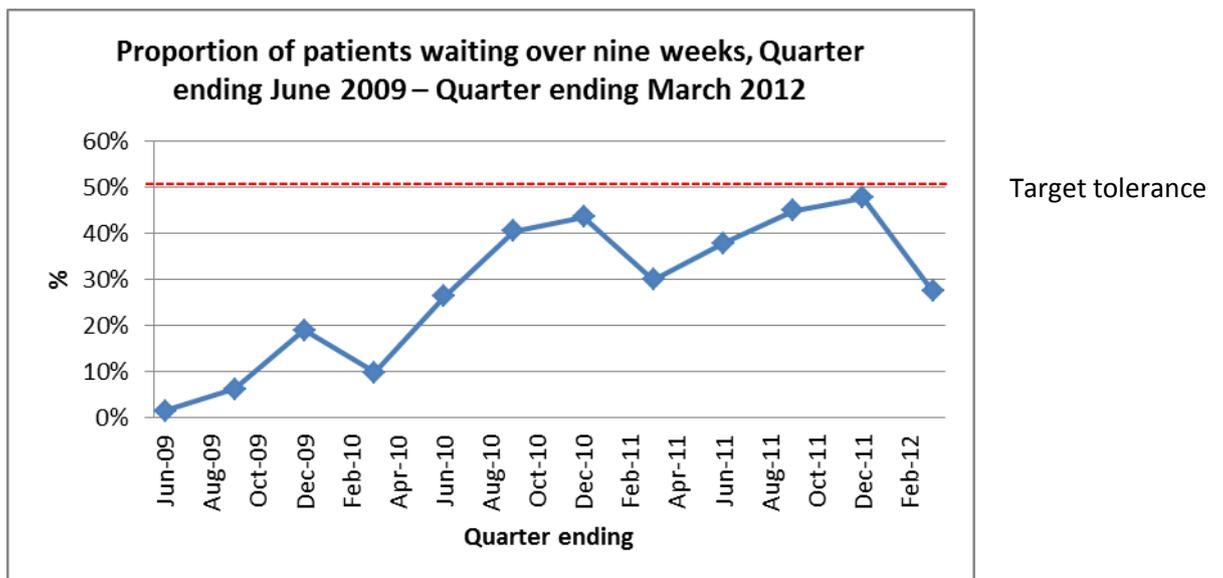
## 7 Hospital Waiting Times - Outpatients

### Outpatients

The 2011/12 Ministerial waiting time target states that at least 50% of patients should wait no longer than nine weeks, and no patient should wait longer than 21 weeks, for a first outpatient appointment.

- At the quarter ending March 2012, 27.5% of patients waited more than nine weeks for a first outpatient appointment (28,277 out of a total of 103,007), compared with 47.8% (59,378 out of 124,100 total patients waiting) waiting more than nine weeks at the end of December 2011 and 30.0% (31,909 out of 106,206 total patients waiting) at the end of March 2011.

### **Proportion of patients waiting over nine weeks, Quarter ending March 2009 – Quarter ending March 2012**



Source: Northern Ireland Waiting Time Statistics: Outpatient Waiting Times, Quarter ending March 2012, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Published 24 May 2012)

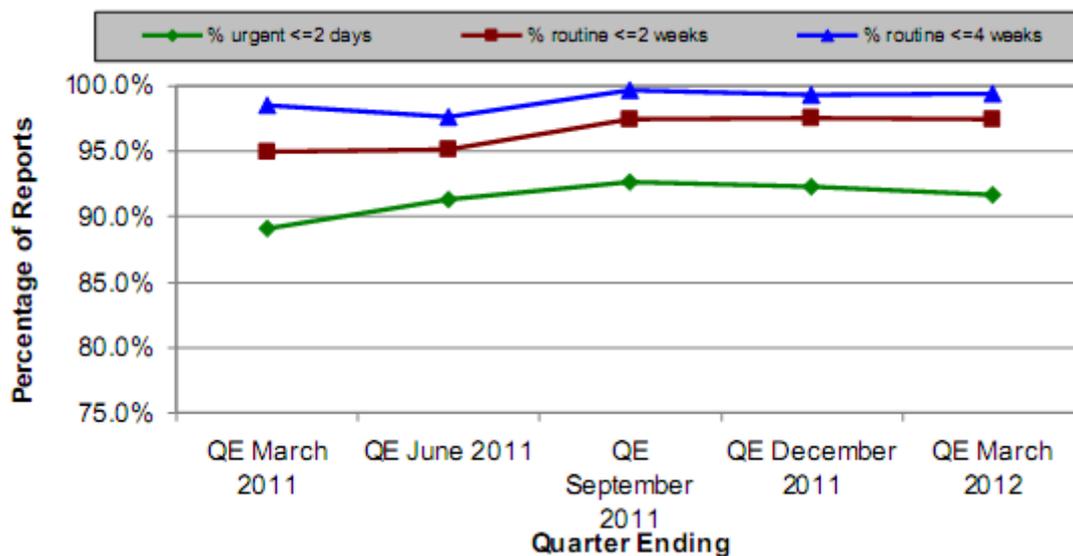
[http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni\\_outpatient\\_waiting\\_list\\_bulletin\\_mar\\_12.pdf](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni_outpatient_waiting_list_bulletin_mar_12.pdf)

## Diagnostic Services

The 2011/12 Ministerial diagnostic reporting time target states that from April 2011, all routine tests should be reported on within four weeks.

- During the quarter ending March 2012, there were 92,301 (97.4%) routine diagnostic tests reported on within two weeks, with a further 1,919 (2.0%) reported on within two to four weeks, giving a total of 94,220 (99.4%) reported on within four weeks. It took more than four weeks to report on 544 (0.6%) of these routine diagnostic tests.
- The percentage of routine diagnostic tests reported on within four weeks rose by 0.1 percentage points compared with the previous quarter, and rose by 0.9 percentage points when compared with the same quarter of the previous year.

### **Percentage of diagnostic tests reported on within 2 days/2 weeks/4 weeks, Quarter ending March 2011 – quarter ending March 2012**



Source: Northern Ireland Waiting Time Statistics: Diagnostic Waiting Times, Quarter ending March 2012, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Published 24 May 2012)

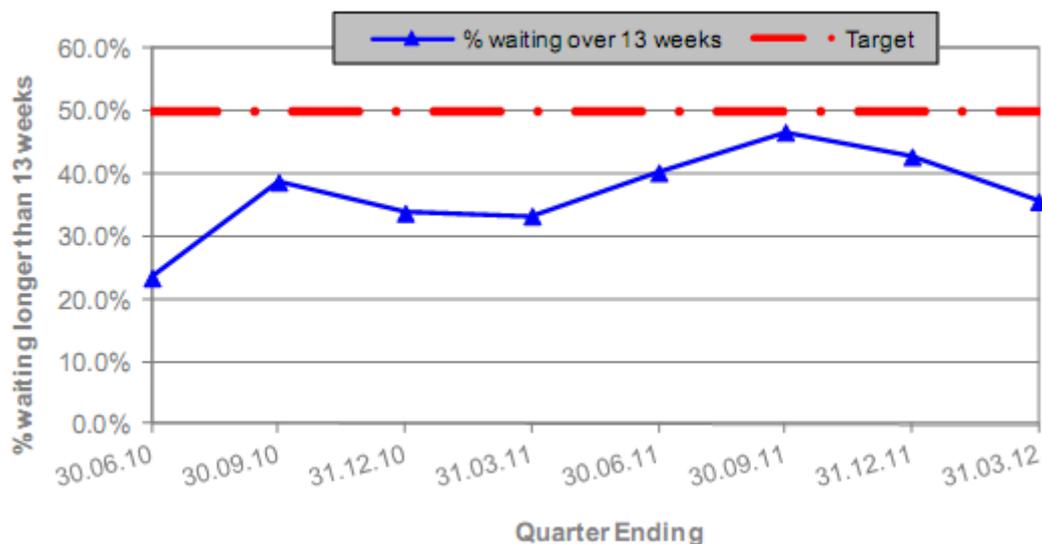
[http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni\\_diagnostics\\_waiting\\_list\\_bulletin\\_march\\_2012.pdf](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni_diagnostics_waiting_list_bulletin_march_2012.pdf)

## Inpatients

The 2011/12 Ministerial waiting time target states that at least 50% of patients should wait no longer than 13 weeks, and no patient should wait longer than 36 weeks, for inpatient admission.

- At the end of March 2012, 18,109 (35.6% of total number waiting) patients were waiting more than 13 weeks for inpatient treatment. This was down 6,059 (-25.1%) on the comparable number in the previous quarter (24,168).
- 775 patients were waiting longer than 36 weeks, a decrease of 4,238 (-84.5%) on the 5,013 waiting at the end of the previous quarter and also down 486 (-38.5%) on the 1,261 patients waiting longer than 36 weeks at the same time last year.

### **Proportion of patients waiting longer than 13 weeks, Quarter ending June 2010 – quarter ending March 2012**



Source: Northern Ireland Waiting Time Statistics: Inpatient Waiting Times, Quarter ending March 2012, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Published 24 May 2012)

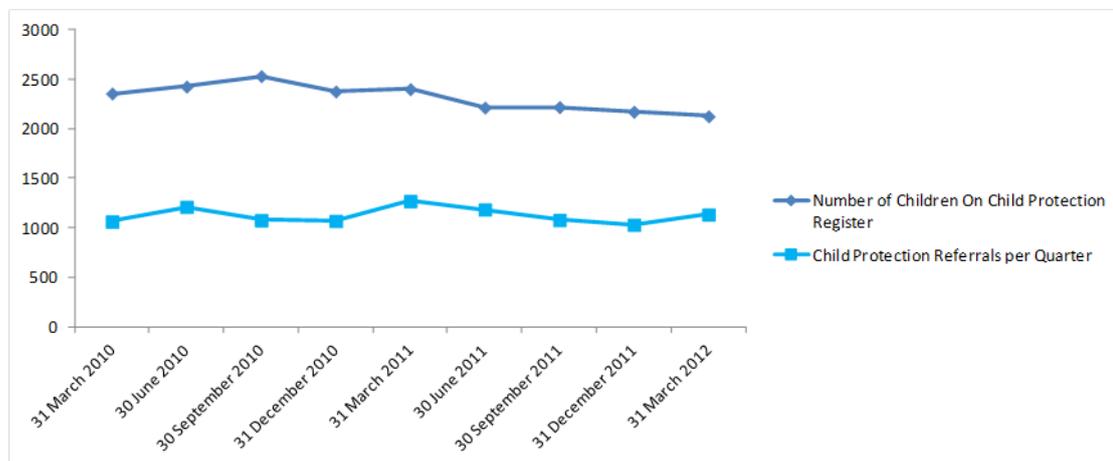
[http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni\\_inpatient\\_waiting\\_list\\_bulletin\\_march\\_2012.pdf](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/ni_inpatient_waiting_list_bulletin_march_2012.pdf)

## 8 Children's Social Care

### Child Protection

- At 31 March 2012, 2,127 children were listed on the Child Protection Register in Northern Ireland; a decrease of 2% (46) on the previous quarter (2,173); annually, the register count has decreased by 11% (274), from 2,401 to 2,127.
- Child Protection Referrals for the quarter ending 31 March 2012 (1,135), were 10% (105) higher than the previous quarter (1,030), and 11% (136) below the referrals count for the same quarter in 2011 (1,271).

### **Child Protection Register and Referral Counts for Northern Ireland 31 March 2010 – 31 March 2012**

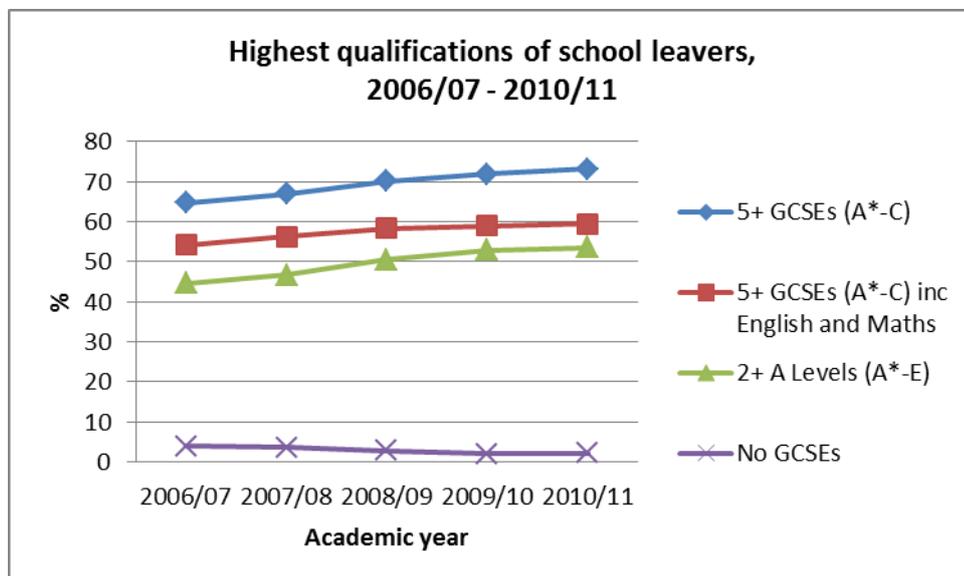


Source: *Children Order Child Protection and Referral Statistics,, Quarter ending 31 March 2012, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Published 25 May 2012)*

[http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/copy\\_of\\_2\\_tab-a\\_children\\_order\\_child\\_protection\\_and\\_referral\\_statistics\\_quarter\\_ending\\_31\\_march\\_2012\\_read\\_online.docx](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/copy_of_2_tab-a_children_order_child_protection_and_referral_statistics_quarter_ending_31_march_2012_read_online.docx)

## 9 Education – Qualifications of school leavers

- In 2010/11, more than half (53.6%) of all school leavers achieved two or more A levels or equivalent, an increase of 9.0 percentage points over the last five years from 44.6% in 2006/07.
- The proportion of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A\* - C or equivalent increased from 64.7% in 2006/07 to 73.2% in 2010/11. Overall, 59.5% of school leavers achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A\* - C or equivalent including English and Maths in 2010/11, up from 54.2% in 2006/07.
- Over the last five years the proportion of pupils leaving school with no GCSEs has decreased from 3.9% in 2006/07 to 2.2% in 2009/10.



Source: Department of Education, School Leavers Survey

### Highest qualifications of school leavers (%), 2006/07 – 2009/10

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
2+ A Levels (A*-E)	44.6	46.7	50.6	53	53.6
5+ GCSEs (A*-C)	64.7	66.9	70.1	71.9	73.2
5+ GCSEs (A*-C) inc English and Maths	54.2	56.3	58.4	59	59.5
No GCSEs	3.9	3.6	2.9	2.1	2.2

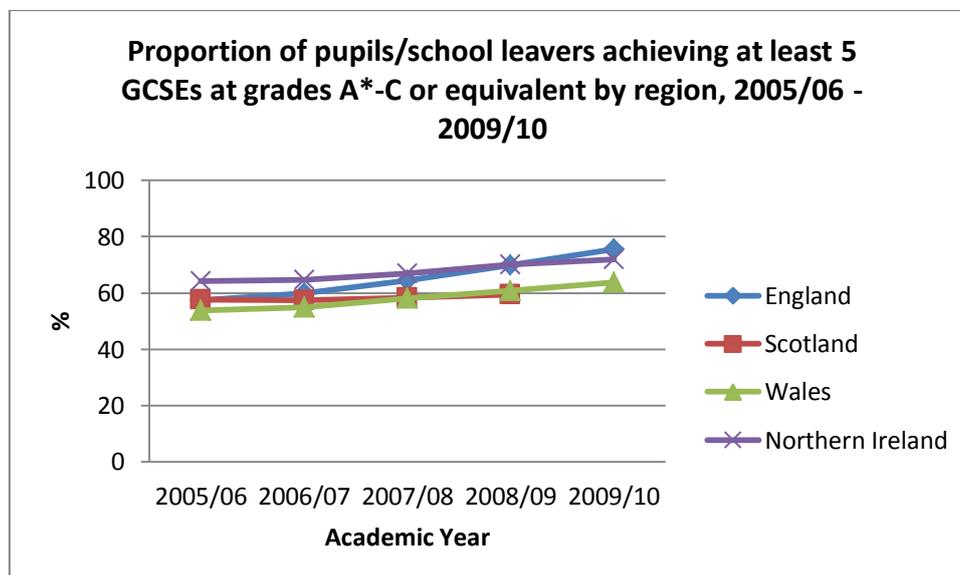
Source: Qualifications and Destinations of Northern Ireland School Leavers 2010/11, Department of Education (Published 12 May 2012)

[http://www.deni.gov.uk/qualifications\\_and\\_destinations\\_1011.pdf](http://www.deni.gov.uk/qualifications_and_destinations_1011.pdf)

### Regional comparisons

To allow comparison, the level of at least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C or equivalent has been selected as an indicator of educational achievement. It is worth noting that the education systems and methods of recording educational attainment across regions of the UK differ. Northern Ireland and Scotland carry out a survey of school leavers while England and Wales use GCSE results data. Pupils in Scotland do not sit GCSEs and have a different education system to the rest of the UK. The following data is equivalised and published by the Office for National Statistics in order to enable comparison.

- Until 2009/10, a higher proportion of school leavers in Northern Ireland achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C or equivalent when compared to pupils or school leavers in England, Scotland and Wales. In 2009/10, a slightly higher proportion of pupils in England achieved this level of educational attainment.
- Between 2005/06 and 2009/10, the proportion of pupils/school leavers in all regions of the UK achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C or equivalent has increased steadily.



Source: Office for National Statistics, *Regional Trends*

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=836>

## 10 Welfare – People in receipt of disability-related benefits

- At February 2012, there were 188,640 people in receipt of at least one component of Disability Living allowance, an increase of 0.4 percentage points on November 2011 and a 2.0 percentage point increase on February 2011.

**Disability Living Allowance Recipients by Claim Component, February 2005-February 2012**

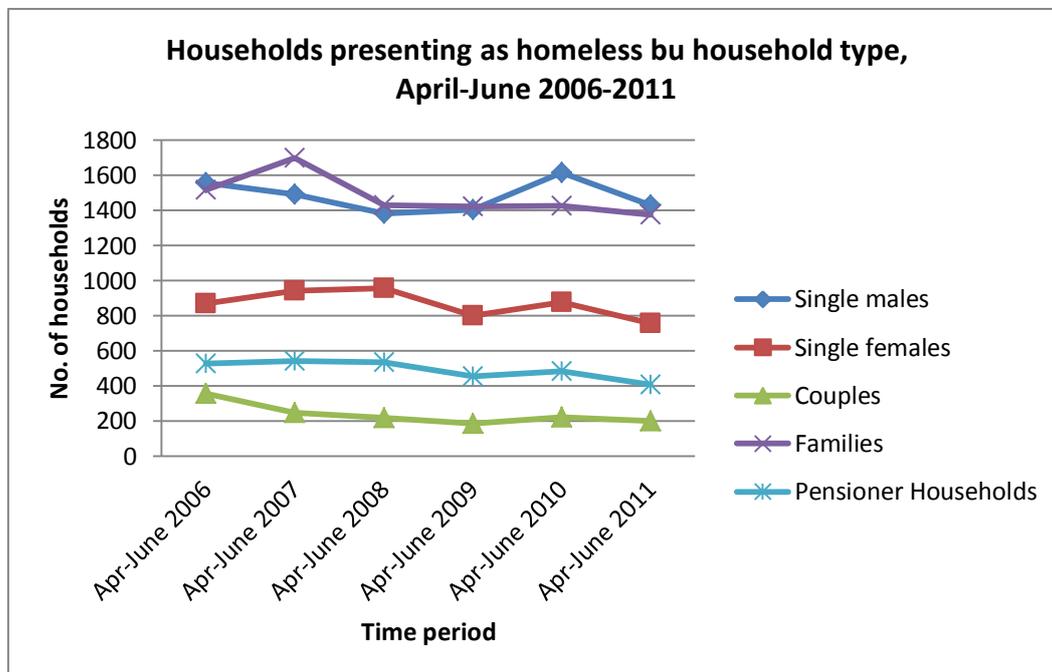
General Component		Care component only	Mobility Component only	Care and Mobility components	Total
<b>Year</b>	<b>Month</b>				
2005	February	23,290	13,190	127,990	164,480
	May	23,500	13,010	128,640	165,150
	August	23,830	12,940	129,470	166,240
	November	24,070	12,980	130,500	167,550
2006	February	24,380	13,010	131,400	168,790
	May	24,610	13,170	131,800	169,580
	August	24,620	13,180	131,960	169,760
	November	24,620	13,150	132,350	170,120
2007	February	24,700	13,120	133,640	171,460
	May	24,570	13,040	134,130	171,740
	August	24,530	12,900	135,210	172,650
	November	24,250	12,800	136,170	173,220
2008	February	24,020	12,680	136,680	173,380
	May	23,930	12,580	137,170	173,690
	August	23,860	12,420	138,330	174,620
	November	23,900	12,390	139,680	175,970
2009	February	23,870	12,260	140,650	176,780
	May	23,860	12,080	141,620	177,560
	August	23,930	11,900	143,310	179,140
	November	24,000	11,790	144,660	180,460
2010	February	24,110	11,760	145,750	181,610
	May	24,390	11,700	146,830	182,910
	August	24,610	11,660	147,780	184,040
	November	24,690	11,600	148,510	184,790
2011	February	24,690	11,570	148,610	184,860
	May	24,750	11,480	149,150	185,370
	August	24,870	11,410	150,370	186,640
	November	24,960	11,360	151,630	187,950
2012	February	24,900	11,220	152,520	188,640

Source: Northern Ireland Benefit Statistics Summary, February 2012, Department for Social Development (Published 25 May 2012)

[http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/benefits\\_statistics\\_summary\\_feb\\_12.doc](http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/benefits_statistics_summary_feb_12.doc)

## 11 Homelessness

- In total, 4,169 households presented as homeless to NIHE from April - June 2011<sup>1</sup>. 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>

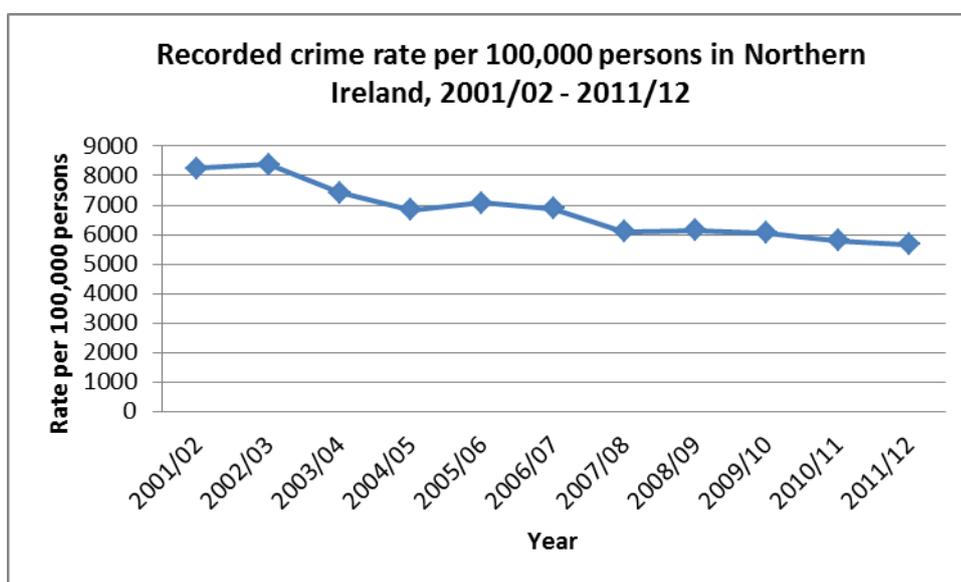
<http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/april - june 2009 internet copy.doc>

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

<sup>1</sup> As at 25/05/12, these were the latest figures available.

## 12 Crime

- There were 103,389 offences recorded by the PSNI in 2011/12, the lowest level since revised Home Office Counting Rules were introduced in April 1998. This equates to a rate of 5,787 per 100,000 persons.
- Both the number of offences and the crime rate have been falling steadily ever since 2001/02.
- Between 2010/11 and 2011/12, sexual offences decreased by 5.0%, robberies were down by 6.5%, burglaries were down by 10.7%, offences against vehicles fell by 13.2%, fraud & forgery offences fell by 9.0% and criminal damage offences were down by 7.0%.



Source: PSNI Crime Statistics

### Recorded crime in Northern Ireland 2005/06 – 2011/12

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
No of crimes	139,786	142,496	126,952	118,124	123,194	121,144
Rate per 100,000 persons	8,239	8,369	7,423	6,850	7,074	6,887

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
No of crimes	108,468	110,094	109,139	105,040	103,389
Rate per 100,000 persons	6,111	6,154	6,065	5,800	5,670

Source: PSNI Crime Statistics

[http://www.psni.police.uk/monthly\\_crime\\_update\\_apr-mar\\_11\\_12.xls](http://www.psni.police.uk/monthly_crime_update_apr-mar_11_12.xls)

[http://www.psni.police.uk/psni\\_11\\_12\\_stats\\_press\\_release\\_final.pdf](http://www.psni.police.uk/psni_11_12_stats_press_release_final.pdf)

### 13 Road Traffic Accident Casualties

- In 2011/12, 52 people were killed and 8,778 were injured, 806 of them seriously, in road traffic collisions in Northern Ireland.
- The 52 people killed on the roads of Northern Ireland in 2011/12 represent a decrease of 6 (10.3%) on the 58 killed in 2010/11 and a decrease of 67.1% on the 158 killed ten years ago in 2002/03 (Table 1).
- The number of persons seriously injured in road traffic collisions decreased by 85 (-9.5%) from 891 in 2010/11 to 806 in 2011/12. This represents a decrease of 45.8% on the same figure 10 years ago in 2002/03.



Source: *Police Recorded Injury Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties Northern Ireland*

#### Road traffic casualties, 2006/07 – 2010/11

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
<b>Killed</b>	158	142	140	134	128
<b>Seriously injured</b>	1,487	1,258	1,128	1,115	1,194
<b>Slightly injured</b>	9,901	9,022	7,478	7,128	7,910
<b>Total Casualties</b>	11,546	10,422	8,746	8,377	9,232

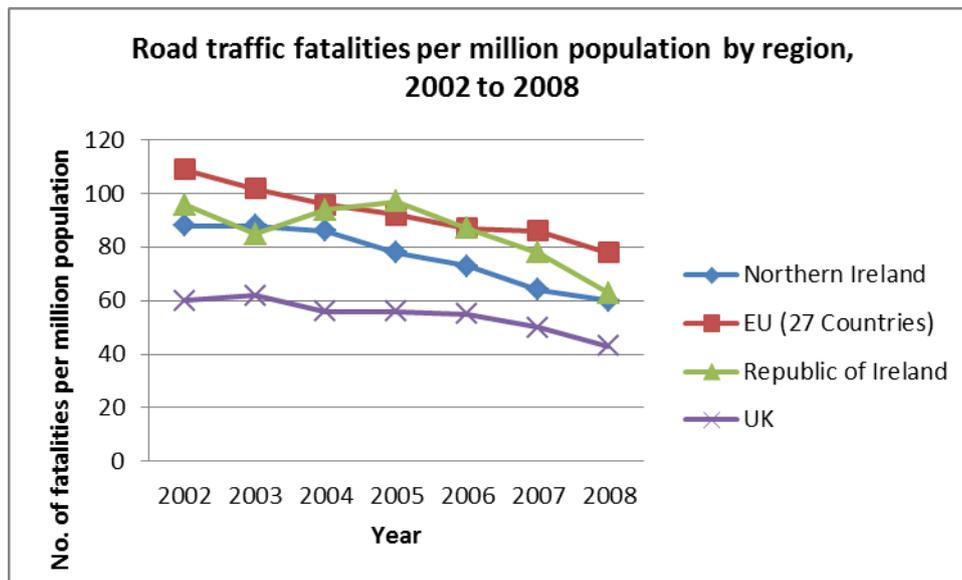
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
<b>Killed</b>	110	106	101	58	52
<b>Seriously injured</b>	1,076	998	995	891	806
<b>Slightly injured</b>	8,562	8,367	8,579	7,847	7,972
<b>Total Casualties</b>	9,748	9,471	9,675	8,796	8,830

Source: *Police Recorded Injury Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties Northern Ireland*

[http://www.psni.police.uk/annual\\_report\\_police\\_recorded\\_traffic\\_collisions\\_2011.12.pdf](http://www.psni.police.uk/annual_report_police_recorded_traffic_collisions_2011.12.pdf)

*Regional comparisons*

- Until 2008, the number of road traffic fatalities per million population in Northern Ireland was higher than the UK figure and lower than that of the EU (27 Countries). However, it is worth noting that in 2010/11 the Northern Ireland figure dropped significantly (comparative data currently unavailable).
- Between 2002 and 2008, the number of road traffic fatalities per million population has been falling steadily in Northern Ireland as it has in the UK and the EU as a whole.



Sources: PSNI (Northern Ireland figures); Eurostat (comparative data)

**Road traffic fatalities per million population by region, 2002 - 2008**

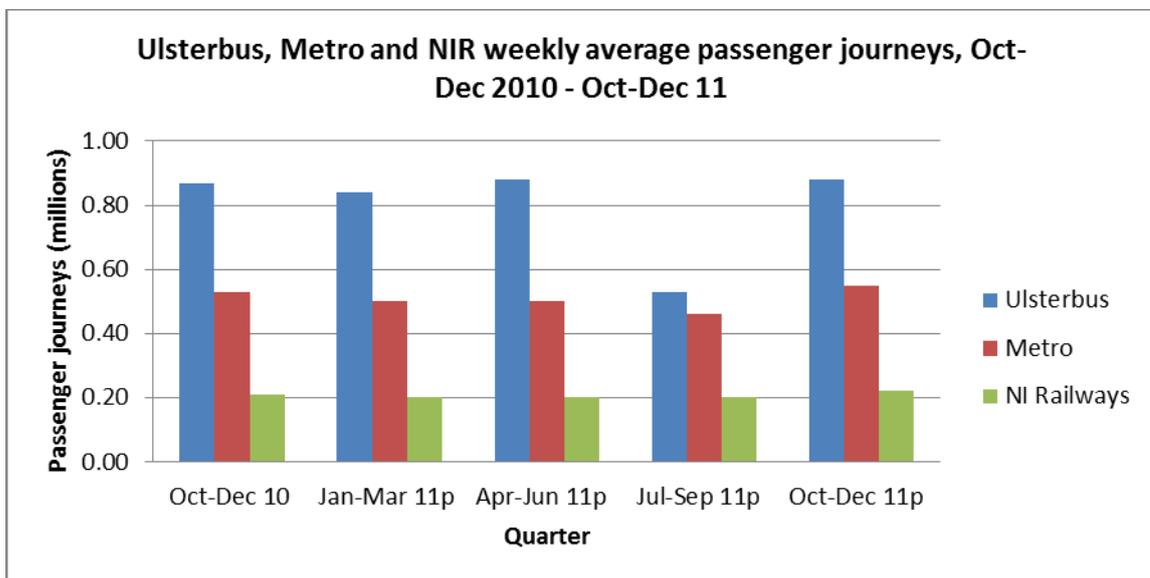
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
EU (27 Countries)	109	102	96	92	87	86	78
Republic of Ireland	96	85	94	97	87	78	63
UK	60	62	56	56	55	50	43
Northern Ireland	88	88	86	78	73	64	60

Sources: PSNI (Northern Ireland figures); Eurostat (comparative data)

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&pcode=tsdtr420&plugin=1>

## 14 Transport – Public Transport use

- There was a weekly average of 1.42 million public bus passenger journeys made during the quarter, an increase 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 (£2.47 million in October-December 2010, £2.48 million in October-December 2011).
- The weekly average rail passenger journeys in October to December 2011 increased by 5% to 0.22 million from 0.21 million compared to the corresponding quarter of 2010. During the same time period, weekly average rail passenger receipts increased by 5% to £0.66 million from £0.63 million.



Source: Northern Ireland Road and Rail Transport Statistics, October to December 2011, Department for Regional Development (Published 29 March 2012)

### Ulsterbus, Metro and NIR weekly average passenger journeys, Oct-Dec 2010 - 11

	Millions				
	Oct-Dec 10	Jan-Mar 11 <sup>p</sup>	Apr-Jun 11 <sup>p</sup>	Jul-Sep 11 <sup>p</sup>	Oct-Dec 11 <sup>p</sup>
Ulsterbus	0.87	0.84	0.88	0.53	0.88
Metro	0.53	0.50	0.50	0.46	0.55
NI Railways	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.22

[http://www.drndni.gov.uk/quarterly\\_road\\_and\\_rail\\_bulletin\\_oct-dec\\_2011.pdf](http://www.drndni.gov.uk/quarterly_road_and_rail_bulletin_oct-dec_2011.pdf)