



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Research Paper

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# **Census 2011: Detailed Characteristics of Ethnicity and Country of Birth at the Northern Ireland level**

**NIAR 631-13**

This Paper contains an analysis of Census 2011 data showing the relationships between Ethnicity / Country of Birth and a series of variables, including age, household size, tenure, health, education, and labour market activity.



## Executive Summary

### ETHNICITY

- On Census Day 2011, 1.8 per cent (32,400) of the resident population belonged to minority ethnic groups, more than double the proportion in 2001. Northern Ireland, however, remains the least ethnically diverse region in the United Kingdom.

### Ethnicity and Age

- Asian, Black, Mixed or Other ethnic groups have younger age profiles than those of White ethnicity. For example, 87 per cent of residents with Black ethnicity were aged under 45 years, compared with 61 per cent of Whites.

### Ethnicity and Household Size

- Census 2011 revealed that Asian, Black and Mixed households in Northern Ireland are generally larger than those of other ethnic groups. For example, households in which the Household Reference Person (HRP) was of Asian origin were more likely to contain 4 or more people (39 per cent) than households in which the HRP was White (25 per cent).

### Ethnicity and Tenure

- White residents were most likely to live in Owner-occupied accommodation (72 per cent), while people of Black ethnicity were least likely to do so (21 per cent). Conversely, those from the Black and Asian ethnic groups were most likely to rent privately (57 per cent and 44 per cent respectively), while the White ethnic group was least likely to do so (16 per cent).

### Ethnicity and Overcrowding

- Members of the Black ethnic group (30 per cent) were three times more likely than those of the White population (9.3 per cent) to live in overcrowded households. Rates for the remaining ethnic groups were Asian (24 per cent), Other (19 per cent) and Mixed ethnic group (13 per cent).

### Ethnicity and Health

- White residents were most likely to perceive their general health to be 'bad' or 'very bad' (5.7 per cent), while those from the Mixed or Asian ethnic groups were least likely to do so (1.6 per cent and 1.7 per cent respectively). Similarly, the White population were most likely to declare that their daily activities were limited 'a little' or 'a lot', while those from the Asian ethnic group were least likely to do so.

### **Ethnicity and Highest Level of Qualifications**

- The Asian ethnic group contains the highest proportion of residents in Northern Ireland with a degree level qualification or higher (44 per cent).

### **Ethnicity and Economic Activity**

- Asian residents aged 16-74 have the highest proportion of persons in any type of employment, including self-employment (64 per cent). Reflecting their older age profile, the White population have the highest proportion of retired persons (13 per cent) and long-term sick or disabled residents (7.4 per cent).

### **Ethnicity and Occupation**

- Professional occupations (SOC2) was the largest occupational group for each of the five main ethnic groups. Over a third (35 per cent) of residents with an Asian origin worked in Professional occupations, more than double the proportion of people of White ethnicity (17 per cent).

## **COUNTRY OF BIRTH**

- The proportion of the population born outside Northern Ireland rose from 9 per cent (151,000) in April 2001 to 11 per cent (202,000) in March 2011. This change was largely as a result of inward migration from the 12 countries which have joined the European Union since 2004 (EU 12). These accession states accounted for 2 per cent (35,700) of usual residents in Northern Ireland on Census Day 2011, while their share of the 2001 Census population was 0.1 per cent.

### **Country of Birth and Age**

- In broad terms, recent migrants (2004 onwards) tend to be younger than the indigenous population (residents born in Northern Ireland). Nearly three quarters (73 per cent) of EU 12 nationals are aged under 35 years, compared with less than half (47 per cent) of the host population.

### **Country of Birth and Household Size**

- Households occupied by EU 12 nationals tend to be larger (2.98 persons) than those of locally- born residents (2.54). Conversely, households in which the HRP was born in Northern Ireland were more likely to live alone (28 per cent) than households in which the HRP was from the EU 12 (12 per cent).

- **Country of Birth and Tenure**

- The new migrant communities (EU 12) in Northern Ireland are housed predominately in the private rental sector (76 per cent), compared with 13 per cent of Northern Ireland-born residents.

**Country of Birth and Occupancy Rating**

- Based upon the Census definition, the rate of overcrowding is around three times higher in the new migrant communities, compared with Northern Ireland-born residents. Over a quarter (27 per cent) of EU 12 residents live in properties where there is a degree of overcrowding, compared with 9 per cent of local residents. Overcrowding is more common in social rental properties compared with other forms of tenure.

**Country of Birth and Health**

- Clear differences emerged in Census 2011 between the self-reported health status of locally-born residents and those from migrant communities. In what is likely to be a reflection of their younger age profile, a higher proportion of EU 12 migrants declared they have very good or good health compared with their local counterparts.

**Country of Birth and Highest Level of Qualification**

- Northern Ireland-born residents are almost twice as likely to have no qualifications (30 per cent) as their EU 12 counterparts (17 per cent). On Census Day, while a higher proportion of local residents held a degree or higher, 41 per cent of EU 12 nationals possessed 'Other qualifications', including vocational awards and qualifications not obtained in the UK.

**Country of Birth and Proficiency in English**

- Overall, 97 per cent of all usual residents on Census Day 2011 declared that English was their main language, with only 0.2 per cent unable to speak English at all. For EU 12 nationals, while English was the main language of only 14 per cent, 57 per cent could speak English well or very well. Only 4 per cent had no proficiency in the language.

**Country of Birth and Economic Activity**

- A higher proportion of EU 12 nationals are in full-time employment (39 per cent) compared with Northern Ireland-born residents (35 per cent).

**Country of Birth and Occupation**

- EU 12 residents are heavily represented in the lower occupational groups. Given their level of educational attainment, this suggests a degree of under-employment.



# Contents

- Executive Summary .....3
- 1 Introduction .....9
- 2 Ethnicity** .....9
  - 2.1 Ethnicity and Age .....9
  - 2.2 Ethnicity and Household Size ..... 10
  - 2.3 Ethnicity and Tenure..... 11
  - 2.4 Ethnicity and Occupancy Rating ..... 12
  - 2.5 Ethnicity and Health..... 13
  - 2.6 Ethnicity and Highest Level of Qualifications ..... 14
  - 2.7 Ethnicity and Economic Activity ..... 16
  - 2.8 Ethnicity and Occupation ..... 16
- 3 Country of Birth** ..... 17
  - 3.1 Country of Birth and Age ..... 18
  - 3.2 Country of Birth and Household Size .....20
  - 3.3 Country of Birth and Tenure .....21
  - 3.4 Country of Birth and Occupancy Rating.....21
  - 3.5 Country of Birth and Health .....23
  - 3.6 Country of Birth and Highest Level of Qualification .....23
  - 3.7 Country of Birth and Proficiency in English .....24
  - 3.8 Country of Birth and Economic Activity .....25
  - 3.9 Country of Birth and Occupation.....26
  - 3.10 Country of Birth and Industry .....27



## 1 Introduction

This Paper provides an analysis of Census 2011 statistics, and shows the relationships between Ethnicity / Country of Birth and a series of other variables, including: age, household size, tenure, health, education, and economic activity. Where appropriate, some comparisons are also made with the 2011 Census Ireland, which was conducted around the same time.

## 2 Ethnicity

On Census Day 2011, 1.8 per cent (32,400) of the resident population of Northern Ireland belonged to minority ethnic groups, more than double the proportion in 2001 (0.8 per cent).

Table 2.1, however, reveals that Northern Ireland is the least ethnically diverse region in the United Kingdom, with the White ethnic group accounting for 98.2 per cent of the resident population.

**Table 2.1: White ethnic group as a proportion of UK population, Census 2011**

Country	Population (all Ethnic Groups)	White Ethnic Group <sup>1</sup> (%)
United Kingdom	63,182,178	87.1
England	53,012,456	85.3
Scotland	5,295,403	95.9
Wales	3,063,456	95.5
Northern Ireland	1,810,863	98.2

Source: ONS (2013) Table KS201UK

<sup>1</sup> Figures do not include Gypsies and Irish Travellers

### 2.1 Ethnicity and Age

Asian, Black, Mixed or Other main ethnic groups have younger age profiles than residents of White ethnicity (Table 2.2). For example, on Census Day 93 per cent of residents with Mixed ethnicity were aged under 45 years, compared with 87 per cent of Black origin, Asian (82 per cent), Other ethnic groups (76 per cent) and White (61 per cent).

In contrast, 15 per cent of Whites were aged 65 and over, compared with 5.4 per cent of those from Other ethnic groups, 3 per cent of Asian ethnicity, 1.3 per cent of people who were ethnically Black, and 1.1 per cent of Mixed ethnicity. The relatively small

proportion of minority ethnic groups in the older age groups is largely a result of migration (migrants tend to be younger than the host population).

**Table 2.2. Ethnic Group by Age, Census 2011**

	Total	White (%)	Traveller (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
<b>All Residents</b>	<b>1,810,863</b>	<b>1,778,449</b>	<b>1,301</b>	<b>19,130</b>	<b>3,616</b>	<b>6,014</b>	<b>2,353</b>
Aged 0 to 15	379,323	20.8	38.5	25.2	25.1	54.8	21.3
Aged 16 to 24	227,634	12.6	14.4	11.9	9.2	15.5	11.7
Aged 25 to 44	498,046	27.3	25.1	45.2	52.9	22.2	43.3
Aged 45 to 64	442,140	24.6	15.6	14.7	11.6	6.4	18.2
Aged 65 +	263,720	14.8	6.4	3.0	1.3	1.1	5.4
Aged 0 to 44	1,105,003	60.7	78.0	82.3	87.2	92.5	76.3

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2101NI

A striking feature of the Census results is the age profile of the Irish Traveller community in relation to the White population. While 78 per cent of Travellers are aged under 45, (61 per cent of Whites), only 6.4 per cent (83 persons) are aged 65 or over, compared with 15 per cent of those who are of White ethnicity.

The small number and proportion of older Travellers is a reflection of their much lower life expectancy. The recent *All Ireland Traveller Health Study* (2010) <sup>1</sup> found that male Travellers in Ireland (including Northern Ireland) had a life expectancy at birth of 61.7 years, equivalent to that of the general population in the 1940s. For female Travellers, life expectancy was 70.1 years, similar to that of the general population in the 1960s <sup>2</sup>. According to the Equality Authority (2011), the low life expectancy of Travellers is a consequence of their “difficult living circumstances” (p. xiv) <sup>3</sup>.

## 2.2 Ethnicity and Household Size

The demographic structure of households in Northern Ireland has changed dramatically over the past fifty years, with a trend towards smaller household units. As a result, average household size fell from 3.70 in 1961 to 2.54 in 2011.

Census 2011 revealed that Asian, Black and Mixed households in Northern Ireland are generally larger than those of other ethnic groups (Table 2.3). For example, households in which the Household Reference Person (HRP) was of Asian or Black origin were more likely to contain 4 or more people (39 per cent and 36 per cent

<sup>1</sup> DHSSPS (2010) *All Ireland Traveller Health Study*. University College Dublin. Available at: <http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/aihts.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> It is also worth noting that while Census 2011 enumerated a total of 1,301 Travellers in Northern Ireland, the *All Ireland Traveller Health Study* (UCD / DHSSPS, 2010) found a total of 1,562 Traveller families living in Northern Ireland, with an estimated Traveller population of 3,905.

<sup>3</sup> Equality Authority (2011) *Multiple Disadvantage in Ireland: An Equality Analysis of Census 2006*. Available at: [www.equality.ie/research](http://www.equality.ie/research)

respectively) than households in which the HRP was from the Other (30 per cent), Mixed (29 per cent) or White (25 per cent) ethnic groups.

**Table 2.3 Household Size by Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Household Size	Total	White (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
<b>All Households</b>	<b>703,275</b>	<b>693,524</b>	<b>6,186</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>844</b>
1 person	196,414	28.1	13.9	20.4	22.8	27.6
2 people	212,286	30.3	22.3	23.1	27.4	28.1
3 people	117,920	16.7	24.4	20.6	20.6	14.8
4 or more people	176,655	25.0	39.4	35.9	29.2	29.5
Average Size	2.54	2.54	3.10	2.98	2.73	2.65

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2405NI

## 2.3 Ethnicity and Tenure

In March 2011, 72 per cent of all residents in households lived in Owner-occupied households, 10 per cent lived in Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) accommodation, 2.7 per cent rented from Housing Associations, while 16 per cent lived in the Private rented sector (Table 2.4).

**Table 2.4 Tenure by Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Tenure Type	Total	White (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
All residents in households (count)	<b>1,788,339</b>	<b>1,758,045</b>	<b>18,573</b>	<b>3,473</b>	<b>5,943</b>	<b>2,305</b>
Owner-occupied	71.9	72.3	49.4	21.0	54.8	49.6
NIHE rental	9.6	9.6	4.6	13.8	11.2	7.6
Housing Assoc rental	2.7	2.7	1.9	8.5	3.6	2.2
Private rental	15.9	15.4	44.2	56.8	30.4	40.6

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2403NI

Table 2.3 reveals that the White ethnic group were most likely to live in Owner-occupied accommodation (72 per cent of residents), while people of Black ethnicity were least likely to do so (21 per cent). Conversely, those from the Black and Asian ethnic groups were most likely to privately rent (57 per cent and 44 per cent respectively), while the White ethnic group were least likely to do so (16 per cent).

In terms of social housing those of Black origin have the highest rates for renting from the NIHE (14 per cent) or Housing Associations (8.5 per cent), although the numbers involved are comparatively small<sup>4</sup>. The comparable proportions of the White population are 10 per cent and 2.7 per cent respectively.

## 2.4 Ethnicity and Occupancy Rating

The occupancy rating provides a measure of 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).

Table 2.5 shows the proportion of each ethnic group with an occupancy rating of -1 (indicating overcrowding) by tenure type. In 2011, the overall overcrowding rate (rooms) for all residents living in households was 9.5 per cent, somewhat less than the equivalent figure in Census 2001 (10.9 per cent)<sup>5</sup>.

The table shows that members of the Black ethnic group (30 per cent) were three times more likely than those of the White population (9.3 per cent) to live in overcrowded households. Rates for the remaining ethnic groups were Asian (24 per cent), Other (19 per cent) and Mixed ethnic group (13 per cent).

**Table 2.5 Overcrowding (per cent) by Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Tenure Type	Total	White (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
All residents in households (count)	1,788,339	1,758,045	18,573	3,473	5,943	2,305
All residents	9.5	9.3	24.3	29.7	12.7	18.9
Owner-occupied	6.3	6.2	13.8	14.7	7.1	7.6
NIHE rental	19.5	19.4	34.0	37.7	21.6	25.1
Housing Assoc rental	24.7	24.5	38.8	51.2	20.6	47.1
Private rental	15.8	15.1	34.4	30.0	18.8	30.1

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2403NI

Across all five main ethnic groups, overcrowding was highest within the two social rental sectors. The respective rates for people renting from the NIHE or Housing

<sup>4</sup> On Census Day 2011, 478 people of Black ethnicity were living in NIHE accommodation, while a further 295 were Housing Association tenants. For the White ethnic group, the comparable figures were 168,700 and 48,000 respectively (Table DC2403NI).

<sup>5</sup> NISRA (2003) Census 2001 - Table S365

Associations by ethnic group were: Black (38 per cent and 51 per cent); Other (25 per cent and 47 per cent); Asian (34 per cent and 39 per cent); White (19 per cent and 25 per cent); and Mixed (22 per cent and 21 per cent).

## 2.5 Ethnicity and Health

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

In a reflection of their older age profile, White residents were most likely to perceive their general health to be 'bad' or 'very bad' (5.7 per cent), while those from the Mixed or Asian ethnic groups were least likely to do so (1.6 per cent and 1.7 per cent respectively), see Table 2.6. For all ethnic groups, rates of perceived 'bad' or 'very bad' health increased with age.

**Table 2.6 Self-reported Health Status by Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Health Status	Total	White (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
All usual residents	1,810,863	1,779,750	18,573	3,473	5,943	2,305
Very good or good	1,439,803	79.3	90.0	90.5	92.7	85.6
Fair health	268,932	15.0	8.3	7.2	5.8	10.0
Bad or very bad	102,128	5.7	1.7	2.3	1.6	4.4

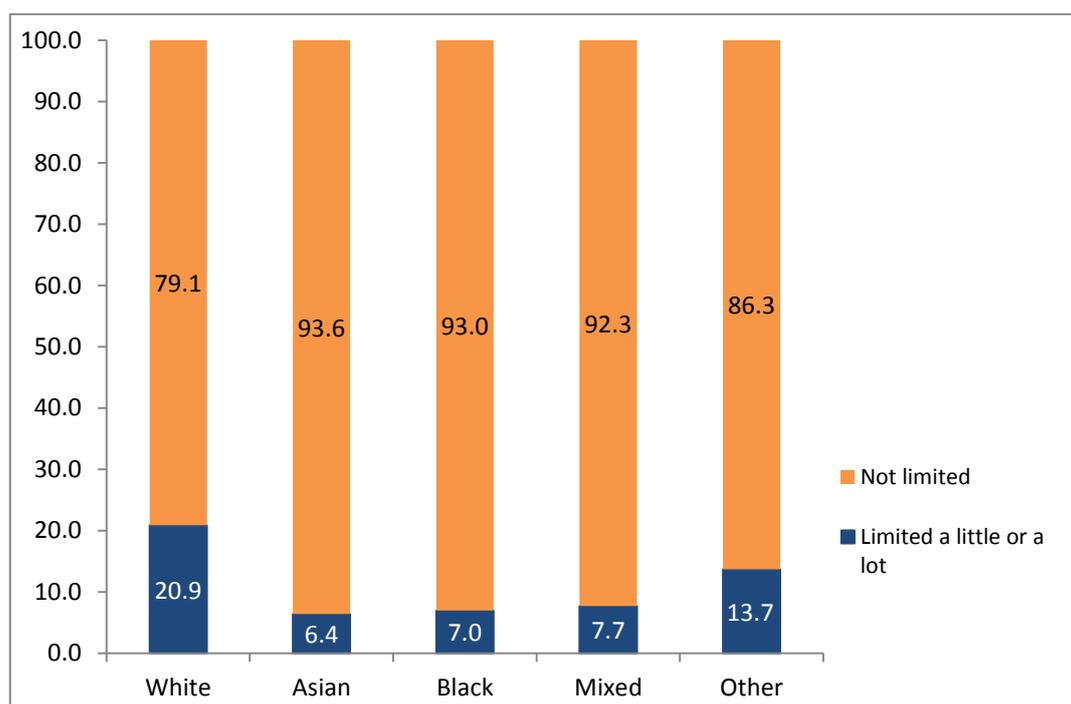
Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2403NI

In relation to the prevalence of a limiting long-term illness or disability, the White population were most likely to declare that their daily activities were limited 'a little' or 'a lot' (21 per cent), while those from the Asian ethnic group were least likely to do so (6.4 per cent), see Figure 2.1 and Table 2.7. Again, the differences between the White population and the other ethnic groups were most likely linked to the older age profile of locally-born residents.

**Table 2.7 Limiting Long-term illness by Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Day-to-day activities	Total	White (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
All usual residents	1,810,863	1,779,750	18,573	3,473	5,943	2,305
Limited a lot	214,192	12.0	2.8	3.3	3.6	7.2
Limited a little	158,188	8.9	3.6	3.7	4.1	6.5
Not limited	1,407,370	79.1	93.6	93.0	92.3	86.3

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2303NI

**Figure 2.1 Long-term health problem or disability by Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2303NI

## 2.6 Ethnicity and Highest Level of Qualifications

The Asian ethnic group contains the highest proportion of residents in Northern Ireland with a degree level qualification or higher (Table 2.8).

Across the five main ethnic groups, Asians have the largest proportion of residents with level 4 or higher qualifications (44 per cent), followed by the Mixed (35 per cent) and Other (34 per cent) ethnic groups. The White population have the lowest proportion (23 per cent) <sup>6</sup>.

<sup>6</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.

Level 3: 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma, NVQ Level 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).

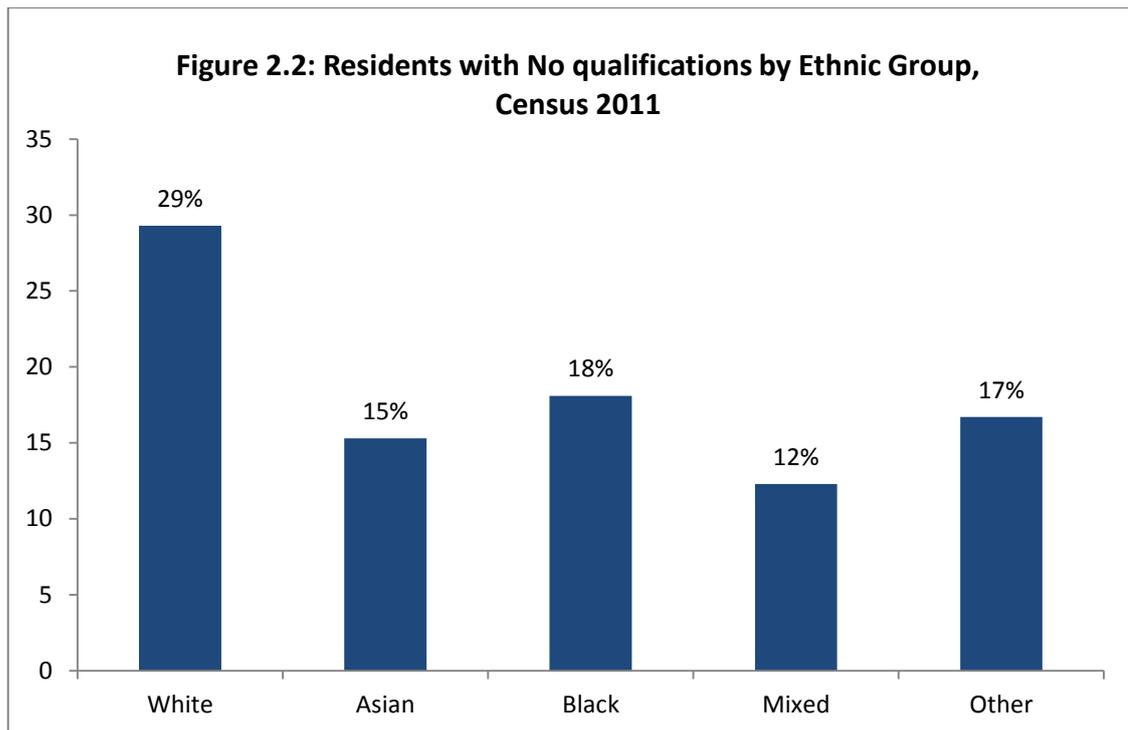
Other qualifications: Vocational/Work-related Qualifications, Qualifications gained outside the UK (Not stated/level unknown).

**Table 2.8 Highest Level of Qualifications by Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Highest Qualifications	Total	White (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
All residents aged 16+	1,431,540	1,409,957	14,305	2,708	2,719	1,851
No qualifications	416,851	29.3	15.3	18.1	12.3	16.7
Level 1	164,798	11.6	7.4	10.7	11.7	8.2
Level 2	213,570	15.0	7.4	13.6	16.5	10.0
Apprenticeships	60,462	4.3	0.8	2.1	1.8	3.0
Level 3	176,110	12.4	7.7	8.8	14.9	10.9
Level 4 or higher	338,544	23.4	44.1	31.4	34.6	34.1
Other	61,205	4.1	17.3	15.3	8.1	17.2

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2501NI

Conversely, the White population have the largest proportion of residents with no qualifications (29 per cent), followed by Blacks (18 per cent) and the Other ethnic group (17 per cent), see Figure 2.2.



Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2501NI

## 2.7 Ethnicity and Economic Activity

On Census Day 2011, residents aged 16-74 from the Black ethnic group had the highest economic activity rate <sup>7</sup> (74 per cent), whereas the White population had the lowest (66 per cent). Economic activity rates for the remaining main ethnic groups were: Asian and Other (72 per cent) and Mixed (70 per cent).

Asian residents aged 16-74 had the highest proportion of persons in any type of employment, including self-employment (64 per cent), while those of Mixed ethnicity had the lowest proportion (54 per cent). The proportions in employment for the remaining ethnic groups were similar: Black (57 per cent); White (58 per cent); and Other (58 per cent).

Reflecting their older age profile, the White population had the highest proportion of retired persons (13 per cent) and long-term sick or disabled (7.4 per cent).

**Table 2.9 Economic Activity by Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Economic Activity	White (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
<b>All usual residents (16-74)</b>	<b>1,292,107</b>	<b>14,112</b>	<b>2,697</b>	<b>2,701</b>	<b>1,803</b>
<b>Economically active</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>73.7</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>71.7</b>
Employee, Full-time	35.5	43.3	41.3	34.6	39.3
Employee, Part-time	13.1	11.7	10.9	13.6	10.0
Self-employed	8.9	8.9	4.5	6.1	9.2
Unemployed	5.0	3.8	12.4	6.8	7.3
Full-time student	3.6	4.4	4.6	9.0	5.9
<b>Economically inactive</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>29.8</b>	<b>28.3</b>
Retired	13.1	3.8	1.7	2.3	5.1
Student	6.1	12.0	7.8	16.1	8.1
Looking after home/family	4.4	6.3	6.2	4.8	4.7
Long-term sick/disabled	7.4	1.5	2.5	3.2	4.0
Other	2.9	4.1	8.2	3.4	6.3

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2601NI

## 2.8 Ethnicity and Occupation

Professional occupations was the largest major occupational group for each of the five main ethnic groups among residents aged 16-74 in employment, based on Standard Occupation Classification 2010 (SOC 2010).

<sup>7</sup> The **economically active** include those in employment (including the self-employed), the unemployed and full-time students in employment.

Over a third (35 per cent) of those of Asian origin worked in Professional occupations, more than double the proportion of people of White ethnicity (17 per cent). The equivalent rates for the other main ethnic groups were: Mixed (23 per cent); Other (21 per cent) and Black (19 per cent).

**Table 2.10 Standard Occupational Classification and Ethnic Group, Census 2011**

Standard Occupational class (SOC)	White (%)	Asian (%)	Black (%)	Mixed (%)	Other (%)
Residents aged 16-74 in employment	781,330	9,527	1,615	1,648	1,143
1. Managers and senior officials	8.0	7.9	4.3	7.8	6.2
2. Professional occupations	16.9	35.1	19.1	22.6	21.4
3. Associate professional and tech occupations	8.7	5.5	10.8	12.0	10.7
4. Administrative occupations	14.2	5.0	9.3	11.1	6.7
5. Skilled trades	14.0	14.9	7.1	5.8	11.3
6. Caring, leisure and other services	9.3	9.8	11.9	9.7	7.3
7. Sales and customer services	10.1	7.2	8.9	14.2	9.3
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	8.0	3.2	12.0	5.2	13.7
9. Elementary occupations	10.8	11.4	16.7	11.5	13.3

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2603NI

White people were more likely to work in administrative occupations (14 per cent) than other ethnic groups, while those with Black ethnicity were more likely to work as plant and machine operatives (12 per cent) and in elementary occupations (17 per cent) than other groups.

### 3 Country of Birth

The proportion of the population born outside Northern Ireland rose from 9 per cent (151,000) in April 2001 to 11 per cent (202,000) in March 2011. This change was largely as a result of inward migration by people born in the 12 countries which have joined the European Union (EU 12) since 2004<sup>8</sup>. These EU accession countries accounted for 2 per cent (35,700) of usual residents in Northern Ireland on Census Day 2011, while their share of the 2001 Census population was 0.1 per cent.

The top three Accession states are Poland (19,700 residents), Lithuania (7,300) and Slovakia (2,700). Together, they accounted for 83 per cent of all EU 12 residents living in Northern Ireland on Census Day 2011<sup>9</sup>.

<sup>8</sup> The EU 12 countries are comprised of the following: Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria and Romania.

<sup>9</sup> See NIAR 161-13 for detailed analysis of country of birth by Assembly Area.

Table 3.1 shows that, while the proportion of Polish nationals in Northern Ireland (1.1 per cent of the resident population) is similar to England and Scotland, the proportion of Lithuanians in Northern Ireland (0.4 per cent) is twice that of England (0.2 per cent) and four times that of Scotland (0.1 per cent).

A Census was conducted in the Republic of Ireland on 10 April 2011. Results showed that Polish and Lithuanian nationals account for a higher proportion of the population in the Republic of Ireland than in Northern Ireland. There were 122,585 Polish and 36,683 Lithuanian nationals living in the State in 2011, accounting for 2.7 per cent and 0.8 per cent of the total population respectively <sup>10</sup>.

**Table 3.1 Proportion of Polish and Lithuanian Nationals by UK Region, Census 2011**

Country	Total Population	Poland (%)	Lithuania (%)
United Kingdom	63,182,178	1.0	0.2
England	53,012,456	1.1	0.2
Scotland	5,295,403	1.0	0.1
Wales	513,242	0.6	0.0
Northern Ireland	1,810,863	1.1	0.4
Republic of Ireland <sup>11</sup>	4,588,252	2.7	0.8

Source: ONS (2013) Table QS203UK; CSO Ireland (2012)

### 3.1 Country of Birth and Age

Census 2011 highlights the age differences between the migrant and host populations in Northern Ireland. In broad terms, recent migrants (2004 onwards) tend to be younger than the indigenous population (residents born in Northern Ireland), see Table 3.2 and Fig 3.1.

Table 3.2 shows a comparison between residents born in Northern Ireland, the EU 12 Accession states, and a selected number of individual states. Nearly three quarters (73 per cent) of EU 12 nationals are aged under 35 years, compared with less than half (47 per cent) of the host population. By far the largest proportion (57 per cent) of EU 12 nationals are young adults, aged 16 – 34 years. In contrast, less than one per cent of EU 12 nationals are aged 65 or over, compared with 15 per cent of locally-born residents.

The age profile of non-Irish residents in the Republic of Ireland is also younger than the host population, reflecting their decision to come to Ireland for work or study. The

<sup>10</sup> Central Statistics Office Ireland (2012a) **Profile 6, Migration and Diversity**, October 2012. Available at:

<http://www.cso.ie/en/census/census2011reports/census2011profile6migrationanddiversity-aprofileofdiversityinireland/>

<sup>11</sup> Central Statistics Office Ireland (2012b) **This is Ireland, Highlights from Census 2011, part 1**, March 2012. Available at:

<http://www.cso.ie/en/census/census2011reports/census2011thisisirelandpart1/>

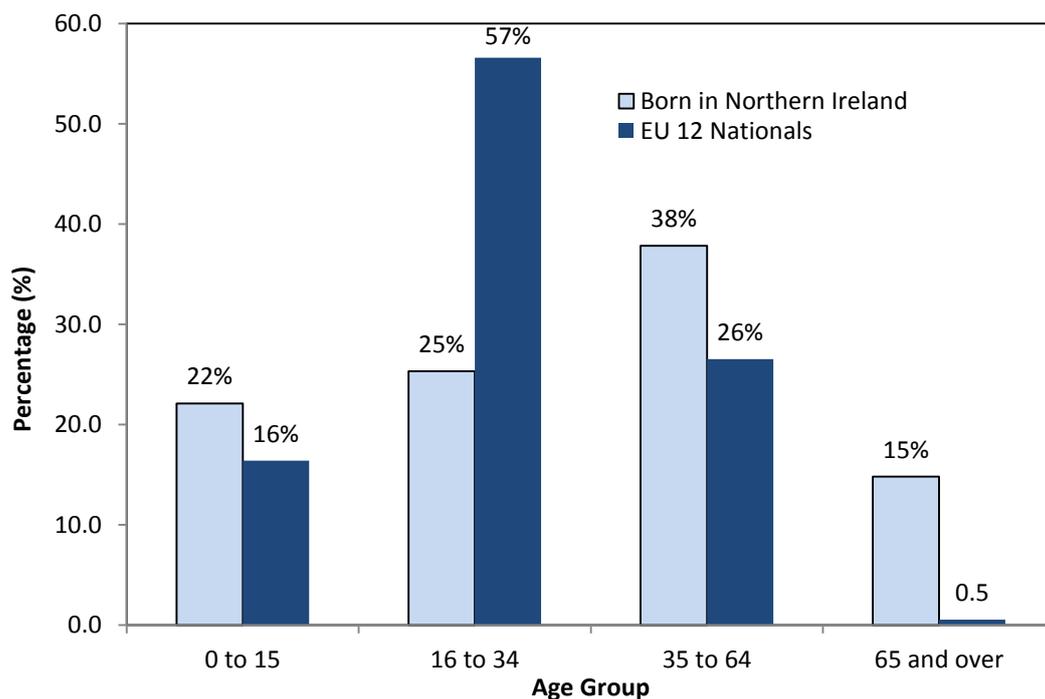
median (average) age of non-Irish nationals was 32.6 years in 2011, compared with 36.7 for Irish nationals <sup>12</sup>.

**Table 3.2 Country of Birth by broad age band, Census 2011**

	Total	0-15 years (%)	16-34 years (%)	35-64 years (%)	65+ years (%)
<b>Born in Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1,608,853</b>	22.1	25.3	37.8	14.8
<i>EU 12 Accession countries</i>	<b>35,720</b>	16.4	56.6	26.5	0.5
Poland	<b>19,658</b>	17.7	57.2	24.7	0.3
Lithuania	<b>7,341</b>	16.7	56.0	26.9	0.4
Slovakia	<b>2,681</b>	10.8	60.6	28.4	0.1
Latvia	<b>2,297</b>	17.9	52.9	28.9	0.3
Romania	<b>1,094</b>	15.4	60.7	23.0	0.9
Other Accession countries	<b>2,649</b>	10.2	51.2	36.3	2.3

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2107NI

**Figure 3.1 Comparison of Northern Ireland-born residents and EU 12 Nationals, Census 2011**



Source: NINIS, NISRA (2013) Table DC2107NI

<sup>12</sup> Central Statistics Office Ireland (2012b) *Op Cit.*

### 3.2 Country of Birth and Household Size

Reflecting a decline in birth rates and other social changes, average household size in Northern Ireland fell from 3.70 persons in 1961 to 2.54 in 2011. The past decade has also witnessed a surge in migration, and Table 3.3 presents an analysis of household size by the country of birth of the Household Reference Person (HRP). The analysis includes indigenous residents, EU 12 nationals, and three selected countries.

**Table 3.3 Household Size by Country of Birth of HRP, Census 2011**

Household Size	Total (%)	NI-born (%)	EU 12 (%)	Poland (%)	Lithuania (%)	Romania (%)
<b>Households</b>	<b>703,275</b>	<b>613,252</b>	<b>13,124</b>	<b>7,220</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>365</b>
1 person	27.9	28.5	12.0	10.6	12.5	12.6
2 people	30.2	30.2	28.2	27.4	26.1	30.1
3 people	16.8	16.5	27.8	28.9	26.4	22.7
4 or more people	25.2	24.8	32.0	33.2	35.0	34.5
Average Size	2.54	2.53	2.98	3.01	3.08	3.11

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2409NI

Table 3.3 reveals that households occupied by EU 12 nationals tend to be larger (2.98 persons) than those of locally-born residents (2.54). The small Romanian community (365 households), which is primarily composed of Roma families, has the largest household size (3.11) of all households headed by an EU 12 national<sup>13</sup>.

Households in which the Household Reference Person (HRP) was from Lithuania or Romania were more likely to contain 4 or more people (35 per cent and 34 per cent respectively) than households in which the HRP was from Poland (33 per cent) or born in Northern Ireland (25 per cent).

Conversely, households in which the HRP was born in Northern Ireland were more likely to live alone (28 per cent) than households in which the HRP was from Romania (13 per cent), Lithuania (12 per cent), the EU 12 (12 per cent) or Poland (11 per cent).

#### Republic of Ireland

In Ireland, the average household size of Irish-born residents was 2.57, similar to that of Northern Ireland-born residents (2.53). The largest average household size was recorded for Filipino-only households at 2.92 persons<sup>14</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> Household size was also comparatively large where the HRP was born in Pakistan (3.57), Bangladesh (3.43), The Philippines (3.35) and East Timor (4.14).

<sup>14</sup> Central Statistics Office (2012b) *Op cit.*

### 3.3 Country of Birth and Tenure

Table 3.4 presents an analysis of household tenure for Northern Ireland-born residents, the EU 12, Poland, Lithuania and the Philippines <sup>15</sup>.

The table reveals that the new migrant communities in Northern Ireland are predominately housed in the private rental sector.

**Table 3.4 Country of Birth and Tenure, Census 2011**

Tenure Type	Total	NI (%)	EU 12 (%)	Poland (%)	Lithuania (%)	Philippines (%)
All residents in households (count)	<b>1,788,339</b>	<b>1,590,852</b>	<b>35,610</b>	<b>19,625</b>	<b>7,314</b>	<b>2,939</b>
Owner-occupied	71.9	74.1	15.7	13.1	17.8	33.9
NIHE rental	9.6	9.8	6.5	6.9	7.5	2.6
Housing Assoc rental	2.7	2.8	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.1
Private rental	15.9	13.3	76.0	78.1	72.9	62.3

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2407NI

While 13 per cent of Northern Ireland-born residents are privately renting, this figure rises to 78 per cent for Polish nationals, 76 per cent (EU 12) and 73 per cent (Lithuanian). In contrast, locally-born residents had the highest proportion of owner-occupiers (74 per cent), followed by residents from the Philippines (34 per cent) and Lithuania (18 per cent) <sup>16</sup>.

Compared with other forms of tenure, the proportion in social housing (both NIHE and Housing Association) is more closely aligned across the various countries in Table 3.4. Northern Ireland-born residents account for the largest proportion in social housing (13 per cent), followed by Poland and Lithuania (both 9 per cent) and the EU 12 (8 per cent).

### 3.4 Country of Birth and Occupancy Rating

As noted in section 2.4, the occupancy rating provides a measure of 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.

<sup>15</sup> Household tenure for the full list of 37 countries, and associated regions, can be examined in Table DC2407NI (NINIS website).

<sup>16</sup> The Filipino community is the longest established of the new migrant communities, having begun to arrive in Northern Ireland from the mid-1970s onwards. This may account, at least in part, for the relatively high proportion in home ownership.

Table 3.5 shows the proportion of residents living in properties with an occupancy rating of -1 (potential overcrowding) for each tenure type and country of birth (selected countries).

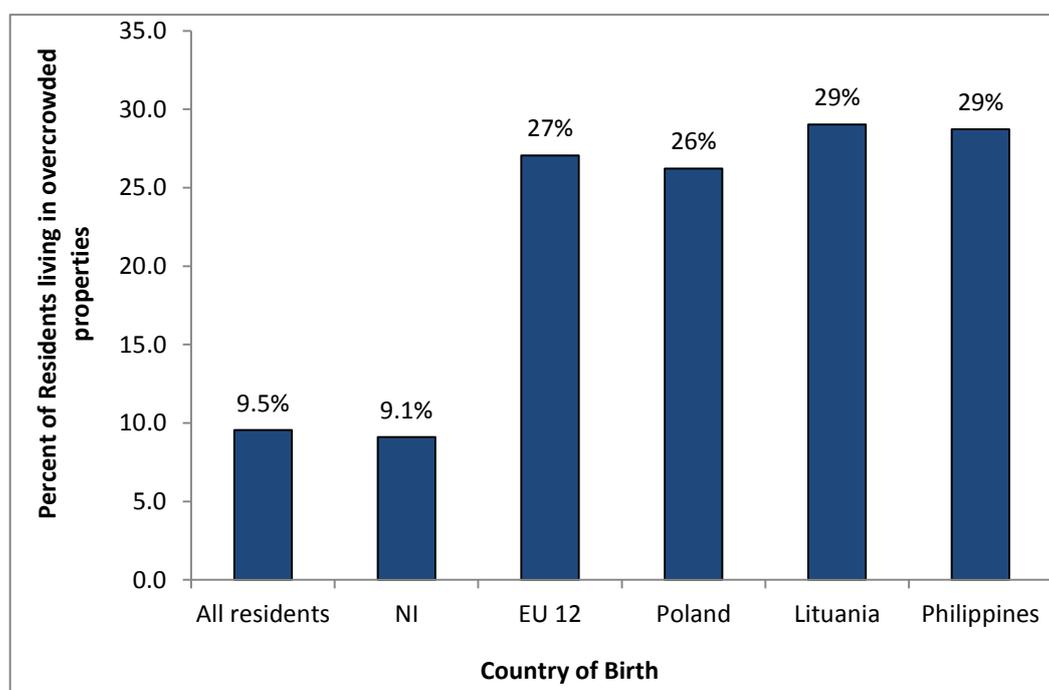
**Table 3.5 Overcrowding (per cent) by Country of Birth, Census 2011**

Tenure Type	Total	NI (%)	EU 12 (%)	Poland (%)	Lithuania (%)	Philippines (%)
All residents in households (count)	<b>1,788,339</b>	<b>1,590,852</b>	<b>35,610</b>	<b>19,625</b>	<b>7,314</b>	<b>2,939</b>
All residents	9.5	9.1	27.1	26.2	29.0	28.7
Owner-occupied	6.3	6.3	18.3	19.6	19.1	22.3
NIHE rental	19.5	19.5	30.5	30.0	30.3	36.4
Housing Assoc. rental	24.7	24.2	45.3	45.3	48.1	27.3
Private rental	15.8	13.9	28.1	26.5	30.9	31.9

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2407NI

Looking at residents as a whole, social housing exhibits the highest rate of overcrowding. A quarter (25 per cent) of residents living in housing association properties have an occupancy rating of -1, followed by NIHE properties (19 cent) and private rentals (16 per cent). Overcrowding is least prominent in owner-occupied properties (6 per cent).

**Figure 3.2 Proportion of residents (all tenure types) living in overcrowded accommodation by Country of Birth, Census 2011**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2407NI

When the data is reviewed by country of birth, the rate of overcrowding is around three times higher in the new migrant communities, compared with Northern Ireland-born residents (Fig 3.2). For example, over a quarter (27 per cent) of EU 12 residents live in properties where there is a degree of overcrowding, compared with 9 per cent of local residents.

### 3.5 Country of Birth and Health

Clear differences emerge in Census 2011 between the self-reported health status of locally-born residents and those from migrant communities. In what is likely to be a reflection of their younger age profile, a higher proportion of migrants declare they have very good or good health compared with their local counterparts (Table 3.6).

**Table 3.6 Self-reported Health Status by Country of Birth, Census 2011**

Health Status	Total	NI-born (%)	EU 12 (%)	Poland (%)	Lithuania (%)	Philippines (%)
All usual residents	1,810,863	1,608,853	35,720	19,658	7,341	2,947
Very good or good	1,439,803	79.2	92.4	93.0	91.5	96.9
Fair health	268,932	15.0	6.2	5.6	7.0	2.7
Bad or very bad	102,128	5.8	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.4

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2304NI

While 80 per cent of Northern Ireland-born residents reported they experienced very good or good health, this figure rose to 97 per cent for Filipino residents and 92 per cent for those born in the EU 12 countries. In contrast, only 0.4 per cent of Filipino nationals, and 1.4 per cent of EU 12 nationals, declared they had bad or very bad health, compared with 5.8 per cent of Northern Ireland-born residents.

### 3.6 Country of Birth and Highest Level of Qualification

Table 3.7 shows the highest level of qualifications obtained by residents aged 16+ from Northern Ireland compared with those from the EU 12 countries. The table reveals that EU 12 nationals were more likely to have some form of educational qualifications<sup>17</sup> than their local counterparts.

<sup>17</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.

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

**Table 3.7 Highest Level of Qualifications by Country of Birth, Census 2011**

Highest Qualifications	Total	NI-born (%)	EU 12 (%)
All residents aged 16+	1,431,540	<b>1,253,393</b>	<b>29,867</b>
No qualifications	29.1	30.3	16.9
Level 1	11.5	11.8	7.1
Level 2	14.9	15.3	8.2
Apprenticeships	4.2	4.4	1.5
Level 3	12.3	12.5	6.6
Degree or higher	23.6	22.7	18.3
Other	4.3	2.9	41.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2503NI

Northern Ireland-born residents were almost twice as likely to have no qualifications (30 per cent) as their EU 12 counterparts (17 per cent). While a higher proportion of local residents held a degree or higher (23 per cent versus 18 per cent), 41 per cent of EU 12 nationals possessed 'Other qualifications'. This includes vocational awards and qualifications not recognised in the UK.

### Republic of Ireland

The proportion of non-Irish nationals with a degree or higher was 31.3 per cent in April 2011, compared with 27.1 per cent of Irish nationals<sup>18</sup>. Indian nationals had the highest percentage with a degree or higher (77 per cent), followed by Filipinos (64 per cent). Nationals from Latvia (11 per cent), Lithuania (15 per cent) and Romania (18 per cent) had below average rates<sup>19</sup>.

## 3.7 Country of Birth and Proficiency in English

An inability to speak or understand the language of the host nation is a major impediment to gainful employment for migrant communities everywhere. Table 3.8 presents data on proficiency in English by selected country of birth.

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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).

<sup>18</sup> Central Statistics Office Ireland (2012b) *Op cit.*

<sup>19</sup> Central Statistics Office Ireland (2012b) *Op cit.*

**Table 3.8 Proficiency in English by Country of Birth, Census 2011**

Proficiency in English	Total	NI-born (%)	EU 12 (%)	Poland (%)	Philippines (%)
All usual residents, aged 3+	1,735,711	1,535,808	35,148	19,328	2,935
Main Language is English	96.9	99.6	14.0	11.8	35.1
Main language not English					
Can speak English well/very well	2.3	0.3	57.2	58.9	64.3
Cannot speak English well	0.7	0.0	24.5	24.6	0.6
Cannot speak English	0.2	0.0	4.3	4.7	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2223NI

Overall, 97 per cent of all usual residents on Census Day 2011 declared that English was their main language, with only 0.2 per cent unable to speak English at all. For EU 12 nationals, while English was the main language of only 14 per cent, 57 per cent could speak English well or very well, compared with a quarter (24 per cent) who could not speak English well. Only 4.3 per cent had no proficiency in the language<sup>20</sup>. The Polish community, the largest of the new migrant communities, has an English proficiency level similar to EU 12 residents as a whole.

The Filipino community is long-established in Northern Ireland, a fact which is reflected in their level of English proficiency: English is the main language for over a third (35 per cent), while the remaining two-thirds (64 per cent) can speak English either well or very well.

### 3.8 Country of Birth and Economic Activity

In terms of economic activity, the labour market profile of the new migrant communities (EU 12 nationals) is not dissimilar to that of the host population, although the economic activity rate for EU 12 nationals (68 per cent) is somewhat higher than for Northern Ireland-born residents (65 per cent). This is mainly accounted for by the higher proportion of EU 12 nationals in full-time employment (39 per cent versus 35 per cent).

It follows from the above that the economic *inactivity* rate for EU 12 nationals (32 per cent) is somewhat lower than for locally-born residents (34 per cent). The difference primarily results from the smaller proportion of retired persons and students in the EU 12 population, compared with locally-born residents.

<sup>20</sup> Census 2011 Table DC2223NI lists a total of 63 individual countries and regions of the world outside the UK. The largest proportion of usual residents who cannot speak English at all were born in China (8.1 per cent), followed by East Asia (5.9 per cent) and Portugal (4.9 per cent). Residents born in East Timor (27 per cent) accounted for the largest proportion of resident who cannot speak English well, followed by Slovakia and Lithuania (both 27 per cent).

**Table 3.9 Economic Activity by Country of Birth, Census 2011**

Economic Activity	All residents (%)	NI-born (%)	EU-12 (%)
<b>All usual residents (16-74)</b>	1,313,420	1,147,446	29,801
<b>Economically active</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>67.8</b>
Employee, Full-time	35.6	34.7	38.7
Employee, Part-time	13.1	13.1	12.1
Self-employed	8.9	9.1	8.1
Unemployed	5.0	4.9	5.7
Full-time student	3.7	3.7	3.2
<b>Economically inactive</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>32.2</b>
Retired	12.9	13.4	11.8
Student	6.2	6.3	5.2
Looking after home/family	4.4	4.3	5.3
Long-term sick/disabled	7.3	7.6	7.1
Other	2.9	2.9	2.8

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC26061NI

### 3.9 Country of Birth and Occupation

Table 3.10 and Fig 3.3 contain a comparison of Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) between Northern Ireland-born residents and those from the EU 12. The table reveals that the new migrant workers (i.e. those who have come to Northern Ireland since 2004) are heavily represented in the lower occupational groups.

**Table 3.10 Standard Occupational Classification by Country of Birth, Census 2011**

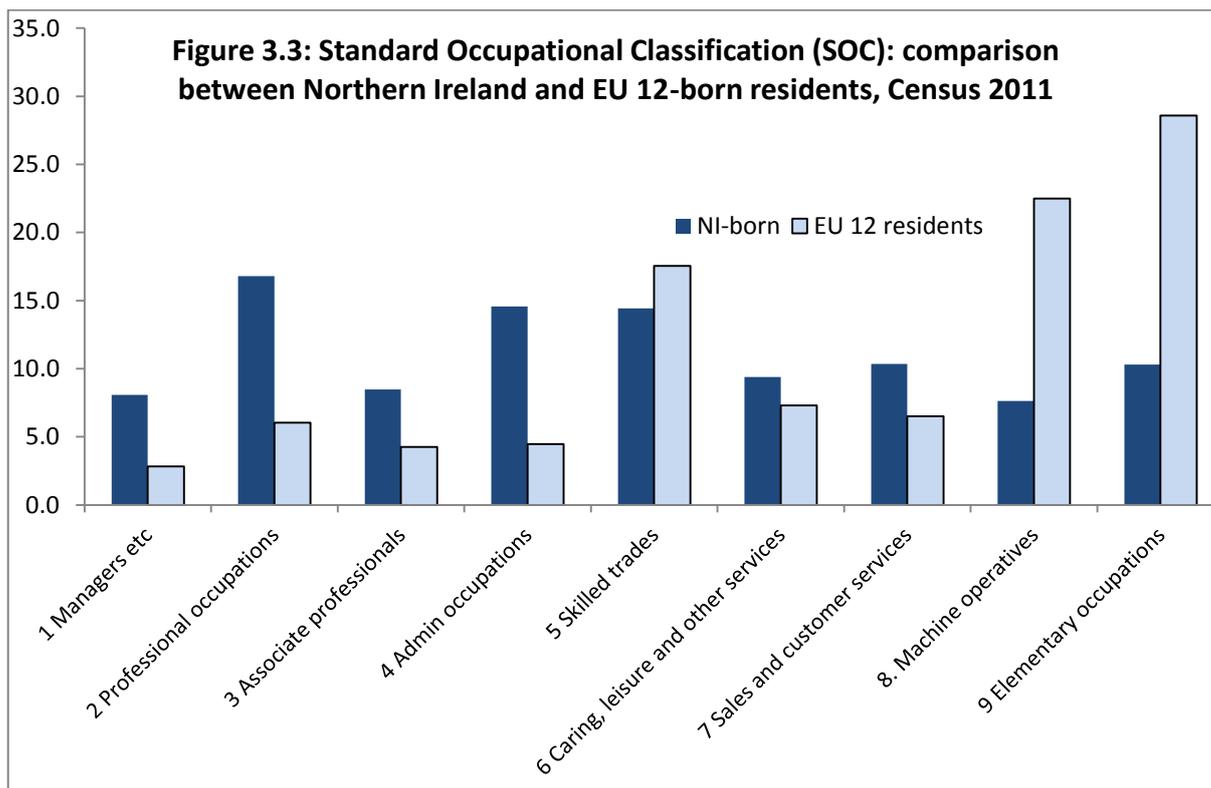
Standard Occupational class (SOC)	All (%)	NI-born (%)	EU 12 (%)
Residents aged 16-74 in employment	<b>795,263</b>	<b>687,643</b>	<b>23,483</b>
1. Managers and senior officials	8.0	8.1	2.8
2. Professional occupations	17.2	16.8	6.0
3. Associate professional and tech occupations	8.6	8.5	4.3
4. Administrative occupations	14.1	14.6	4.5
5. Skilled trades	14.0	14.4	17.5
6. Caring, leisure and other services	9.3	9.4	7.3
7. Sales and customer services	10.0	10.3	6.5
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	8.0	7.6	22.5
9. Elementary occupations	10.8	10.3	28.6
<b>Total</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2607NI

Just over two-thirds (69 per cent) of residents born in the EU 12 are concentrated in three SOC groups, namely: Elementary occupations (SOC9, 29 per cent), Process,

Plant and Machine operatives (SOC8, 22 per cent) and Skilled Trades (SOC5, 17 per cent). The comparable figure for Northern Ireland-born residents is one-third (32 per cent).

Only 2.8 per cent of EU 12 nationals are employed as Managers and senior officials (SOC1) and a further six per cent in Professional occupations (SOC2). In contrast, a quarter (25 per cent) of Northern Ireland-born residents are in the SOC1 and SOC2 categories.



Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2607NI

Table 3.7 (above) showed that 18 per cent of EU 12 nationals have a degree qualification of higher, and a further 41 per cent have ‘Other’ qualifications, including those not recognised in the UK. This suggests a degree of under-employment, i.e. that some migrants may be working at a level which does not reflect their educational achievements.

### 3.10 Country of Birth and Industry

In 2011, nearly two-thirds (64 per cent) of all EU 12 nationals worked in four sectors of the Northern Ireland economy, namely: Manufacturing (29 per cent); Wholesale and retail trade (15 per cent); Accommodation and food services (12 per cent); and Human health and social work (8 per cent), see Table 3.11. The manufacturing rate of

employment (29 per cent) was three times higher than the comparable figure for Northern Ireland-born workers (9.2 per cent).

**Table 3.11 Industry by Country of Birth, Census 2011**

Industry	All (%)	NI-born (%)	EU 12 (%)
<b>All usual residents aged 16 to 74 in employment</b>	<b>795,263</b>	<b>687,643</b>	<b>23,483</b>
Manufacturing	9.7	9.2	29.0
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles	17.5	18.0	15.1
Accommodation and food services	5.4	4.9	11.7
Human health and social work	14.2	14.1	8.3
Administrative and support services	4.1	3.9	6.8
Construction	8.2	8.6	6.3
Education	9.4	9.5	3.9
Transport and storage	4.0	4.1	3.3
Other	4.6	4.6	3.1
Professional, scientific and technical activities	4.6	4.6	2.6
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2.2	2.4	2.4
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.7	0.7	2.2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	8.0	8.1	2.0
Information and communication	2.5	2.4	1.2
Financial and insurance activities	3.3	3.3	1.1
Real estate activities	0.9	1.0	0.4
Mining and quarrying	0.2	0.3	0.3
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.4	0.5	0.2

Source: NISRA, NINIS (2013) Table DC2608NI

A similar situation pertains in the Republic of Ireland, where over half (54 per cent) of the 268,200 non-Irish residents who were working in April 2011 were employed in the same four sectors, namely: Manufacturing (12 per cent); Wholesale and retail trade (17 per cent); Accommodation and food services (14 per cent); and Human Health and Social Work (10 per cent) <sup>21</sup>.

<sup>21</sup> Central Statistics Office Ireland (2012b) *Op cit.*