



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Research Paper

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# Key Statistics for Settlements, Census 2011

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This Paper contains an analysis of recently-published key statistics from Census 2011 relating to Settlement Bands A - E in Northern Ireland. The bands include cities, and large, medium and small towns.



## Executive Summary

Settlements are 'built-up areas', ranging from cities (bands A and B) to small hamlets (band H). This Paper examines key statistics from Census 2011 for bands A – E, i.e. from cities to small towns.

### Demography

- Compared to 2001, a number of towns have seen significant increases in their resident population, including Dungannon (30 per cent), Antrim (17 per cent), Ballymoney (15 per cent) and Craigavon (11 per cent). Derry / Londonderry, Newry and Omagh experienced a modest fall in population.

### Community Background

- Settlements where the largest proportion of residents are from a Catholic community background are generally located in the west and south of Northern Ireland, while those settlements with a significant proportion of residents from a Protestant background tend to be situated in the North and East of Northern Ireland

### Migration

- Migrant communities are now widely dispersed across all regions of Northern Ireland, even down to the small village level.

### Lone Parent Households

- Census 2011 recorded a substantial increase in lone parent households. While the resident population of Northern Ireland increased by 7.5 per cent in the decade to 2011, the number of lone parent households with dependent children increased by over a quarter (27 per cent).

### Household Tenure

- Census 2011 highlighted the significant changes which occurred in the housing market during the previous decade, with a substantial increase in private renting and a sharp fall in social renting.
- Levels of owner-occupation are generally higher in settlements in the east of Northern Ireland.

### Car or Van Availability

- Car ownership tends to be higher in settlements in the east of Northern Ireland. There are a number of rural settlements, particularly in the west, where the proportion of households without access to a car or van exceeds 30 per cent.

### **Drive-times for Settlements**

- The majority of small settlements are within 20 / 30 minutes drive-time from the centre of the settlement to the centre of the nearest population centre of 10,000 or more. However, there are five small towns, seven intermediate settlements, and 25 villages which lie outside these limits.

### **Method of Travel to Work**

- Travelling to work by car (72 per cent) is by far the most popular mode of transport for commuters in Northern Ireland. Belfast, the largest settlement, has the smallest proportion of residents who travel to work by car (56 per cent), and the largest proportion who either walk to work (16 per cent) or use public transport (14 per cent).

### **General Health**

- In Northern Ireland as a whole, 80 per cent of residents declared their health to be either good or very good. In broad terms, residents living in settlements in the east of Northern Ireland were somewhat more likely to declare their health to be good or very good compared with settlements in the west.

### **Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)**

- The commuter belt surrounding Belfast has the largest proportion of residents in SOC1-3 occupations, including Holywood (51 per cent), Carryduff (48 per cent), Greenisland (43 per cent), Castlereagh (41 per cent) and Bangor (38 per cent).

### **Economic Activity and Inactivity**

- Again, towns within commuting distance of Belfast tend to have a higher proportion of full-time employees than other settlements. Dungannon (40 per cent) is an exception to this general rule. Derry / Londonderry has a lower proportion of full-time employees (28 per cent) than the Northern Ireland average, and a larger proportion of both unemployed (8.2 per cent) and economically inactive residents (41 per cent).

### **Educational Qualifications**

- 24 per cent of Northern Ireland residents aged 16 years and over had Level 4 (degree) or higher qualifications in 2011, compared with 16 per cent in 2001. In contrast, 29 per cent had no academic or professional qualifications. There is a wide variability across settlements in both indicators. In general, settlements near Belfast have a higher proportion of residents with graduate-type qualifications (Level 4) than settlements in other parts of Northern Ireland.

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## 1 Background

Key Statistics for Settlements, published on 30 July 2015 by NISRA, provides a range of statistics for settlements in Northern Ireland using boundaries defined by the DOE Planning Service in November 2014. Settlement statistics are published every ten years, with the previous classification issued in 2005.

Electoral wards are the geographical basis for the majority of official statistics. Wards can be aggregated up to higher units such as Local Government Districts (LGDs) and Assembly Areas, while statistical geographies, such as Super Output Areas (SOA), are constrained to ward boundaries. However, there is also a demand for information about 'settlements', reflecting commonly recognised 'built-up' areas such as towns and villages, that electoral wards cannot meet <sup>1</sup>.

**Table 1: New Settlement Classification 2015**

Classification	Examples	Census 2011 Population
<b>Band A</b>	Belfast	280,211
<b>Band B</b>	Derry / Londonderry City	83,125
<b>Band C (Large Town)</b> Population (18,000 +)	Craigavon	64,193
	Ballymena	29,467
<b>Band C Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>522,217</b>
<b>Band D (Medium Town)</b> Population (10,000 – 17,999)	Banbridge	16,653
	Armagh	14,749
<b>Band D Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>128,937</b>
<b>Band E (Small Town)</b> Population (5,000 – 9,999)	Ballyclare	9,919
	Comber	9,078
<b>Band E Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>117,434</b>
<b>Urban / Rural Split</b>		
<b>Band F (Intermediate)</b> Population (2,500 – 4,999)	Moira	4,584
	Maghera	4,217
<b>Band F Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>77,423</b>
<b>Band G (Village)</b> Population (1,000 – 2,499)	Rathfriland	2,472
	Castledawson	2,292
<b>Band G Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>103,500</b>
<b>Band H</b> Population less than 1,000 and open countryside.	Glenarm	568
	Poyntzpass	552
	Maydown	496

Source: NISRA (2015) Review of statistical classification and delineation of settlements. Table 2

<sup>1</sup> NISRA (2015) **Review of the statistical classification and delineation of Settlements**. Published March 2015. Available at: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/geography/review-of-the-statistical-classification-and-delineation-of-settlements-march-2015.pdf>

Table 1 (above) lists the latest Settlement classification, with two examples of each band. Band C (large towns), for example, contains 14 settlements with a total population of 522,217 on Census Day 2011. The Table also shows an urban / rural split, with settlements in Bands A – E classified as ‘urban’ and Bands F – H classified as ‘rural’.

A total of 214 settlements are listed by NISRA in their key statistics data files, ranging from Belfast (Band A, 280,000) to Maydown (Band H, 500), the smallest settlement. However, in order to keep the size of the Paper to manageable proportions, only those settlements in Bands A – E inclusive will be examined. The complete data sets for all published settlements in Bands A – H can be viewed on the [NINIS](#) website.

## 2 Key Statistics for Settlement Bands A – E

### 2.1 Population

Table 2.1 (overleaf) presents population statistics for 43 settlements in Bands A – E. In addition to a gender breakdown, the table also lists the change in population which occurred in each settlement during the decade between Census 2001 and Census 2011.

While the population of Belfast, the largest settlement, increased by 1.3 per cent over the decade, the number of residents in Derry/Londonderry, the second city, fell by 0.6 per cent. In Band C (large towns), significant population increases were recorded in Antrim (17 per cent) and Craigavon (11 per cent). By contrast, Newry and Omagh town both saw a population decline (1.5 and 0.8 per cent respectively). In Band D (medium towns), the population of Dungannon rose by nearly a third (30 per cent) during the decade. Other substantial increases occurred in Ballymoney (15 per cent) and Banbridge (13 per cent). Strabane (-1.7 per cent) and Hollywood (-5.8 per cent) both experienced a decline in population between 2001 and 2011.

Small towns, with a population range of 5,000 – 9,999, are listed in Band E. A significant rise in population occurred in Warrenpoint / Burren (25 per cent), followed by Dromore (21 per cent), Crumlin (20 per cent), Coalisland (17 per cent) and Ballyclare (13 per cent). Modest increases were recorded in a number of small towns, including Comber and Portrush (both 1 per cent).



**Table 2.1 Population by Gender: Settlement bands A - E**

Settlement	Population	Band	Male (%)	Female (%)	Pop. change (2001-11)
Northern Ireland	1,810,863		49.0	51.0	
Belfast City	280,138	A	48.1	51.9	1.3%
Derry City	83,163	B	48.5	51.5	-0.6%
Newtownabbey (Metropolitan)	65,646	C	48.0	52.0	5.7%
Craigavon urban area	64,323	C	48.9	51.1	11.3%
Bangor	61,011	C	47.9	52.1	5.2%
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	55,857	C	47.9	52.1	2.1%
Lisburn City	45,370	C	48.4	51.6	-
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	31,186	C	47.5	52.6	-
Ballymena	29,551	C	48.0	52.0	2.7%
Newtownards	28,050	C	48.3	51.7	0.9%
Carrickfergus	27,998	C	48.1	52.0	2.6%
Newry city	26,967	C	49.0	51.0	-1.5%
Coleraine	24,634	C	47.8	52.2	2.4%
Antrim	23,375	C	48.7	51.3	16.8%
Omagh Town	19,659	C	48.7	51.3	-0.8%
Larne	18,755	C	48.0	52.0	2.7%
Banbridge	16,637	D	48.8	51.2	12.9%
Armagh	14,777	D	47.5	52.5	1.6%
Dungannon	14,340	D	49.7	50.3	30.5%
Enniskillen	13,823	D	48.2	51.8	1.7%
Strabane	13,172	D	47.7	52.3	-1.7%
Limavady	12,032	D	48.6	51.4	-0.2%
Cookstown	11,599	D	48.8	51.2	10.0%
Holywood	11,257	D	49.0	51.0	-5.8%
Downpatrick	10,822	D	48.5	51.6	5.4%
Ballymoney	10,402	D	47.2	52.8	15.4%
Ballyclare	9,953	E	47.8	52.2	13.1%
Comber	9,071	E	47.8	52.2	1.4%
Magherafelt	8,805	E	48.7	51.4	6.4%
Warrenpoint / Burren	8,732	E	48.9	51.1	24.9%
Portstewart	8,003	E	47.3	52.7	2.9%
Newcastle	7,672	E	47.6	52.4	4.2%
Carryduff	6,961	E	47.6	52.5	5.8%
Donaghadee	6,869	E	48.1	51.9	6.1%
Kilkeel	6,541	E	48.5	51.5	3.6%
Portrush	6,454	E	48.2	51.8	1.5%
Dromore (Banbridge)	6,003	E	47.8	52.2	21.2%
Ballynahinch	5,703	E	47.7	52.3	7.1%
Coalisland	5,682	E	49.1	50.9	17.0%
Greenisland	5,486	E	48.8	51.2	8.2%
Ballycastle	5,237	E	47.5	52.5	3.3%
Crumlin	5,140	E	48.3	51.8	20.0%
Randalstown	5,126	E	48.1	52.0	3.1%

Source: NINIS (2015) Table KS101NI, Census 2011, Settlements 2015

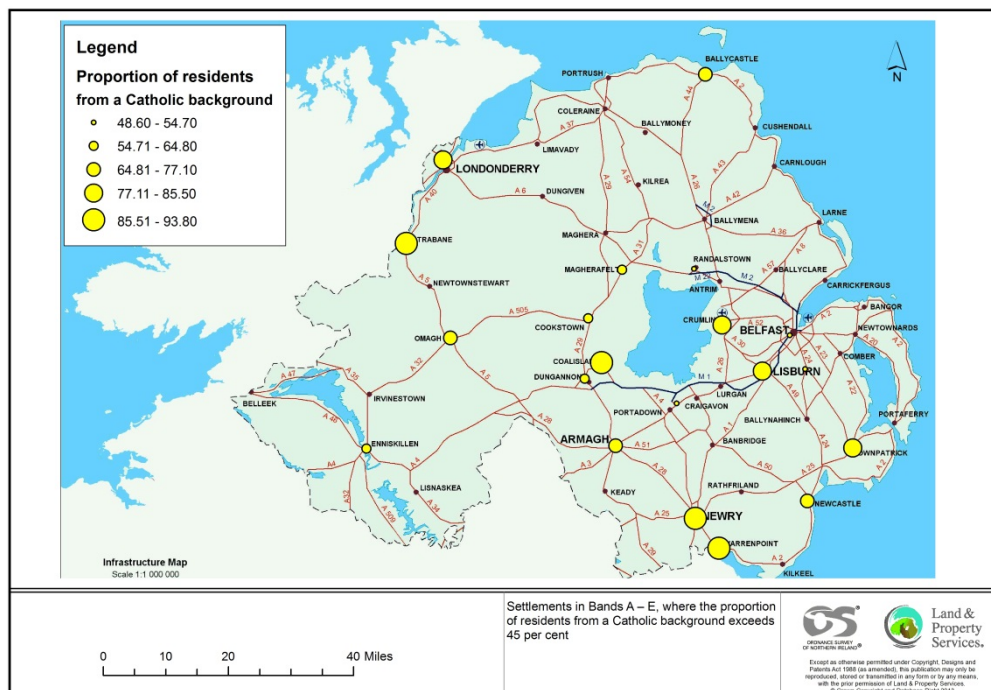
## 2.2 Community Background

Table 2.2 (below) presents a breakdown of the religion or religion brought up in (community background) of usual residents in settlement bands A – E (small, medium, and large towns). The statistics for stated religion, including residents who declared they had no religion, or did not answer the census question, are contained in [Census Table KS211NI \(Settlements 2015\)](#).

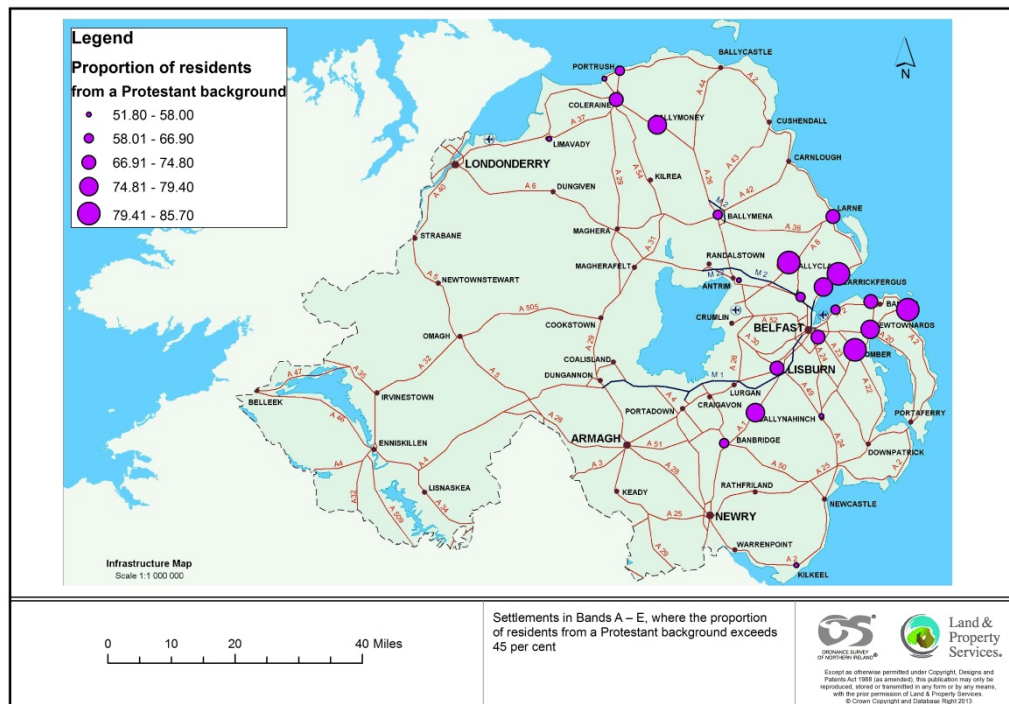
In broad terms, the table reveals that settlements where the largest proportion of residents are from a Catholic community background are generally located in the west and south of Northern Ireland, while those settlements with a significant proportion of residents from a Protestant background tend to be situated in the North and East of Northern Ireland. In the two largest cities, Belfast and Derry/Londonderry, Catholics account for the largest proportion of residents.

The spatial dimensions of the data in Table 2.2 is shown in the maps below. Map 2.1 shows those small, medium and large towns where at least 45 percent of residents are from a Catholic community background, while Map 2.2 illustrates the towns where 45 per cent or more are from a Protestant background.

**Map 2.1 Settlements in bands A – E where the proportion of residents from a Catholic community background exceeds 45 per cent, Census 2011**



**Map 2.2 Settlements in bands A – E where the proportion of residents from a Protestant community background exceeds 45 per cent, Census 2011**



**Table 2.2 Religion or Religion brought up in: Settlement bands A - E**

Settlement Name	Population	Band	Catholic (%)	Protestant (%)	Other (%)	None (%)
Northern Ireland	1,810,863		45.1	48.4	0.9	5.6
Belfast city	280,138	A	48.6	42.3	1.7	7.4
Derry / Londonderry city	83,163	B	78.0	19.2	0.9	2.0
Newtownabbey (Metropolitan)	65,646	C	27.7	62.2	1.3	8.8
Craigavon urban area	64,323	C	51.2	42.5	0.9	5.4
Bangor	61,011	C	12.0	74.8	1.1	12.1
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	55,857	C	19.9	69.8	1.3	9.0
Lisburn city	45,370	C	22.2	67.3	1.0	9.4
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	31,186	C	77.3	18.8	0.6	3.3
Ballymena	29,551	C	26.7	65.8	1.0	6.5
Newtownards	28,050	C	8.3	79.4	1.2	11.1
Carrickfergus	27,998	C	8.4	80.7	0.9	10.1
Newry city	26,967	C	88.3	8.5	0.8	2.5
Coleraine	24,634	C	24.1	68.1	1.2	6.7
Antrim	23,375	C	34.1	54.8	1.4	9.7
Omagh town	19,659	C	71.3	25.4	0.7	2.6
Larne	18,755	C	26.0	67.0	0.6	6.4

Settlement Name	Population	Band	Catholic (%)	Protestant (%)	Other (%)	None (%)
Banbridge	16,637	D	34.4	59.2	0.7	5.7
Armagh	14,777	D	68.9	27.0	0.9	3.3
Dungannon	14,340	D	64.8	30.5	0.7	4.0
Enniskillen	13,823	D	61.6	33.6	0.9	4.0
Strabane	13,172	D	91.6	7.2	0.3	0.9
Limavady	12,032	D	44.4	51.8	0.4	3.4
Cookstown	11,599	D	55.6	39.2	0.5	4.7
Holywood	11,257	D	23.1	62.3	1.6	13.0
Downpatrick	10,822	D	85.5	10.8	0.6	3.1
Ballymoney	10,402	D	17.2	76.2	0.8	5.8
Ballyclare	9,953	E	5.4	85.7	0.6	8.3
Comber	9,071	E	4.7	85.1	1.0	9.3
Magherafelt	8,805	E	59.7	35.7	1.0	3.6
Warrenpoint / Burren	8,732	E	87.7	9.6	0.2	2.5
Portstewart	8,003	E	35.5	57.0	1.0	6.5
Newcastle	7,672	E	70.3	24.4	0.5	4.8
Carryduff	6,961	E	49.9	42.2	1.4	6.6
Donaghadee	6,869	E	6.4	82.8	1.2	9.6
Kilkeel	6,541	E	41.0	54.0	0.5	4.5
Portrush	6,454	E	24.8	66.9	0.8	7.5
Dromore (Banbridge)	6,003	E	15.9	75.8	1.0	7.3
Ballynahinch	5,703	E	34.6	58.0	0.6	6.8
Coalisland	5,682	E	93.8	4.7	0.3	1.2
Greenisland	5,486	E	11.1	77.6	1.0	10.3
Ballycastle	5,237	E	77.1	19.0	0.6	3.2
Crumlin	5,140	E	80.3	16.7	0.3	2.7
Randalstown	5,126	E	54.7	39.8	0.4	5.0

Source: NINIS (2015) Table KS212NI, Census 2011, Settlements 2015

## 2.3 Migration

Inward migration was a minor feature of life in Northern Ireland until the early years of the new century. This situation changed dramatically with the expansion of the EU in May 2004. Since then, 13 countries, mainly from central and eastern Europe, have become Member states. Subject to certain, limited restrictions, nationals from these countries can now live and work freely in Northern Ireland. Table 2.3 below contains summary statistics on the country of birth of residents living in settlement bands A – E (cities and small, medium and large towns). The data relates to Census Day 2011, and the table focuses on residents born outside the UK and Ireland.

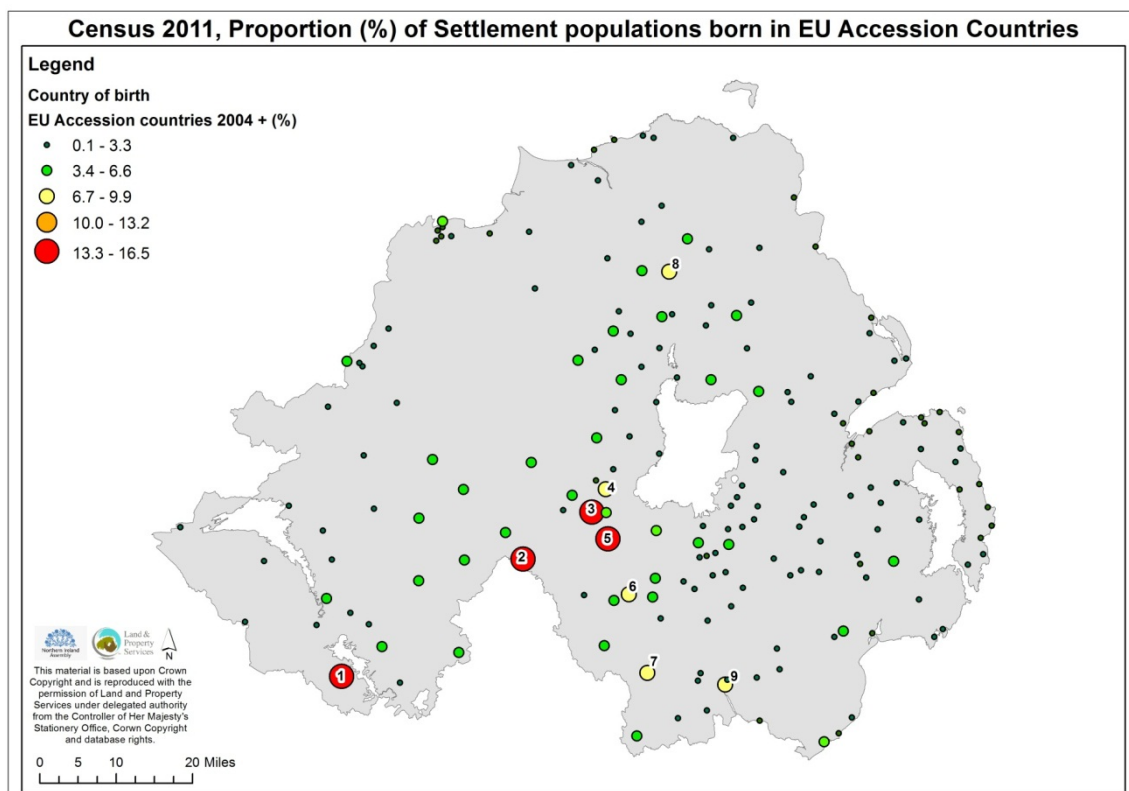
A striking feature of Table 2.3 is the widespread presence and dispersal of migrants, largely if not exclusively from the EU Accession countries, across all regions of Northern Ireland. While Table 2.3 is limited to settlement bands A – E (cities to small towns), the complete data set reveals that migrant communities can now be found in virtually every village and hamlet in Northern Ireland. Aughnacloy, for example, a small

village in Tyrone with a population of 1,045, hosted 170 residents born outside the UK and Ireland in 2011, or 16 per cent of the population. Other examples include the hamlet of Derrylin, Fermanagh, with a resident population of 634, 95 of whom were born outside the UK and Ireland, accounting for 15 per cent of the population. The full NISRA data set can be downloaded [here](#).

Returning to Table 2.3, the data shows that, while migrant communities are widely dispersed, the largest concentrations are generally found in the West and South of Northern Ireland. In Dungannon, for example, a quarter (25 per cent) of the resident population in 2011 was born outside the UK and Ireland. Other towns with a significant migrant presence include Cookstown (10 per cent), Newry (9.7 per cent), Craigavon (9.3 per cent), Enniskillen (8.4 per cent), Ballymena (8.1 per cent), and Antrim (8.0 per cent), to name but the most prominent.

Map 2.3 illustrates the wide dispersal of migrant communities by showing the proportion of residents who were born in the post- 2004 EU Accession countries.

**Map 2.3 Proportion of population in Settlement Bands A – H born in EU Accession countries.**



**Table 2.3 Country of Birth: Settlement bands A - E**

Settlement Name	Pop.	Band	Total born outside UK and Ireland	EU Member States, pre-2004 (%)	EU Member States, post-2004 (%)	Other (%)	Total born outside UK and Ireland (%)
Belfast City	280,138	A	18,423	0.7	2.2	3.7	6.6
Derry / Londonderry City	83,163	B	2,555	0.5	0.7	1.9	3.1
Newry city	26,967	C	2,602	0.5	7.2	1.9	9.7
Craigavon Urban area	64,323	C	5,988	1.5	5.7	2.2	9.3
Ballymena	29,551	C	2,396	0.5	5.9	1.7	8.1
Antrim	23,375	C	1,880	0.7	4.4	3.0	8.0
Omagh town	19,659	C	1,451	0.4	5.2	1.8	7.4
Lisburn City	45,370	C	2,610	0.9	2.2	2.7	5.8
Coleraine	24,634	C	1,350	0.5	2.7	2.3	5.5
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	55,857	C	2,467	0.5	1.0	2.9	4.4
Newtownabbey (Metropolitan)	65,646	C	2,770	0.5	1.2	2.6	4.2
Bangor	61,011	C	2,331	0.7	0.9	2.3	3.8
Newtownards	28,050	C	894	0.6	0.9	1.6	3.2
Carrickfergus	27,998	C	812	0.5	0.7	1.7	2.9
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	31,186	C	746	0.4	0.5	1.5	2.4
Larne	18,755	C	411	0.5	0.5	1.2	2.2
Dungannon	14,340	D	3,586	2.9	15.1	7.0	25.0
Cookstown	11,599	D	1,155	2.1	6.1	1.8	10.0
Armagh	14,777	D	1,392	0.4	6.9	2.2	9.4
Enniskillen	13,823	D	1,158	0.5	5.6	2.2	8.4
Holywood	11,257	D	644	1.2	0.4	4.1	5.7
Banbridge	16,637	D	543	0.4	1.3	1.6	3.3
Downpatrick	10,822	D	330	0.3	1.0	1.8	3.1
Ballymoney	10,402	D	293	0.3	1.7	0.9	2.8
Strabane	13,172	D	328	0.1	1.6	0.8	2.5
Limavady	12,032	D	285	0.5	0.8	1.1	2.4
Coalisland	5,682	E	526	0.6	7.4	1.3	9.3
Magherafelt	8,805	E	700	0.3	6.3	1.3	8.0
Warrenpoint	8,732	E	548	0.4	4.3	1.6	6.3
Kilkeel	6,541	E	410	0.3	4.9	1.1	6.3
Randalstown	5,126	E	307	0.8	3.8	1.4	6.0
Portrush	6,454	E	317	0.7	2.4	1.9	4.9
Ballynahinch	5,703	E	250	0.4	2.2	1.8	4.4
Dromore	6,003	E	256	0.5	2.2	1.6	4.3
Newcastle	7,672	E	313	0.5	1.7	1.9	4.1
Portstewart	8,003	E	317	0.7	1.2	2.1	4.0
Carryduff	6,961	E	259	0.4	0.6	2.7	3.7
Comber	9,071	E	280	0.4	1.1	1.6	3.1
Greenisland	5,486	E	168	0.5	0.8	1.7	3.1
Donaghadee	6,869	E	202	0.4	0.3	2.2	2.9
Ballycastle	5,237	E	140	0.4	1.0	1.3	2.7
Crumlin	5,140	E	108	0.4	0.6	1.2	2.1
Ballyclare	9,953	E	184	0.2	0.3	1.4	1.9

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS204NI, Settlements 2015

## 2.4 Lone Parent Households

Census 2011 recorded a substantial increase in lone parent households. While the resident population of Northern Ireland increased by 7.5 per cent in the decade to 2011, the number of lone parent households with dependent children increased by over a quarter (27 per cent), from 50,500 to 63,900. 91 per cent of such households had a female lone parent, a similar figure to that in 2001 (92 per cent).

In Northern Ireland as a whole, 9.1 per cent of all households are headed by a lone parent with dependent children<sup>2</sup>. Table 2.4 below shows the number and proportion of lone parent households (with dependent children) living in settlement bands A – E. In the two largest cities (Belfast and Derry/Londonderry), the proportion of lone parent households exceeds the regional average (12 per cent and 15 per cent respectively). There are 14 large towns in settlement band C, and the largest proportion of lone parent households was recorded in Metropolitan Lisburn (20 per cent), followed by Craigavon, Newry, Coleraine and Antrim (11 per cent). The smallest proportions are in Metropolitan Castlereagh (6.8 per cent) and Bangor (7.2 per cent).

In band D (medium towns), Strabane (14 per cent) and Downpatrick (13 per cent) have the highest proportion of lone parent households, while Holywood (5.5 per cent) and Ballymoney (8.3 per cent) have the lowest. Band E settlements are referred to as small towns: the largest proportion of lone parent households are found in Coalisland (16 per cent) and Crumlin (11 per cent), with Portstewart (5.8 per cent) and Carryduff (5.9 per cent) having the smallest proportion.

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<sup>2</sup> A 'dependent child' is a person in a household aged 0-15 (whether or not in a family) or a person aged 16-18 who is a full-time student and in a family with parent(s)



**Table 2.4 Lone Parent households in settlement bands A – E, Census 2011**

Settlement Name	Households	Band	Households with dependent children	%
Northern Ireland	703,275		64,228	9.1
Belfast City	120,285	A	14,162	11.8
Derry / Londonderry City	32,243	B	4,909	15.2
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	11,464	C	2,288	20.0
Craigavon urban area	25,739	C	2,806	10.9
Newry city	10,159	C	1,101	10.8
Coleraine	9,842	C	1,056	10.7
Antrim	9,584	C	1,016	10.6
Newtownabbey (Metropolitan)	26,295	C	2,684	10.2
Carrickfergus	11,562	C	1,176	10.2
Omagh town	7,948	C	804	10.1
Larne	8,168	C	822	10.1
Newtownards	11,539	C	1,084	9.4
Ballymena	12,126	C	1,123	9.3
Lisburn City	18,409	C	1,603	8.7
Bangor	25,752	C	1,856	7.2
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	23,515	C	1,599	6.8
Strabane	5,123	D	745	14.5
Downpatrick	4,179	D	561	13.4
Armagh	5,879	D	667	11.4
Limavady	4,759	D	535	11.2
Cookstown	4,519	D	467	10.3
Banbridge	6,693	D	663	9.9
Enniskillen	5,733	D	563	9.8
Dungannon	5,388	D	502	9.3
Ballymoney	4,354	D	360	8.3
Holywood	4,627	D	254	5.5
Coalisland	2,047	E	324	15.8
Crumlin	1,777	E	195	11.0
Ballycastle	2,143	E	212	9.9
Ballyclare	4,039	E	399	9.9
Kilkeel	2,557	E	251	9.8
Randalstown	1,996	E	195	9.8
Magherafelt	3,243	E	305	9.4
Warrenpoint / Burren	3,300	E	310	9.4
Ballynahinch	2,326	E	204	8.8
Newcastle	3,207	E	279	8.7
Greenisland	2,324	E	202	8.7
Dromore (Banbridge)	2,439	E	206	8.5
Portrush	2,824	E	218	7.7
Donaghadee	2,997	E	206	6.9
Comber	3,811	E	252	6.6
Carryduff	2,578	E	153	5.9
Portstewart	3,338	E	195	5.8

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS105NI, Settlements 2015



## 2.5 Household Tenure

Census 2011 highlighted the significant changes which occurred in the housing market during the previous decade, with a substantial increase in private renting and a sharp fall in social renting.

In Northern Ireland, the number of households renting from a private landlord more than doubled from 41,700 in 2001 to 95,200 in 2011, increasing the share of all households accounted for by private renting, from 6.7 per cent to 14 per cent. In contrast, the proportion of households engaged in social renting (either from the Housing Executive or housing associations) fell from 21 per cent in 2001 to 15 per cent in 2011. The other main tenure types in 2011 were households owning their property with a mortgage or loan (35 per cent), and those that own their property outright (32 per cent). Overall, the proportion of households with some form of ownership (including shared ownership) fell from 70 per cent in 2001 to 67 per cent in 2011.

Table 2.5 below shows the proportion of households in settlement bands A – E engaged in the three main types of tenure, i.e. owner-occupation, social rental, and private rental. In Belfast, owner-occupation levels are relatively low (52 per cent) compared with the Northern Ireland average (67 per cent). In contrast, a quarter of households (26 per cent) are engaged in social housing, and nearly one-in-five (18 per cent) are renting privately. Derry / Londonderry has a similar pattern of household tenure.

In Band C (large towns), Bangor (76 per cent) and Castlereagh (74 per cent) have the highest levels of owner-occupation, while Omagh (58 per cent) and metropolitan Lisburn (60 per cent) have the lowest. By contrast, Omagh has the highest proportion of households renting privately (22 per cent), while metropolitan Lisburn has the largest percentage of tenant households in social housing (31 per cent). In the medium towns category (Band D), Holywood (69 per cent) has the largest proportion of owner-occupiers. Dungannon has the highest proportion of private renters (22 per cent), and the proportion of households renting socially is highest in Strabane (22 per cent).

Band E contains small towns with a population ranging between 5,000 – 9,999. Owner-occupation levels are highest in Carryduff (85 per cent) and Crumlin (79 per cent), and lowest in Coalisland (55 per cent) and Magherafelt (59 per cent). The proportion of social housing tenants is highest in Coalisland (19 per cent) while Portstewart (24 per cent) has the largest percentage in private rental.

**Table 2.5 Household Tenure in settlement bands A – E, Census 2011**

Settlement Name	Households	Band	Owner-occupied (%)	Social Rental (%)	Private Rental (%)	Other (%)
Northern Ireland	703,275		67.5	14.9	13.5	4.0
Belfast city	120,285	A	52.2	25.6	18.2	4.1
Derry / Londonderry city	32,243	B	53.5	26.2	16.5	3.9
Bangor	25,752	C	75.8	9.9	11.7	2.6
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	23,515	C	73.6	15.7	7.8	3.0
Newtownabbey (Metropolitan)	26,295	C	72.8	14.7	9.9	2.7
Carrickfergus	11,562	C	72.0	14.1	11.1	2.9
Newtownards	11,539	C	69.2	18.0	9.6	3.3
Lisburn city	18,409	C	67.6	18.7	8.8	4.9
Larne	8,168	C	66.7	14.5	15.2	3.6
Ballymena	12,126	C	64.4	15.6	16.0	4.0
Antrim	9,584	C	64.1	18.6	13.9	3.4
Coleraine	9,842	C	60.9	19.0	15.6	4.5
Newry city	10,159	C	60.6	15.4	19.7	4.3
Craigavon urban area	25,739	C	60.0	16.6	19.6	3.8
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	11,464	C	59.6	30.6	6.9	2.9
Omagh town	7,948	C	58.2	15.4	21.6	4.8
Holywood	4,627	D	68.7	12.9	11.2	7.3
Banbridge	6,693	D	66.6	13.8	15.5	4.2
Downpatrick	4,179	D	62.5	15.7	17.4	4.4
Ballymoney	4,354	D	61.2	17.1	17.4	4.3
Limavady	4,759	D	60.9	19.9	15.4	3.9
Cookstown	4,519	D	60.7	14.4	20.8	4.2
Enniskillen	5,733	D	60.6	17.0	17.9	4.5
Armagh	5,879	D	60.1	17.4	17.9	4.6
Strabane	5,123	D	57.4	22.1	16.6	4.0
Dungannon	5,388	D	55.5	17.2	22.3	5.1
Carryduff	2,578	E	84.6	4.6	9.0	1.9
Crumlin	1,777	E	79.0	9.4	7.7	3.9
Ballyclare	4,039	E	72.8	12.9	11.2	3.1
Donaghadee	2,997	E	72.7	14.5	9.5	3.4
Comber	3,811	E	71.3	13.7	10.9	4.1
Greenisland	2,324	E	70.7	16.5	9.4	3.4
Dromore (Banbridge)	2,439	E	70.6	11.5	13.6	4.4
Randalstown	1,996	E	67.7	11.8	16.4	4.1
Newcastle	3,207	E	67.5	11.0	16.6	5.0
Warrenpoint / Burren	3,300	E	65.8	11.4	18.6	4.3
Ballynahinch	2,326	E	65.7	16.0	13.5	4.8
Portrush	2,824	E	64.2	12.1	19.6	4.2
Kilkeel	2,557	E	62.2	12.1	21.4	4.3
Portstewart	3,338	E	61.9	9.2	24.4	4.4
Ballycastle	2,143	E	61.4	15.0	19.8	3.9
Magherafelt	3,243	E	59.5	14.3	21.3	4.9
Coalisland	2,047	E	55.2	19.1	20.8	5.0

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS402NI, Settlements 2015

## 2.6 Car or Van Availability

In Northern Ireland as a whole, 23 per cent of households have no access to a car or van; 41 per cent have access to one vehicle, 27 per cent to two vehicles, and 9 per cent to three or more vehicles.

Table 2.6 shows the number of cars or vans owned by, or available for use by, households on Census Day 2011 in settlement bands A – E. In Belfast and Derry / Londonderry, the proportion of households with no access to a vehicle is considerably higher than the regional average (41 per cent and 36 per cent respectively), while the percentage who have access to two or more cars/vans is substantially lower. With the virtual absence of regular public transport in rural settings, the need for a car is obviously more pressing, which may explain why car ownership tends to be higher in rural than in urban settings.

In band C (large towns), metropolitan Lisburn has the largest proportion of households with no access to a vehicle (32 per cent), followed by Larne (29 per cent) and Craigavon (28 per cent). The lowest proportions are in Bangor (18 per cent) and metropolitan Castlereagh (20 per cent). Bangor and Newtownards (7.3 per cent) have the largest proportion with three or more cars.

In medium towns (band D), car / van ownership is lowest in Strabane (31 per cent of households have no access to a vehicle) and Dungannon (26 per cent). By contrast, Banbridge (19 per cent) and Holywood (20 per cent) have the smallest proportion of households without a vehicle, and the largest proportion with two-car households (29 per cent).

With regard to small towns (band E), the coastal settlements of Portrush (26 per cent), Ballycastle (25 per cent) and Newcastle (23 per cent) have the highest proportion of no-car households, while Carryduff (10 per cent) and Comber (15 per cent) have the lowest. Nearly half of households in Carryduff (48 per cent) have at least two cars / vans.

### **Car ownership in small Rural settlements**

A lack of access to a car / van is a useful indicator of deprivation in a rural area, where car ownership could be considered essential to the maintenance of an acceptable standard of living. Table 2.7 below presents a list of small, rural settlements where at least 30 per cent of households have no access to a vehicle. The majority of these settlements are in the west of Northern Ireland. In Fintona and Newtownstewart, for example (both near Omagh), 42 per cent and 37 per cent respectively of households have no car / van. Donemana, near Strabane, has a similarly low figure for car ownership.

**Table 2.6 No. of cars / vans in household, Settlements A – E, Census 2011**

Settlement	Households	Band	No car or van (%)	1 car or van (%)	2 cars or vans (%)	3 or more cars or vans (%)
Northern Ireland	703,275		22.7	41.4	27.0	8.9
Belfast city	120,285	A	40.1	41.1	15.5	3.3
Derry / Londonderry city	32,243	B	35.9	42.5	17.2	4.5
(Metropolitan) Lisburn	11,464	C	31.9	45.8	18.4	3.8
Larne	8,168	C	28.7	44.6	21.4	5.3
Craigavon urban area	25,739	C	28.0	45.8	21.4	4.9
Coleraine	9,842	C	27.2	45.0	22.6	5.2
Newry city	10,159	C	26.6	44.8	22.5	6.2
Antrim	9,584	C	26.6	45.7	23.1	4.7
Ballymena	12,126	C	24.8	44.6	24.0	6.6
Omagh town	7,948	C	24.6	45.6	23.5	6.2
Carrickfergus	11,562	C	22.5	43.5	27.0	7.0
Newtownabbey	26,295	C	22.2	45.6	26.1	6.0
Newtownards	11,539	C	22.1	42.5	28.1	7.3
Lisburn city	18,409	C	21.8	46.0	26.3	5.9
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	23,515	C	19.8	46.0	28.6	5.6
Bangor	25,752	C	18.1	43.8	30.8	7.3
Strabane	5,123	D	30.5	46.1	18.7	4.8
Dungannon	5,388	D	26.3	44.9	22.4	6.4
Limavady	4,759	D	26.2	43.7	24.2	5.9
Downpatrick	4,179	D	26.1	43.3	24.3	6.4
Armagh	5,879	D	25.5	44.3	23.8	6.4
Enniskillen	5,733	D	24.2	46.2	23.4	6.2
Cookstown	4,519	D	23.6	45.1	23.5	7.9
Ballymoney	4,354	D	23.0	44.7	26.3	6.0
Holywood	4,627	D	20.3	42.2	28.9	8.6
Banbridge	6,693	D	19.4	43.4	29.5	7.8
Portrush	2,824	E	25.9	43.1	25.5	5.5
Ballycastle	2,143	E	25.3	45.3	23.0	6.4
Newcastle	3,207	E	22.7	45.4	24.1	7.7
Coalisland	2,047	E	22.3	46.7	23.6	7.4
Kilkeel	2,557	E	22.0	46.7	22.6	8.8
Magherafelt	3,243	E	21.8	41.8	27.0	9.4
Warrenpoint / Burren	3,300	E	20.6	42.4	29.1	7.9
Greenisland	2,324	E	20.4	40.7	30.4	8.5
Ballynahinch	2,326	E	20.1	43.8	28.5	7.6
Ballyclare	4,039	E	20.1	40.5	32.3	7.2
Donaghadee	2,997	E	19.9	41.8	30.5	7.8
Portstewart	3,338	E	18.8	44.3	28.6	8.3
Randalstown	1,996	E	17.8	45.0	28.7	8.4
Dromore (Banbridge)	2,439	E	16.4	43.4	33.5	6.7
Crumlin	1,777	E	15.6	44.4	32.4	7.7
Comber	3,811	E	14.8	43.6	31.7	9.9
Carryduff	2,578	E	9.7	42.1	38.1	10.1

Source: : NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS405NI, Settlements

**Table 2.7 Rural settlements where 30% of households have no access to car / van, bands F – H, Census 2011**

Settlement Name	No. of Households	Band	No car or van (%)	1 car or van (%)	2 cars or vans (%)	3 or more cars or vans (%)
Northern Ireland	703,275		22.7	41.4	27.0	8.9
Castledearg	1,210	F	30.6	44.9	17.3	7.3
Fintona	533	G	41.7	37.3	16.3	4.7
Newtownstewart	620	G	36.6	39.2	17.6	6.6
Bushmills	602	G	31.6	45.9	18.6	4.0
Irvinestown	955	G	30.1	40.6	22.9	6.4
Sion Mills	770	G	29.7	46.9	17.0	6.4
Donemana	237	H	35.0	41.4	17.3	6.3
Stewartstown	271	H	31.4	45.4	15.5	7.8
Dervock	301	H	30.6	46.2	18.9	4.3
Drumquin	231	H	29.9	40.3	20.8	9.1

Source: : NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS405NI, Settlements 2015

## 2.7 Drive-Times for Settlements

The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2010 contained a 'proximity to services' domain as one of its indicators of rural deprivation. This included, for every super output area (SOA), the travel time to a range of 12 specified services, such as GP surgeries, Post Offices and council leisure centres. In the review of settlement classifications for Census 2011, it was agreed that a settlement with a population of at least 10,000 would provide a sufficient range of services<sup>3</sup>. In the Northern Ireland context, this largely corresponds to the market towns on which the former 26 local government districts (LGDs) are based.

For the Settlements 2015 data, two drive-time limits were chosen, namely 20 minutes and 30 minutes. For each small town, intermediate settlement, and village<sup>4</sup> (bands E – G), an estimated drive-time was calculated, from the centre of the settlement to the centre of the nearest population centre of 10,000 or more. Settlements were then classified as either being inside or outside the 20-30 minute drive-time limit (i.e. yes/no). Based on these calculations, NISRA estimate that approximately 80 per cent of Northern Ireland's population live within 20 minutes drive-time of a settlement

<sup>3</sup> NISRA (2015) **Review of the statistical classification and delineation of Settlements**. Published March 2015. Available at: <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/geography/review-of-the-statistical-classification-and-delineation-of-settlements-march-2015.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> It was assumed that settlements with a population larger than 10,000 (bands A – D) would not require a drive-time analysis, as all of the key services already lay within the settlement. Drive-times are also available for band H settlements (hamlets and open countryside) but are not shown here.

containing a population of at least 10,000 (93 per cent live within 30 minutes drive-time).

**Table 2.8 Settlements which lie outside the 20 and 30 minute drive-time limits, Census 2011**

Classification	Settlement Name	2011 Census population	20 minute drive-time	30 minute drive-time
Band E - small town (population 5,000 – 9,999)	Newcastle	7,743	N	Y
	Kilkeel	6,521	N	Y
	Ballynahinch	5,715	N	Y
	Ballycastle	5,238	N	N
	Crumlin	5,099	N	Y
<b>Band E Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>117,434</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
Default urban/rural split				
Band F - intermediate settlement (population 2,500 – 4,999)	Maghera	4,217	N	Y
	Dungiven	3,286	N	Y
	Castledearg	2,985	N	Y
	Lisnaskea	2,960	N	Y
	Ballygowan	2,957	N	Y
	Castlewellan	2,792	N	Y
	Portaferry	2,514	N	Y
<b>Band F Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>77,423</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
Band G – village (population 1,000 - 2,499)	Rathfriland	2,472	N	Y
	Castledawson	2,292	N	Y
	Portavogie	2,122	N	N
	Ballywalter	2,027	N	Y
	Annalong	1,796	N	N
	Glenavy	1,791	N	Y
	Draperstown	1,772	N	Y
	Hilltown	1,698	N	Y
	Kilrea	1,679	N	Y
	Crossmaglen	1,608	N	N
	Carnlough	1,512	N	Y
	Claudy	1,336	N	Y
	Bushmills	1,292	N	Y
	Cushendall	1,276	N	N
	Garvagh	1,274	N	Y
	Cogry / Kilbride	1,246	N	Y
	Fivemiletown	1,243	N	N
	Portglenone	1,174	N	Y
	Kircubbin	1,153	N	Y
	Bellaghy	1,115	N	Y
	Cloughey	1,075	N	N
Aughnacloy	1,041	N	Y	
Kesh	1,036	N	Y	
Ballyhalbert	1,026	N	N	
Dromara	1,006	N	Y	
<b>Band G Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>103,500</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2015) Drive times and Headcounts for Settlements 2015

Table 2.8 above shows those settlements in bands E – G which lie **outside** the 20 and 30 minute limits. There are 17 small towns (band E), five of which lie outside the 20 minute drive-time limit. Ballycastle, with a population of 5,238 in 2011, lies outside both limits. Band F contains 24 intermediate settlements (population 2,500 – 4,999), seven of which have drive-times longer than 20 minutes. These include Maghera, Dungiven and Castledearg. There are 69 villages in band G (population 1,000 – 2,499), 25 of which lie outside the 20 minute limit, and seven which lie outside the 30 minute limit. These settlements range from Rathfriland (the largest) to Dromara (the smallest).

## 2.8 Method of Travel to Work

Table 2.9 below presents the various methods of travelling to work for all usual residents aged 16 – 74 (excluding students) who were in employment and working on Census Day 2011.

In Northern Ireland as a whole, travelling to work by car (either as a driver, passenger, or shared driving) is by far the most popular mode of transport, accounting for nearly three-quarters (72 per cent) of all working residents aged 16-74. Walking (7.7 per cent) is the second most popular method, followed by bus (4.8 per cent), and train (1.3 per cent). One in ten (10 per cent) residents worked at or mainly from home.

Belfast, the largest settlement in Northern Ireland, has the smallest proportion of residents who travel to work by car (56 per cent), and the largest proportion who either walk to work (16 per cent) or use public transport (14 per cent). This reflects the short travelling distances involved, and the relatively frequent bus and train services in the city. In Derry / Londonderry, the less comprehensive public transport network means that 68 per cent use a car for getting to work. Again, a significant proportion (12 per cent) walk.

With regard to the fourteen large towns (band C), Newtownards (76 per cent) and Bangor (75 per cent) have the highest proportion of commuters who travel by car, while metropolitan Lisburn (65 per cent) has the lowest. Over ten per cent of commuters walk to work in Ballymena, Coleraine, Lisburn, Larne and Newry. Public transport usage (buses and trains) is highest in the satellite towns of metropolitan Lisburn (16 per cent), Newtownabbey (11 per cent), and Castlereagh (10 per cent).

In the ten medium towns (band D), Limavady, Banbridge and Ballymoney (78 per cent) have the largest proportion of car commuters, while Holywood (62 per cent) has the smallest. Walking is the second most popular travel to work method, ranging from 15 per cent in Strabane to 8 per cent in Limavady. Seven per cent of commuters in Holywood use the train to get to work, by far the largest proportion in any of the medium towns.

There are 17 small towns (band E), and car dependency for commuting is particularly prevalent, ranging from 80 per cent in Randalstown and Comber to a low of 72 per cent in Newcastle. Apart from Carryduff (9 per cent), public transport usage is modest,

**Table 2.9 Travel to work methods by settlement bands A – E, Census 2011**

Settlement 2015 name	Band	Pop. aged 16-74 in employment and working	Work mainly at home(%)	Car (driver, passenger or shared)	Walk (%)	Bus, (%)	Train (%)	Other (%)
Northern Ireland		738,659	10.3	72.4	7.7	4.8	1.3	3.5
Belfast city	A	106,415	7.4	55.8	16.2	13.5	1.0	6.1
Derry / Londonderry city	B	27,382	8.8	68.0	12.0	5.1	0.4	5.6
Newtownards	C	12,038	7.0	76.2	7.9	5.7	0.3	2.8
Bangor	C	27,170	7.8	75.4	6.3	2.2	4.7	3.6
Carrickfergus	C	12,161	6.5	74.7	6.1	2.3	6.5	3.9
Omagh town	C	7,478	9.5	74.4	11.5	1.8	0.2	2.6
Newtownabbey (Metro)	C	27,795	6.8	73.7	5.3	9.8	1.4	3.1
Ballymena	C	12,372	8.1	73.4	12.0	1.6	1.4	3.4
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	C	24,866	6.9	73.1	6.0	10.2	0.3	3.6
Craigavon urban area	C	25,402	7.7	73.1	8.2	3.2	3.2	4.6
Larne	C	7,854	6.9	72.7	12.3	3.9	1.4	2.9
Antrim	C	10,412	7.2	72.1	9.3	3.7	1.2	6.5
Newry city	C	10,420	8.7	72.1	12.9	2.2	0.8	3.3
Coleraine	C	9,470	8.4	70.9	13.4	1.9	1.6	3.8
Lisburn city	C	19,852	8.0	70.9	11.0	3.0	3.4	3.8
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	C	11,227	7.3	64.7	5.5	12.7	3.4	6.4
Limavady	D	4,226	8.4	78.5	8.5	1.6	0.2	2.9
Banbridge	D	7,119	7.2	78.1	9.3	3.2	0.3	1.9
Ballymoney	D	4,000	7.4	77.8	9.1	1.6	2.2	2.0
Downpatrick	D	4,082	7.9	75.1	11.2	3.9	0.1	1.7
Armagh	D	5,581	8.7	73.4	11.8	2.2	0.7	3.1
Cookstown	D	4,611	9.5	73.1	14.4	0.7	0.2	2.0
Enniskillen	D	5,702	9.9	72.3	12.1	1.2	0.2	4.5
Dungannon	D	5,955	11.2	70	10.7	3.6	0.3	4.2
Strabane	D	4,242	9.5	69.9	14.9	1.6	0.2	3.8
Holywood	D	5,010	12.5	61.6	12.7	2.1	7.2	3.9
Randalstown	E	2,257	7.1	80.2	6.3	2.9	0.8	2.7
Comber	E	4,096	7.3	79.8	5.4	5.2	0.2	2.2
Carryduff	E	3,234	7.1	79.2	2.8	8.6	0.2	2.1
Coalisland	E	1,833	10.2	79.0	6.1	2.5	0.2	2.0
Ballyclare	E	4,491	5.6	78.8	8.2	4.4	0.8	2.2
Dromore (Banbridge)	E	2,758	7.7	78.7	6.5	5.4	0.4	1.3
Donaghadee	E	2,828	7.6	78.2	6.6	3.9	1.7	2.0
Crumlin	E	2,171	7.7	78.1	8.0	3.7	0.5	2.1
Ballynahinch	E	2,406	8.1	76.6	9.4	3.8	0.1	2.0
Magherafelt	E	3,537	8.2	75.9	12.1	2.2	0.2	1.4
Greenisland	E	2,430	6.1	75.3	4.4	3.5	7.2	3.6
Warrenpoint / Burren	E	3,342	9.9	74.7	8.2	3.7	0.7	2.8
Portstewart	E	2,766	11.7	74.1	6.9	3.5	1.6	2.2
Kilkeel	E	2,545	8.6	74.0	11.2	1.8	0.4	4.1
Ballycastle	E	1,890	10.5	72.9	12.1	1.3	0.6	2.5
Portrush	E	2,482	10.3	72.7	8.5	2.6	2.3	3.6
Newcastle	E	2,813	10.1	72.0	11.8	2.9	0.4	2.8



perhaps reflecting the low frequency and limited coverage of bus and train services outside the greater Belfast area.

## 2.9 General Health and Limiting Long-term Illness

In Census 2011, residents were asked to assess their general state of health on a five-point scale (i.e. very good, good, fair, bad or very bad). In addition, they were asked whether their daily activities were limited due to a long-term health problem (expected to last at least 12 months). Table 2.10 below presents a summary of responses to both questions for settlement bands A - E.

In Northern Ireland as a whole, 80 per cent of residents declared their health to be either good or very good, while 5.6 per cent reported their health to be either bad or very bad. These figures are very similar to the comparable figures for England and Wales (81 per cent and 5.6 per cent respectively). With regard to a long-term illness or disability, 21 per cent reported their daily activities to be limited a little or a lot, compared to 18 per cent in England and Wales.

In the largest settlements (Belfast and Derry / Londonderry), the proportion of residents declaring their health to be good or very good was somewhat lower than the regional average (76 and 77 per cent respectively), while a higher percentage (24 per cent) stated that their daily activities were limited a little or a lot.

The proportion of residents in the large towns (band C) who declared they were in good or very good health varied by five percentage points: Bangor (81 per cent) had the highest percentage while Omagh had the lowest. Conversely, Bangor (19 per cent) had the lowest percentage of residents with a long-term health issue, while Omagh had the highest (25 per cent). In the medium towns (band D), there was an even wider gap in health status, with the proportion of residents in good health nine percentage points higher in Holywood (84 per cent) than in Strabane (75 per cent). A similar gap was evident in the long-term illness category.

The seventeen small towns (band E) also exhibited a significant gap between towns in declared health status and long-term illness. In Carryduff, for example, 85 per cent of residents reported their health to be good or very good, compared with 77 per cent in Coalisland. By contrast, 23 per cent of residents in Coalisland reported a long-term illness or disability compared with 16 per cent in Carryduff.

**Table 2.10 General Health and Limiting Long-term Illness, Census 2011**

Settlement 2015 name	Pop.	Band	General Health Very good or good (%)	General Health Bad or very bad (%)	Daily activities limited a little or a lot (%)
Northern Ireland			79.5	5.6	20.7
Belfast city	280,138	A	75.9	8.1	23.7
Derry / Londonderry city	83,163	B	76.6	7.6	23.7
Bangor	61,011	C	81.5	4.3	19.2
Lisburn city	45,370	C	80.1	5.1	19.9
Newtownabbey (Metropolitan)	65,646	C	79.7	5.6	20.3
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	55,857	C	79.5	5.4	20.7
Coleraine	24,634	C	79.4	5.1	20.4
Ballymena	29,551	C	79.4	4.7	20.5
Antrim	23,375	C	79.1	5.7	20.7
Newtownards	28,050	C	78.8	5.5	21.0
Newry city	26,967	C	78.8	6.8	21.6
Carrickfergus	27,998	C	78.6	5.6	21.2
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	31,186	C	78.3	7.5	21.9
Craigavon urban area	64,323	C	77.1	6.7	22.4
Larne	18,755	C	76.9	5.9	22.8
Omagh town	19,659	C	76.0	7.1	24.6
Holywood	11,257	D	83.8	4.1	17.3
Dungannon	14,340	D	80.4	5.6	19.3
Banbridge	16,637	D	80.1	5.5	20.3
Armagh	14,777	D	78.6	5.9	22.3
Enniskillen	13,823	D	78.3	5.2	22.4
Limavady	12,032	D	77.8	5.9	22.2
Downpatrick	10,822	D	77.4	6.4	23.6
Ballymoney	10,402	D	77.4	6.2	23.2
Cookstown	11,599	D	75.2	6.5	23.3
Strabane	13,172	D	74.9	7.6	24.5
Carryduff	6,961	E	85.3	3.7	15.8
Crumlin	5,140	E	83.7	4.3	17.3
Dromore (Banbridge)	6,003	E	82.6	4.3	18.0
Portstewart	8,003	E	82.3	4.3	17.9
Warrenpoint / Burren	8,732	E	81.8	4.8	19.2
Ballyclare	9,953	E	80.8	4.3	19.2
Randalstown	5,126	E	80.8	4.8	19.9
Greenisland	5,486	E	80.4	5.0	20.5
Portrush	6,454	E	79.8	4.5	21.1
Magherafelt	8,805	E	79.7	5.6	20.2
Ballynahinch	5,703	E	79.5	5.2	21.5
Comber	9,071	E	79.5	4.6	20.3
Kilkeel	6,541	E	78.6	5.7	22.0
Ballycastle	5,237	E	78.0	6.1	22.6
Donaghadee	6,869	E	78.0	5.3	22.9
Newcastle	7,672	E	77.3	5.6	24.4
Coalisland	5,682	E	76.7	7.7	22.5

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS301NI, Settlements 2015

## 2.10 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)

In Census 2011, residents were asked for the job title of their main job, and these were then coded and slotted into nine standard occupational categories (SOC1 – SOC9)<sup>5</sup>. In broad terms, salaries tend to be highest in the band 1-3 occupations.

Table 2.11 shows that, in Northern Ireland as a whole, a third (34 per cent) of usual residents aged 16 – 74 in employment are working in SOC band 1-3 occupations. The remainder are spread across the two other SOC bands. Compared to the regional average, Belfast has a higher proportion of residents in SOC1-3 (38 per cent), a lower percentage in SOC4-6 (31 per cent), and a higher proportion in the lowest SOC band (31 per cent). While Derry/Londonderry has a similar proportion of residents in SOC band 1-3 (33 per cent, it has a higher proportion in SOC band 6-9 occupations (35 per cent).

Looking at the large towns (band C), the commuter belt surrounding Belfast has the largest proportion of residents in SOC1-3 occupations, including Castlereagh (41 per cent) and Bangor (38 per cent). Craigavon has the smallest percentage of SOC1-3 occupations (27 per cent) and the largest proportion of band 7-9 occupations (39 per cent). The medium towns (band D) have a similar profile, with the largest percentage of SOC1-3 occupations in Holywood (51 per cent), and the smallest in Cookstown (25 per cent).

The small towns (band E) follow the same general pattern, with the highest proportion of residents in SOC1-3 occupations living in towns within commuting distance of Belfast. These include Carryduff (48 per cent), Greenisland (43 per cent) and Dromore (38 per cent). The resort towns of Portstewart (41 per cent) and Portrush (39 per cent) also have a high percentage of residents working in SOC1-3 occupations.

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<sup>5</sup> The nine SOC codes are as follows: Managers, directors and senior officials (**SOC 1**) / Professional occupations (**SOC2**) / Associate professional and technical occupations (**SOC3**) / Administrative and secretarial (**SOC4**) / Skilled trades (**SOC5**) / Caring, leisure and other services (**SOC6**) / Sales and customer services (**SOC7**) / Process, plant and machine operatives (**SOC8**) / Elementary occupations (**SOC9**). For clarity and simplicity, these nine categories have been combined and reduced to three broader categories, namely SOC1 – 3 , SOC4 – 6 , and SOC 7 – 9 (see Table 2.11 below).

**Table 2.11 Standard Occupational Classification in Settlements A – E, Census 2011**

Settlement 2015 name	All in employment, aged 16-74	Band	SOC 1-3 (%)	SOC 4-6 (%)	SOC 7-9 (%)
Northern Ireland			33.8	37.4	28.8
Belfast city	118,413	A	37.7	31.5	30.8
Derry / Londonderry city	30,050	B	33.2	31.7	35.1
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	26,438	C	40.7	35.0	24.3
Bangor	28,750	C	37.7	37.6	24.7
Lisburn city	21,087	C	34.6	35.8	29.6
Newtownabbey (Metropolitan)	30,261	C	33.7	36.0	30.4
Newry city	11,242	C	32.6	31.4	36.0
Omagh town	8,010	C	31.7	37.7	30.6
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	12,208	C	31.1	37.7	31.2
Ballymena	13,112	C	30.5	33.2	36.4
Carrickfergus	12,956	C	30.3	40.2	29.6
Newtownards	12,796	C	30.0	40.1	29.9
Coleraine	10,315	C	29.6	34.6	35.9
Antrim	11,047	C	28.8	34.9	36.3
Larne	8,332	C	27.4	39.2	33.4
Craigavon urban area	27,251	C	27.3	33.3	39.4
Holywood	5,290	D	51.1	30.7	18.2
Downpatrick	4,405	D	33.4	40.6	26.0
Banbridge	7,577	D	32.8	37.2	30.0
Armagh	5,973	D	30.9	36.2	32.9
Enniskillen	6,060	D	30.6	32.8	36.6
Strabane	4,595	D	30.0	35.1	34.9
Ballymoney	4,210	D	29.5	38.4	32.1
Limavady	4,488	D	27.6	39.5	32.9
Dungannon	6,371	D	25.4	30.7	43.9
Cookstown	4,936	D	25.3	36.4	38.3
Carryduff	3,483	E	47.8	33.7	18.5
Greenisland	2,606	E	43.2	31.8	25.0
Portstewart	3,518	E	40.6	27.4	32.0
Portrush	2,636	E	38.9	36.3	24.8
Dromore (Banbridge)	2,879	E	38.1	36.3	25.6
Warrenpoint / Burren	3,612	E	37.4	34.6	28.0
Newcastle	3,052	E	36.4	40.3	23.3
Donaghadee	2,995	E	35.6	39.1	25.2
Ballyclare	4,757	E	34.2	38.0	27.9
Ballycastle	2,010	E	34.2	39.4	26.4
Magherafelt	3,823	E	33.1	36.1	30.8
Comber	4,354	E	32.8	40.7	26.5
Randalstown	2,399	E	32.6	39.8	27.6
Crumlin	2,349	E	30.7	39.0	30.3
Coalisland	2,015	E	28.1	39.8	32.1
Ballynahinch	2,557	E	27.0	44.3	28.7
Kilkeel	2,724	E	19.8	45.5	34.7

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS608NI

## 2.11 Economic Activity and Inactivity

Two-thirds (66 per cent) of all usual residents in Northern Ireland aged 16 to 74 years were economically active in the week before Census Day 2011. These were primarily composed of full-time employees (36 per cent of residents), part-time employees (13 per cent), the self-employed (8.9 per cent) and unemployed persons (5 per cent); the remaining 3.7 per cent were economically active full-time students. One-third (34 per cent) of residents were economically inactive, for reasons including: retirement (13 per cent), full-time students (6 per cent), looking after home or family (4 per cent), and the long-term sick or disabled (7 per cent), see Table 2.12.

Belfast has a similar profile to the regional average, except for a smaller proportion of self-employed, and a higher proportion of both full-time students (5.7 per cent) and economically inactive (36 per cent). Among other differences, Derry / Londonderry, has a lower proportion of full-time employees (28 per cent) than the Northern Ireland average, and a larger proportion of both unemployed (8.2 per cent) and economically inactive residents (41 per cent).

Comparing the large towns, (band C), Antrim (43 per cent), Castlereagh (42 per cent), and Lisburn city (41 per cent) have the highest proportion of full-time employees, while metropolitan Lisburn (32 per cent) and Coleraine (33 per cent) have the lowest. Omagh (38 per cent) and metropolitan Lisburn (37 per cent) have the largest percentage of economically inactive residents.

In the medium towns (band D), Holywood and Dungannon (40 per cent) have the highest proportion of full-time employees, with Strabane (28 per cent) and Limavady (30 per cent) having the smallest. Strabane and Limavady also have the highest rate of unemployment (8 per cent) and the largest proportion of economically inactive (42 and 40 per cent respectively).

Comparing the small towns, Dromore, Carryduff and Ballyclare (45 per cent) have the largest proportion of full-time workers. Coalisland, along with Ballycastle (7 per cent) has the highest rate of unemployment and economic inactivity (42 per cent).

**Table 2.12 Economic Activity and Inactivity, Settlements A – E, Census 2011**

Settlement 2015 name	Pop. (16-74) years	Band	Part-time (%)	Full-time (%)	Self-employed (%)	Un-employed (%)	Full-time student (%)	Econ. Inactive (%)
Northern Ireland	1,313,420		13.1	35.6	8.9	5.0	3.7	33.8
Belfast city	208,019	A	12.6	34.5	5.2	5.7	5.6	36.4
Derry / Londonderry city	60,887	B	12.8	27.9	5.5	8.2	4.4	41.2
Antrim	17,095	C	14.1	42.9	5.2	4.6	3.2	30.0
Castlereagh (Metropolitan)	40,299	C	13.9	42.4	6.5	3.4	3.4	30.4
Lisburn city	32,971	C	14.2	41.3	6.0	3.9	3.1	31.6
Carrickfergus	20,577	C	14.3	40.1	5.8	4.6	3.6	31.6
Newtownabbey	47,688	C	14.0	39.9	5.6	4.1	5.0	31.5
Bangor	44,709	C	14.7	39.4	7.8	4.0	3.2	31.0
Larne	13,667	C	13.6	39.2	5.9	4.9	2.8	33.6
Ballymena	21,478	C	13.7	38.8	6.5	4.9	2.7	33.5
Craigavon urban area	46,453	C	13.0	37.7	5.4	5.5	3.3	35.1
Newtownards	20,591	C	15.3	37.6	6.9	4.7	3.1	32.5
Newry	19,665	C	12.9	35.0	6.5	6.5	3.6	35.5
Omagh town	14,347	C	12.3	34.3	7.1	5.4	2.7	38.3
Coleraine	18,056	C	14.6	32.9	6.1	5.3	5.0	36.2
Lisburn (Metropolitan)	21,819	C	14.7	32.5	5.4	6.3	4.4	36.8
Holywood	8,174	D	12.0	40.2	10.1	3.4	2.7	31.6
Dungannon	10,408	D	12.8	39.8	6.2	5.7	3.0	32.6
Banbridge	11,977	D	13.8	39.5	7.5	4.8	3.0	31.5
Enniskillen	10,060	D	14.1	36.3	7.8	5.2	2.6	34.0
Cookstown	8,547	D	13.4	35.0	7.2	5.5	3.0	35.9
Armagh	10,603	D	13.0	34.5	6.9	6.9	2.6	36.2
Ballymoney	7,546	D	12.6	34.4	7.3	6.2	2.1	37.5
Downpatrick	7,772	D	12.8	34.1	7.0	6.3	3.5	36.3
Limavady	8,812	D	12.6	30.5	6.2	7.7	2.5	40.5
Strabane	9,401	D	13.0	28.0	5.7	8.4	3.3	41.7
Dromore (Banbridge)	4,204	E	13.7	45.1	8.0	3.9	2.1	27.2
Carryduff	4,974	E	13.9	45.0	7.2	2.9	4.6	26.5
Ballyclare	7,049	E	14.5	44.6	5.8	3.7	3.2	28.3
Greenisland	3,985	E	13.4	42.1	7.2	4.2	3.3	29.8
Randalstown	3,695	E	12.3	41.6	8.4	4.3	3.1	30.3
Crumlin	3,502	E	16.1	40.4	6.7	4.2	5.2	27.4
Comber	6,763	E	14.3	39.6	8.0	3.6	2.9	31.6
Ballynahinch	4,089	E	14.0	37.7	8.4	4.9	3.1	31.9
Magherafelt	6,389	E	13.1	36.0	7.7	5.7	3.5	34.0
Donaghadee	4,917	E	14.2	35.1	9.4	3.7	2.6	35.0
Kilkeel	4,673	E	12.9	32.5	10.9	5.7	2.3	35.7
Warrenpoint / Burren	6,210	E	12.8	32.4	10.4	6.3	3.0	35.1
Portrush	4,685	E	13.5	31.7	9.1	5.0	2.7	38.1
Coalisland	3,996	E	10.8	31.1	6.1	7.1	3.1	41.8
Newcastle	5,463	E	13.4	29.8	9.9	5.6	3.5	37.9
Ballycastle	3,786	E	12.8	28.5	10.3	7.2	1.8	39.5
Portstewart	6,138	E	10.6	27.3	8.3	3.7	12.6	37.5

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS601NI, Settlements

## 2.12 Educational Qualifications

Census 2011 highlighted the significant proportion of Northern Ireland residents with no academic qualifications.

In 2011, 24 per cent of Northern Ireland residents aged 16 years and over had achieved Level 4 (degree) or higher qualifications, compared with 16 per cent in 2001 (Fig 6.1). In contrast, 29 per cent had no academic or professional qualifications. While still sizeable, this figure is considerably smaller than the 42 per cent with no qualifications recorded in 2001. In England and Wales 23 per cent of residents aged 16 years or over have no qualifications<sup>6</sup>.

Table 2.13 shows the proportion of residents aged 16 and over in settlement bands A – E with either no qualifications or Level 4 or higher qualifications. Compared with the Northern Ireland average, Belfast has a similar proportion with no qualifications (30 per cent) but a higher percentage with Level 4 qualifications. In Derry / Londonderry the situation is reversed, with a higher percentage of residents with no qualifications (34 per cent), and a smaller proportion with Level 4 attainments (21 per cent).

Comparing the large towns (band C), residents were most likely to have Level 4 qualifications in Bangor and Castlereagh (29 per cent) and least likely to have such qualifications in Larne and Craigavon (18 per cent). Residents in Ballymena and Craigavon (33 per cent) were most likely to have no qualifications.

In the medium towns (band D), Holywood (36 per cent) has the highest proportion with Level 4 qualifications, while Strabane and Cookstown (17 per cent) have the lowest. Strabane (39 per cent) and Ballymoney (35 per cent) have the highest percentage of residents aged 16 and over with no qualifications. Looking at the small towns (band E), residents in Carryduff (38 per cent) are most likely to have Level 4 qualifications, while Kilkeel (15 per cent) and Coalisland (18 per cent) are least likely to have such qualifications. Residents in Kilkeel and Coalisland are also most likely to have no qualifications (34 and 32 per cent respectively).

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<sup>6</sup> ONS (2013) **Statistical Bulletin: 2011 Census, Key Statistics for England and Wales, March 2011**. Available at [http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778\\_297002.pdf](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_297002.pdf)

**Table 2.13 Highest educational qualifications, Bands A – E, Census 2011**

Settlement 2015 name	Pop. aged 16+ years	Band	No qualifications (%)	Level 4 qualifications and above (%)
Northern Ireland	1,431,540		29.1	23.6
Belfast city	228,012	A	30.4	26.0
Derry / Londonderry city	65,125	B	33.6	20.9
Bangor	49,523	C	20.5	29.3
Metropolitan Castlereagh	45,292	C	24.8	29.2
Lisburn city	36,264	C	26.9	23.9
Metropolitan Newtownabbey	52,349	C	26.3	23.3
Omagh town	15,561	C	30.8	23.1
Newry city	21,180	C	30.3	22.4
Ballymena	23,877	C	33.1	20.9
Coleraine	19,730	C	30.1	20.8
Carrickfergus	22,333	C	26.5	20.5
Metropolitan Lisburn	23,107	C	29.5	20.4
Antrim	18,357	C	29.3	20.1
Newtownards	22,367	C	27.7	19.9
Craigavon urban area	50,250	C	33.0	18.5
Larne	15,268	C	30.3	18.5
Holywood	9,198	D	19.3	36.4
Downpatrick	8,403	D	27.8	24.2
Enniskillen	11,091	D	29.1	23.9
Banbridge	12,990	D	27.3	22.8
Armagh	11,688	D	31.5	22.3
Dungannon	11,184	D	31.6	19.8
Ballymoney	8,348	D	34.9	17.8
Limavady	9,443	D	34.2	17.2
Cookstown	9,249	D	33.7	16.9
Strabane	10,143	D	39.1	16.9
Carryduff	5,468	E	16.6	37.6
Portstewart	6,821	E	17.9	34.1
Greenisland	4,436	E	22.9	30.2
Portrush	5,235	E	26.9	28.7
Newcastle	6,199	E	26.1	27.6
Warrenpoint / Burren	6,710	E	23.7	26.5
Donaghadee	5,603	E	25.4	25.4
Dromore (Banbridge)	4,600	E	25.1	25.4
Ballycastle	4,178	E	29.1	24.4
Randalstown	4,004	E	27.2	23.8
Comber	7,469	E	25.2	23.8
Ballyclare	7,799	E	27.9	22.8
Magherafelt	6,890	E	29.7	22.1
Crumlin	3,730	E	24.3	21.0
Ballynahinch	4,505	E	30.0	20.0
Coalisland	4,231	E	32.5	17.8
Kilkeel	5,150	E	34.2	14.7

Source: NINIS, NISRA (2015) Table KS501NI, Settlements



**Note:** 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);

### 3 Conclusion

This paper has presented a range of key statistics from Census 2011 relating to settlements or 'built-up areas' throughout Northern Ireland. While settlements include villages and hamlets, the Paper has been limited to an analysis of data on cities, and small, medium and large towns. The full data sets, which cover all settlements right down to those with 500 usual residents are available on the NINIS website.