



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Briefing Note

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# Mapping of GP Surgeries

## 1 Introduction

This briefing note contains mapping of General Practices across Northern Ireland, for the years 2015 and 2020. The practices have been mapped out according to data obtained from the BSO website <sup>1</sup>and from correspondence from the BSO.

The travel analysis was created by calculating distance from the centroids of statistical geographies (small area geographies) to the locations of the GP surgeries using the Ordnance Survey Transport Network GIS product.

Small areas depicted in red show areas which are seeing larger travel distances, while areas in blue are in close proximity to a GP. The tables provided breakdown population and rural/ urban small area data into the distance breaks depicted in the mapping.

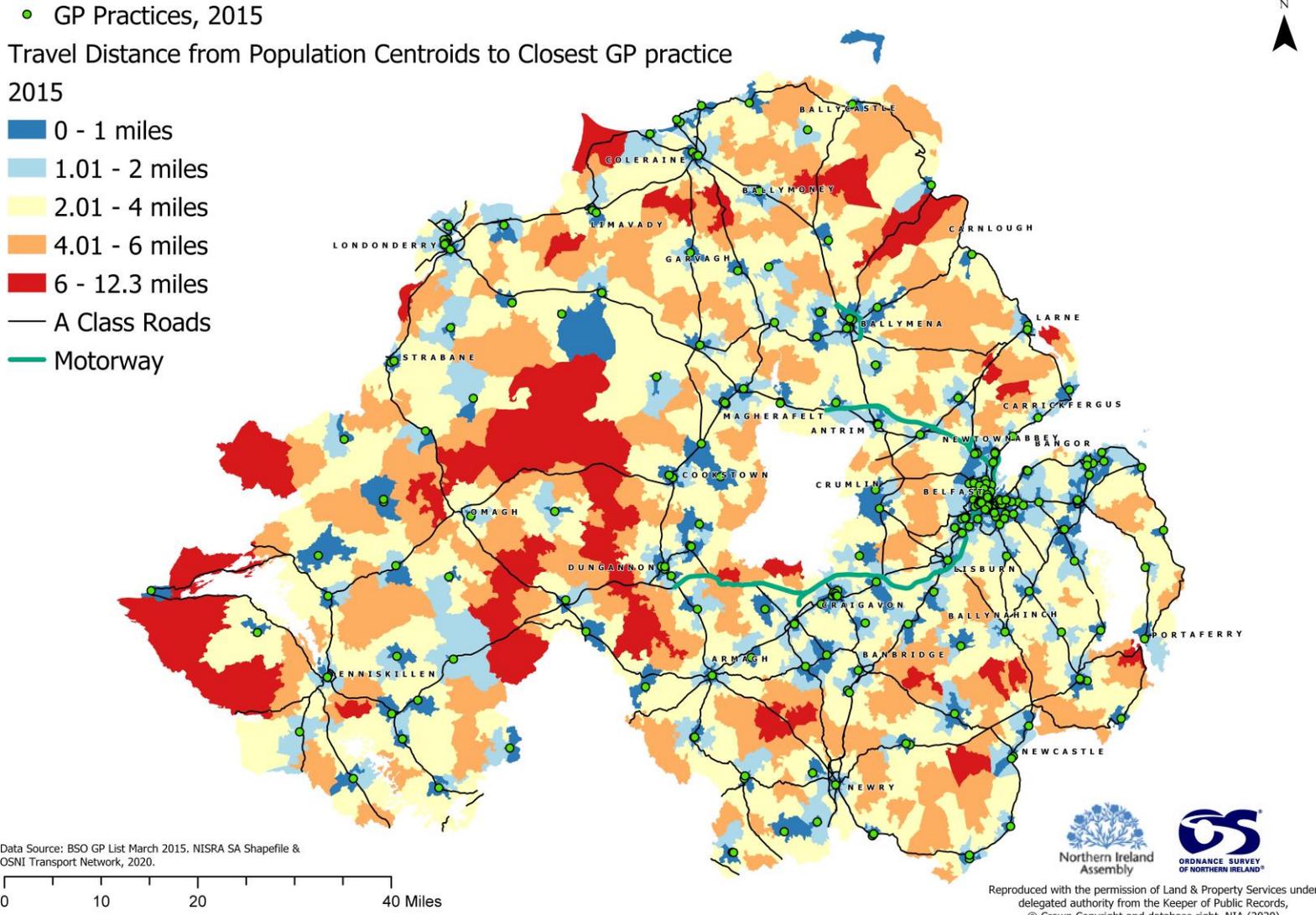
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<sup>1</sup> BSO <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/1816.htm> covered by the [Open Government Licence \(OGL\)](#)

## 2. GP Surgeries in 2015

According to BSO data March 2015, there were 350 GP Surgeries across NI.<sup>2</sup>

**Map 1. Travel Distance from Population Centroids to the Closest GP Surgery 2015.**



<sup>2</sup> BSO correspondence in 2017.

**Table 1. Population per Distance Band to a GP, 2015.**

Travel Distance from Population Centroids to Closest GP practice, 2015.	Total Population Estimate per Distance Band. <sup>3</sup>
0-1 miles	852,991
1-2 miles	443,687
2-4 miles	373,708
4-6 miles	155,846
Over 6 miles	40,388

Data Source: NISRA Population Estimates at SA level (2018).

**Table 2. % of Urban and Rural Small Areas per Distance Band to a GP, 2015.**

Travel Distance from Population Centroids to Closest GP practice, 2015.	% of Urban Small Areas	% of Rural Small Areas	% of Mixed Small Areas
0-1 miles	65.9	22.6	21.8
1-2 miles	28.4	10.1	47.9
2-4 miles	5.5	40.5	29.1
4-6 miles	0.2	21.2	1.2
Over 6 miles	0.0	5.6	0.0

NISRA Urban/Rural Lookup Tables<sup>4</sup> (2015)

The table above shows the percentage of urban, rural and mixed small areas which reside in the distance bands from the mapping. 65.9% of urban small area centroids are within 1 mile of a GP surgery in 2015, while 5.6% of the rural small area centroids are over 6 miles away from a GP surgery.

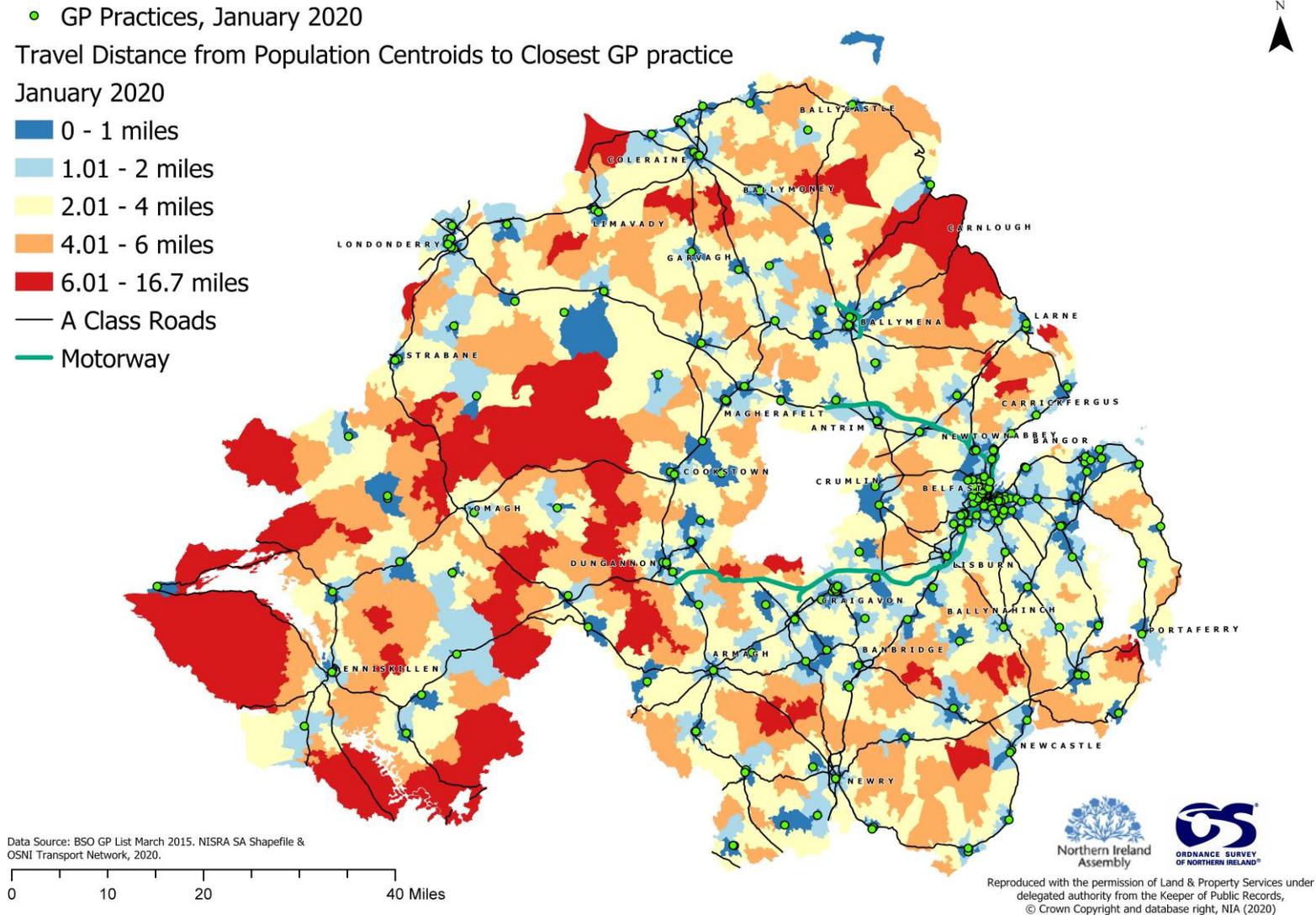
<sup>3</sup> Data Source: NISRA Population Estimates at SA level (2018).

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/settlement-2015-documentation>

### 3. GP Surgeries in 2020

According to BSO data January 2020, there are 326 GP Surgeries across NI<sup>5</sup>.

**Map 2. Travel Distance from Population Centroids to the Closest GP Surgery 2020.**



<sup>5</sup> <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/1816.htm>

**Table 3. Population per Distance Band to a GP, 2020.**

Travel Distance from Population Centroids to Closest GP practice, 2020.	Total Population Estimate per Distance Band <sup>6</sup> .
0-1 miles	844,329
1-2 miles	441,927
2-4 miles	362,072
4-6 miles	158,663
Over 6 miles	59,629

**Table 4. % of Urban and Rural Small Areas per Distance Band to a GP, 2020.**

Travel Distance from Population Centroids to Closest GP practice,2020.	% of Urban Small Areas	% of Rural Small Areas	% of Mixed Small Areas
0-1 miles	65.8	21.0	21.8
1-2 miles	28.4	9.8	47.9
2-4 miles	5.5	38.9	29.1
4-6 miles	0.2	21.2	1.2
Over 6 miles	0.0	9.1	0.0

NISRA Urban/Rural Lookup Tables<sup>7</sup> (2015)

The table above shows the percentage of the urban, rural and mixed small areas which reside in the distance bands from the mapping. 65.8% of urban small area centroids are within 1 mile of a GP surgery in 2020, while 9.1% of the rural small area centroids are over 6 miles away from a GP surgery.

<sup>6</sup> Data Source: NISRA Population Estimates at SA level (2018).

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/settlement-2015-documentation>