

Northern Ireland Population

Mid-Year Estimates

Northern Ireland

- The size of the resident population in Northern Ireland at 30 June 2017 was estimated to be 1.871 million people. Between 2015 and 2017, the number of people living in Northern Ireland is estimated to have increased by 19,213 people (1.0%) (Table 1).
- Between 2015 and 2017, the number of children¹ increased by 1.4% (from 385,200 to 390,684) (Table 1). In the ten-year period between 2007 and 2017, the number of children increased by 3.6%, from 377,073 to 390,684.

Table 1: Northern Ireland Population by Age Group

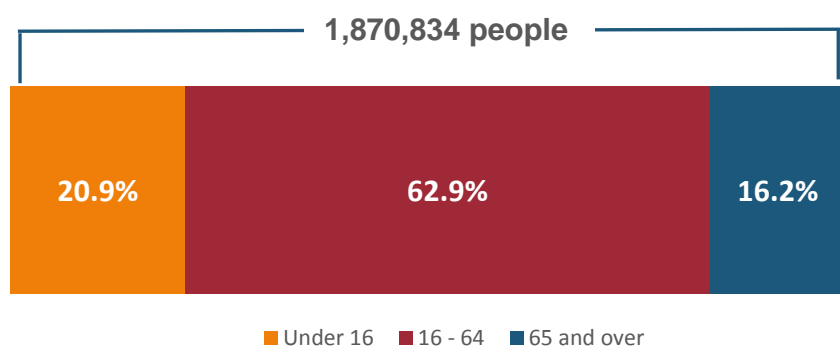
Age	2007	2015	2016	2017	% Change 2015-2017	% Change 2007-2017
Under 16	377,073	385,200	388,001	390,684	1.4%	3.6%
16 - 64	1,142,682	1,174,597	1,176,381	1,177,175	0.2%	3.0%
65 and over	241,928	291,824	297,755	302,975	3.8%	25.2%
<i>85 and over</i>	27,946	35,460	36,461	37,154	4.8%	32.9%
N. Ireland	1,761,683	1,851,621	1,862,137	1,870,834	1.0%	6.2%

- Between 2015 and 2017, the number of people aged 16 - 64 increased by 0.2%, from 1,174,597 to 1,177,175 (Table 1). In the ten-year period between 2007 and 2017, the number of people aged 16-64 increased by 3.0%, from 1,142,682 to 1,177,175.
- Between 2015 and 2017, the population aged 65 and over increased by 3.8%, from 291,824 to 302,975 (Table 1). In the ten-year period between 2007 and 2017, the population aged 65 and over increased by 25.2%, from 241,928 to 302,975.

¹ Aged under 16

- Between 2015 and 2017, the population aged 85 and over increased by 4.8%, from 35,460 to 37,154 (Table 1). In the ten-year period between 2007 and 2017, the population aged 85 and over increased by 32.9%, from 27,946 to 37,154.
- Children account for 20.9% of the population in Northern Ireland, while those aged 65 and over account for 16.2% (Figure 1).

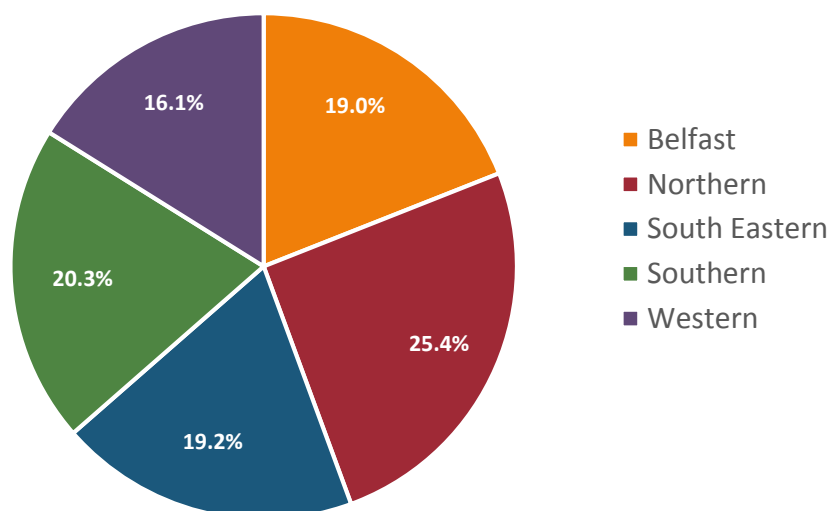
Figure 1: Northern Ireland Population by Age Group (2017)



HSC Trust Level

In 2017, over a quarter (25.4%) of the estimated population resided within the boundaries of the Northern HSC Trust, 20.3% within Southern HSC Trust, 19.2% in South Eastern HSC Trust, 19.0% in Belfast HSC Trust and a further 16.1% within the boundaries of the Western HSC Trust (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Northern Ireland Population by HSC Trust (2017)



- The estimated populations in the all HSC Trusts increased during the period 2015 to 2017; the largest increase has been observed in the Southern HSC Trust (2.0%), from 372,976 in 20015 to 380,312 in 2017 (Table 2).

Table 2: Northern Ireland Population by HSC Trust

HSC Trust	2015	2016	2017	% Change 2015-2017
Belfast	353,778	354,706	355,593	0.5%
Northern	471,188	473,076	474,773	0.8%
South Eastern	354,651	356,693	358,708	1.1%
Southern	372,976	377,231	380,312	2.0%
Western	299,028	300,431	301,448	0.8%
N. Ireland	1,851,621	1,862,137	1,870,834	1.0%

Projections for 2027

Northern Ireland

- The population is projected to increase to 1.946 million in 2027, from 1.871 million in 2017, an increase of 74,910 people or 4.0% (Table 3).
- Projections indicate a marked increase in the size of the population at older ages. The number of people **currently** aged 65 years and over is projected to increase by 26.1% in the next 10 years, from 302,975 in 2017 to 381,993 in 2027. (Table 3).

Table 3: Population by HSC Trust and Age Group, 2017 and Projected 2027

HSC Trust	Mid-Year Estimate 2017				Projected 2027			
	Under 16	16 - 64	65 and over	Total	Under 16	16 - 64	65 and over	Total
Belfast	68,618	232,569	54,406	355,593	69,543	231,311	63,667	364,521
Northern	96,991	296,340	81,442	474,773	92,780	291,958	102,709	487,447
South Eastern	72,589	220,627	65,492	358,708	70,652	220,110	84,103	374,865
Southern	87,262	237,833	55,217	380,312	90,094	251,331	71,944	413,369
Western	65,224	189,806	46,418	301,448	62,439	183,533	59,570	305,542
N. Ireland	390,684	1,177,175	302,975	1,870,834	385,508	1,178,243	381,993	1,945,744

HSC Trust Level

- The population in each HSC Trust is projected to increase by 2027, with the largest increase (8.7%) projected in the Southern HSC Trust, from 380,312 to 413,369 (Table 3).
- The population aged 65 and over is projected to increase in each of the five HSC Trusts by 2027: Southern HSC Trust by 30.3%, South Eastern HSC Trust by 28.4%, Western HSC Trust by 28.3%, Northern HSC Trust by 26.1%, and Belfast HSC Trust by 17.0% (Table 3).

- The distribution of the projected population in 2027 across the five HSC Trusts will remain similar to that in 2017. The projected population of the Northern HSC Trust will make up the largest proportion of the Northern Ireland population (25.1%) and the Western HSC Trust the smallest proportion (15.7%) (Table 4).

Table 4: Distribution of Population by HSC Trust, 2017 and Projected 2027

HSC Trust	Mid-Year Estimate 2017	Projected 2027
Belfast	19.0%	18.7%
Northern	25.4%	25.1%
South Eastern	19.2%	19.3%
Southern	20.3%	21.2%
Western	16.1%	15.7%
N. Ireland	100.0%	100.0%