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# Public Awareness of and Trust in Official Statistics, Northern Ireland 2020

This report presents findings on public awareness of NISRA (Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency) and trust in official statistics in Northern Ireland. The questions were asked in the Northern Ireland Continuous Household Survey (CHS) between October 2020 and March 2021<sup>1</sup>. The report also monitors changes over time and includes comparisons with the Office for National Statistics (ONS), where appropriate. The figures presented in this report were obtained from a sample of the population (1,021 persons) and are therefore estimates. The key findings are:

**Awareness**

- Public awareness of NISRA was significantly higher in 2020 compared to previous years, with over half of respondents (58%) indicating that they had heard of the Agency before being contacted about the survey.
- Of those respondents that had heard of NISRA, almost two thirds (64%) indicated their awareness had increased since the previous year.

**Trust**

- Public trust in NISRA, as an institution, is high (90%).
- Public trust in the statistics produced by NISRA is also high (90%).

**Value**

- The statistics produced by NISRA are valued, with 94% of respondents agreeing that statistics produced by NISRA are important to understand Northern Ireland.

**Political Interference**

- Almost nine-tenths (88%) of respondents agreed that statistics produced by NISRA are free from political interference.

<sup>1</sup> The duration of the 2020 survey was extended by three months to take account of lower response rates. Further details are included in Appendix A.

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[Code of Practice for Statistics](#)

[Statistics produced by NISRA](#)

[Public Confidence in Official Statistics \(ONS\)](#)

## 1. Introduction

Official Statistics in Northern Ireland are produced by Government Departments, and in some cases Arm's Length Bodies. The data collection, production, presentation and dissemination of official statistics are governed by the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#)<sup>2</sup>.

*This Code plays an essential role in ensuring that statistics published by government command public confidence through demonstrating trustworthiness and providing high quality statistics that enhance public value.* Preamble, Code of Practice

NISRA is an Agency within the Department of Finance and provides statistical services across government in Northern Ireland. The majority of Northern Ireland official statistics are produced by NISRA staff and NISRA branches can be found within all Northern Ireland Departments, and several Arm's Length Bodies<sup>3</sup>. NISRA has been measuring the levels of public confidence or trust in the Agency and in the statistics it produces since the Code was produced in 2009. These levels are monitored by the Agency and used to inform communication and marketing strategies.

In the UK, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) is the largest producer of official statistics. Public trust in the ONS and the statistics it produces is also monitored and this report contains comparisons between NISRA and ONS. The ONS survey samples respondents in England, Scotland and Wales whilst the NISRA survey samples respondents in Northern Ireland. The most recent ONS survey was conducted in 2018 ([Public Confidence in Official Statistics 2018 \(ONS\)](#)<sup>4</sup>).

[Detailed tables](#) have also been produced and are published alongside the report. These include the source data for all the charts and commentary and additional breakdowns (see Appendix B for a list of tables).

<sup>2</sup> <https://code.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/support/official-statistics/northern-ireland-official-statistics>

<sup>4</sup> <https://natcen.ac.uk/our-research/research/public-confidence-in-official-statistics/>

## 2. Awareness of NISRA

Over half of respondents (58%) said that before being contacted about the survey they had heard of NISRA. Public awareness of NISRA is significantly higher compared to when it was last measured in 2019, when this figure stood at 35% (Chart 1). This is the first year that awareness levels have been measured since the onset of Covid-19.

Almost two-thirds (64%) of respondents who reported having heard of NISRA, said their awareness had increased since the previous year.

Those who said their awareness had increased were asked for the reasons why. The most frequently mentioned answer was that the respondent had heard NISRA mentioned in the news (60%). The second most cited reason, mentioned by 44% of respondents, was “As a result of publicity surrounding COVID-19”, whilst 33% said they had seen NISRA statistics quoted on social media (Chart 2<sup>5</sup>). Most respondents who answered “Other” indicated that they had been contacted by NISRA in regard to a survey.

Chart 1: Awareness of NISRA (2009-2020)

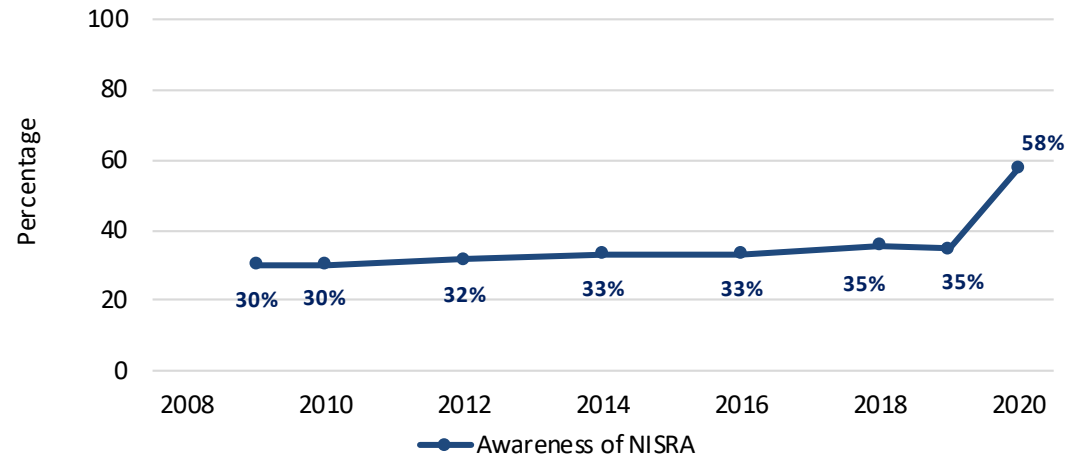
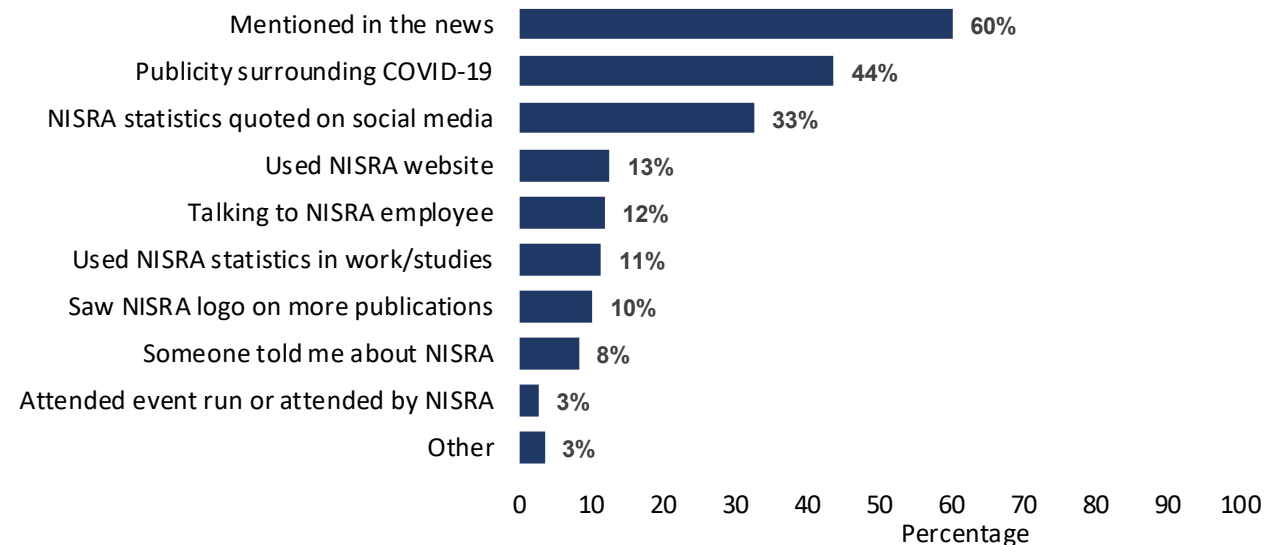


Chart 2: Reasons for increase in awareness of NISRA, 2020



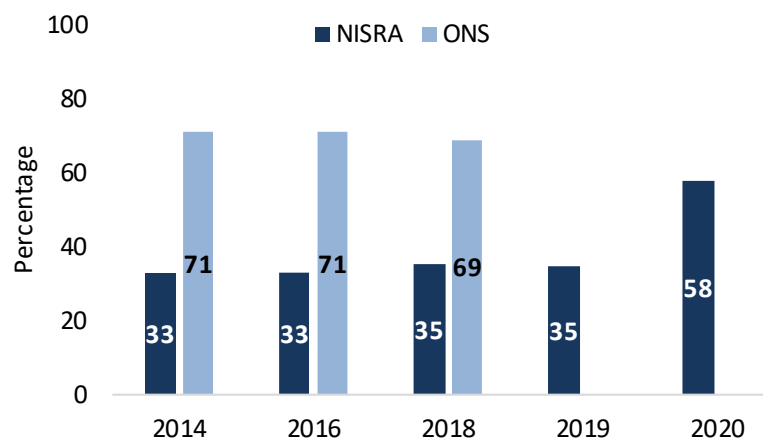
<sup>5</sup> Percentages don't add to 100% as multiple responses were allowed. Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Levels of public awareness of NISRA remain lower than awareness of ONS with over two thirds (69%) of respondents reporting having heard of ONS based on the latest available data (2018). This difference in awareness levels between ONS and NISRA has narrowed since 2019 (Chart 3), however the latest ONS figures do not capture any impact on awareness levels due to the pandemic.

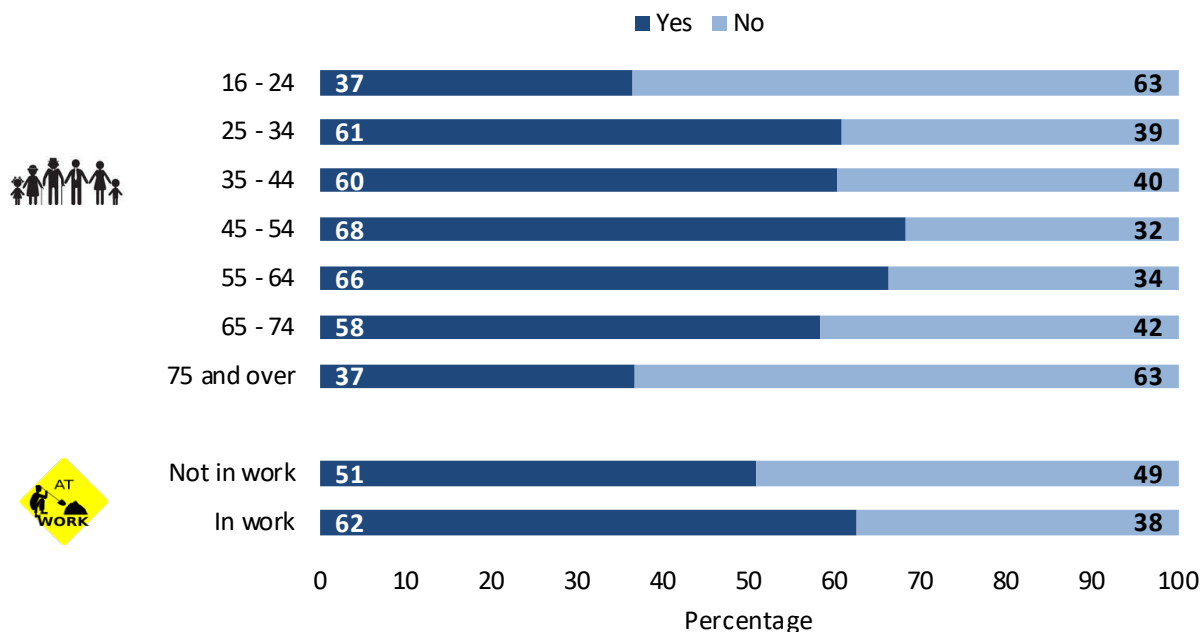
When broken down by age group, awareness of NISRA is lowest among those aged 16-24 (37%) and those aged 75 and over (37%) with awareness levels in all other age groups being significantly higher than both these categories (Chart 4).

Employment status was shown to have an impact on levels of awareness with those respondents in paid employment being significantly more likely to say they knew of NISRA (62%) compared to those who were not in paid employment (51%).

**Chart 3: Awareness of NISRA (2014-2020) and ONS (2014-2018)**



**Chart 4: Awareness of NISRA by age and employment status, 2020**



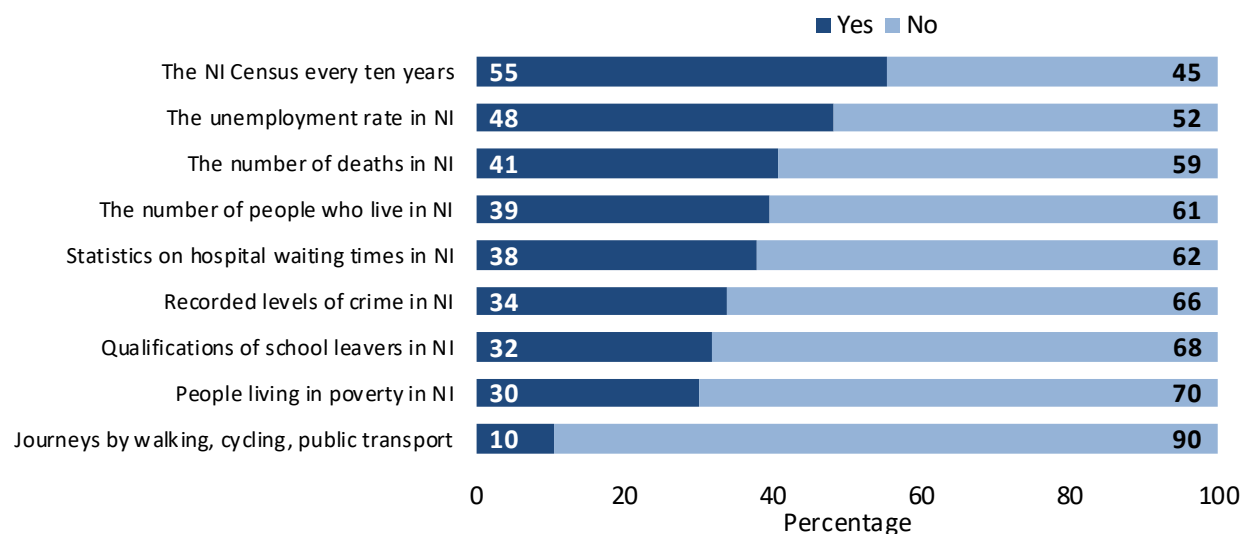
### 3. Awareness of NISRA Statistics

Respondents who had not previously heard of NISRA were asked whether they had heard of specific NISRA statistics. 32% of these respondents had not heard of any of the statistics listed, while 3% had heard of all the statistics<sup>6</sup>.

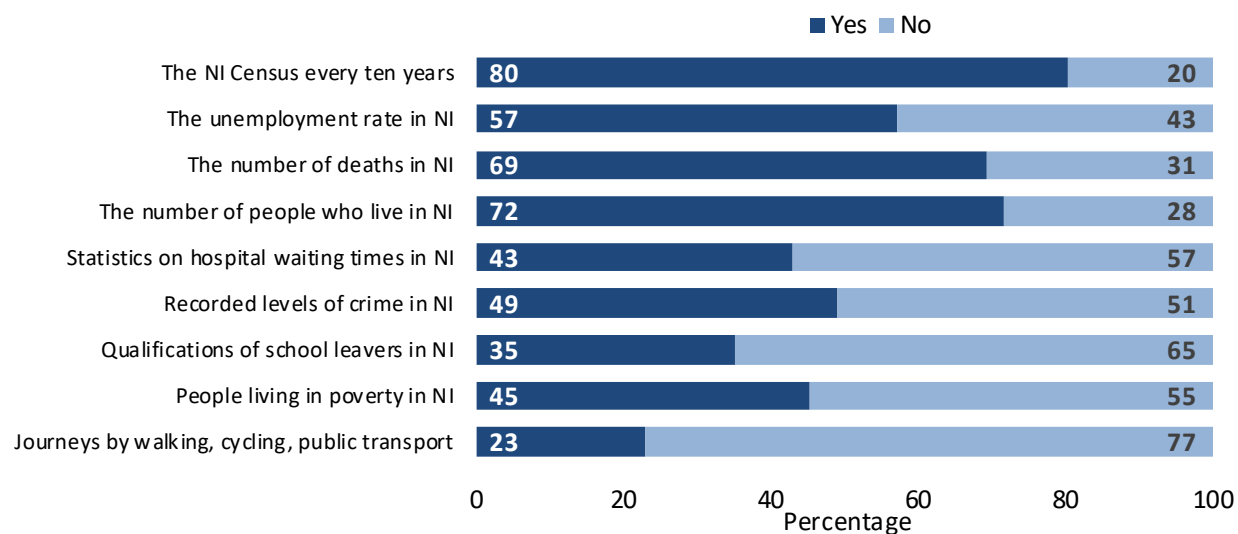
Over half (55%) of these respondents had heard of the Northern Ireland Census, with just less than half (48%) having heard of the unemployment rate. This was followed by deaths (41%), the number of people who live in Northern Ireland (39%) and hospital waiting times (38%). Only 10% of these respondents were aware of statistics on journeys made by walking, cycling or public transport in Northern Ireland (Chart 5).

Respondents who had heard of NISRA were asked whether they were aware that NISRA produced certain statistics. Of these respondents, 9% were aware that NISRA produced all the listed statistics while 10% were unaware that NISRA produced any of the listed statistics.

**Chart 5: Awareness of specific NISRA statistics for respondents who were not aware of NISRA, 2020**



**Chart 6: Aware NISRA produces specific statistics for respondents who were aware of NISRA, 2020**



<sup>6</sup> A more detailed breakdown is available in the accompanying tables (see Appendix B).

Awareness was highest for the Northern Ireland Census (80%), followed by the number of people who live in Northern Ireland (72%) and the number of deaths (69%). The qualifications of school leavers (35%) and the percentage of journeys made by walking, cycling or public transport (23%) were least well recognised as being produced by NISRA statisticians by those who had heard of NISRA (Chart 6).

#### 4. Trust in NISRA

Trust in NISRA as an institution is high, with 90% of all respondents trusting NISRA a great deal or tending to trust NISRA. Most of the remaining respondents (7%) didn't know whether they trusted NISRA or not, while 2% of respondents tended to distrust/distrusted NISRA greatly (Chart 7).

Trust in NISRA has increased significantly since 2019 (80%) while distrust in NISRA has decreased significantly since 2019 (5%). The change between 2019 and 2020 is much greater than for previous years.

Chart 7: Trust in NISRA (2014-2020)

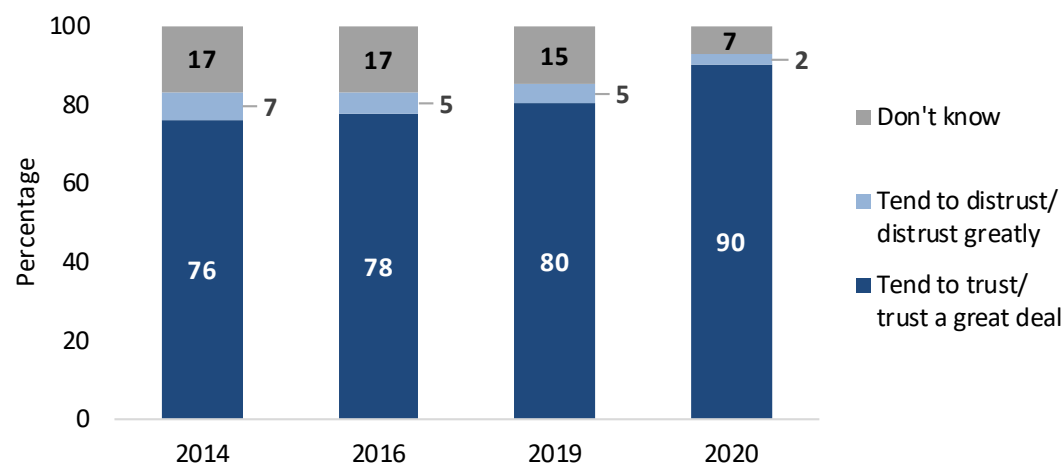
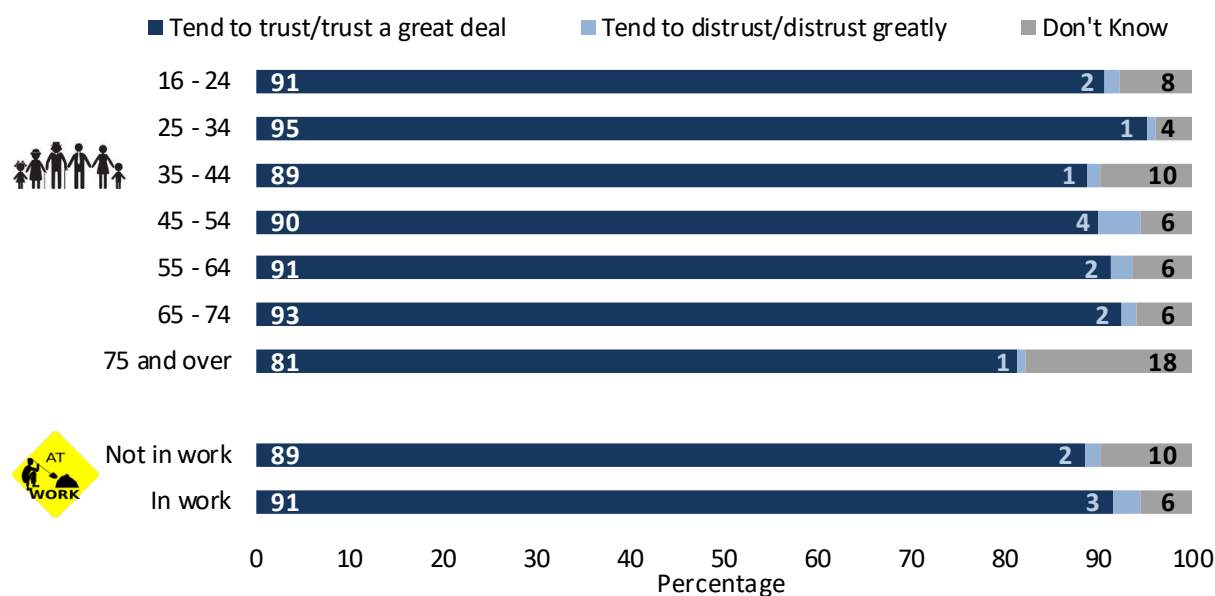


Chart 8: Trust in NISRA by age and employment status, 2020



For respondents who expressed an opinion, there was no significant difference in the level of trust between age groups or whether or not the respondent was in paid employment (Chart 8).

'Don't knows' were significantly higher for those respondents aged 75 and over compared to all other age groups except those aged 16-24 and 35-44.

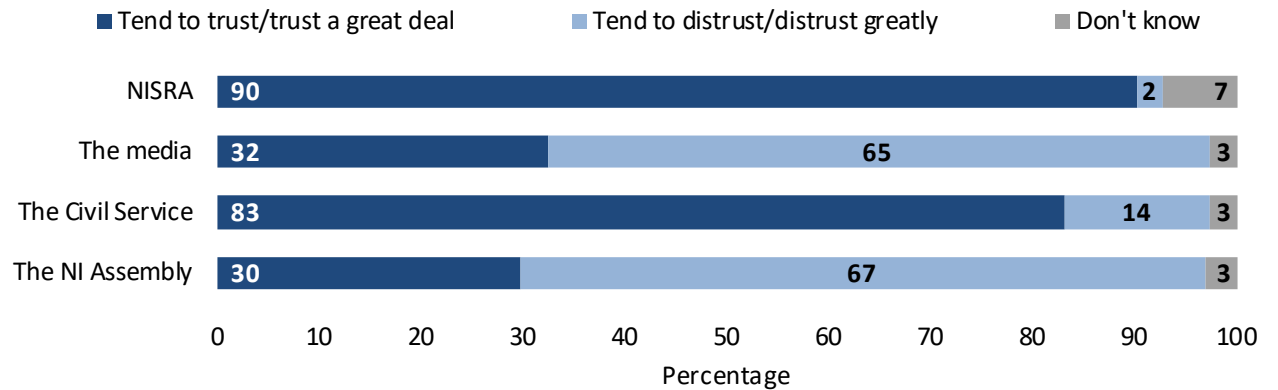
The level of trust in NISRA is significantly higher compared with trust in the media, the NI Assembly and the Civil Service (Chart 9).

Across all institutions, the level of trust was lowest for the media (32%) and the NI Assembly (30%), whilst 83% of respondents said they trusted the Civil Service.

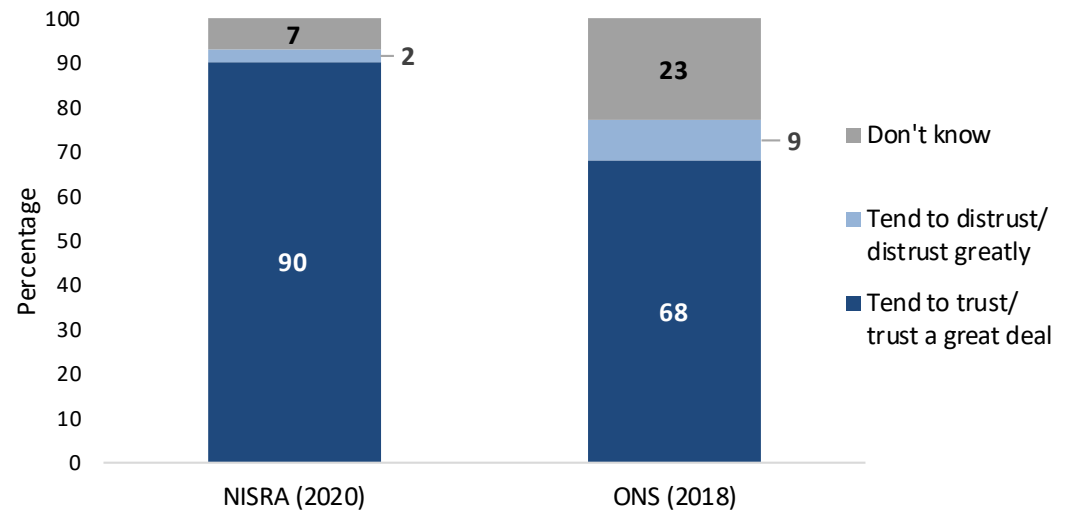
A statistically significant higher proportion don't know if they trust NISRA or not (7%) compared to the other institutions.

Trust in NISRA remains significantly higher than the trust levels for ONS (68%) based on the latest available data (2018) (Chart 10). However, the ONS figures do not capture any impact on trust levels due to the pandemic.

**Chart 9: Trust in institutions, 2020**



**Chart 10: Trust in NISRA (2020) and ONS (2018) as institutions**



## 5. Trust in NISRA Statistics

The majority of respondents (90%) trust NISRA statistics a great deal or tend to trust them while 4% of respondents distrust greatly or tend to distrust them. The remaining respondents (6%) didn't know whether they trusted NISRA statistics or not.

Trust in NISRA statistics has increased significantly since 2019 and 2016 (both 84%) and 2014 (83%) and distrust in NISRA statistics has decreased significantly. There has also been a significant drop in the 'don't knows' between 2019 and 2020 (Chart 11).

There was no significant difference in level of trust in NISRA statistics between respondents in paid employment (91%) and those respondents not in paid employment (89%). The level of 'don't knows' was significantly higher for those not in paid employment (Chart 12).

For those respondents who expressed an opinion, there was no significant difference in the level of trust between age groups. The percentage of 'don't knows' was higher for respondents aged 35-44 and 75 and over compared to other age groups.

Chart 11: Trust in NISRA statistics (2014-2020)

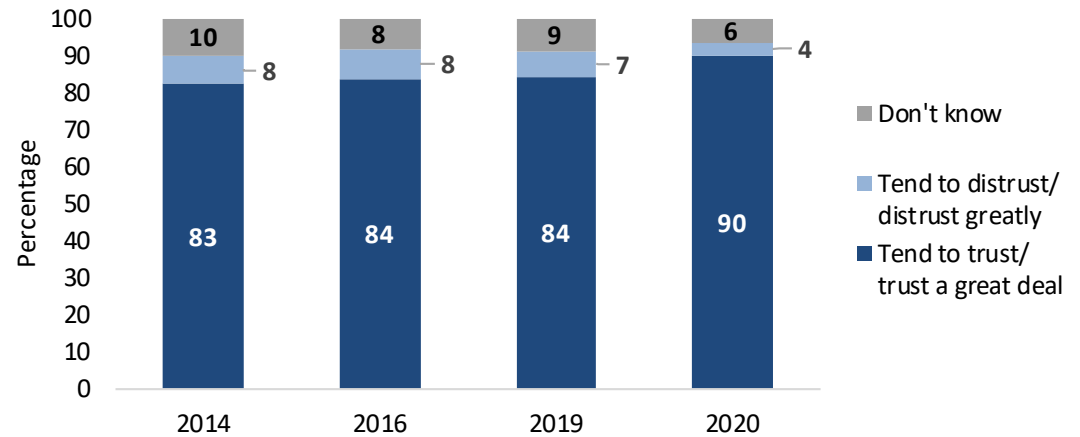
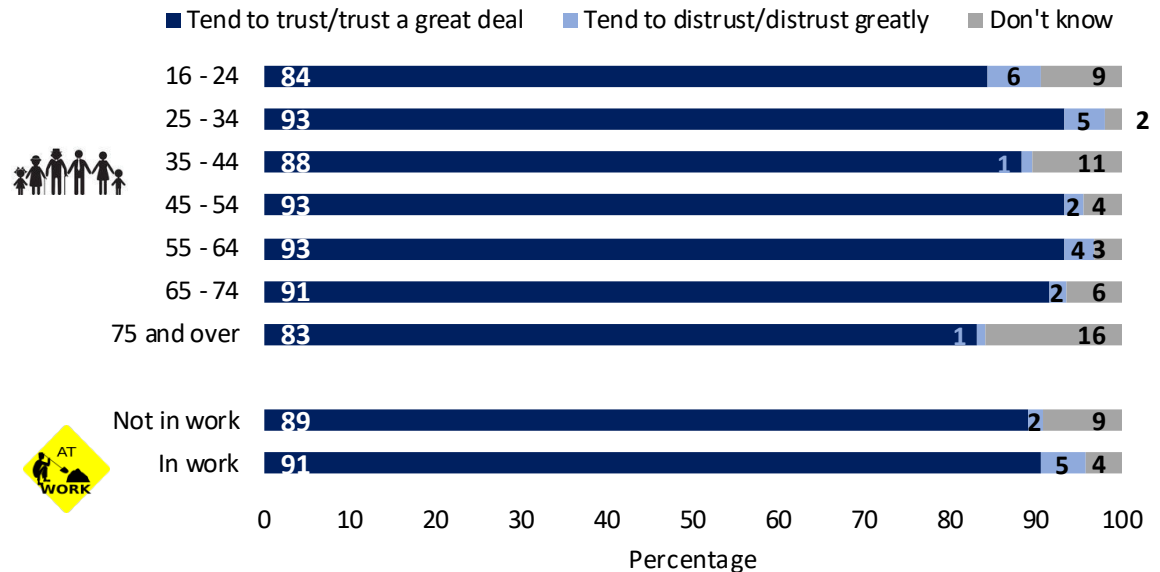


Chart 12: Trust in NISRA statistics by age and employment status, 2020

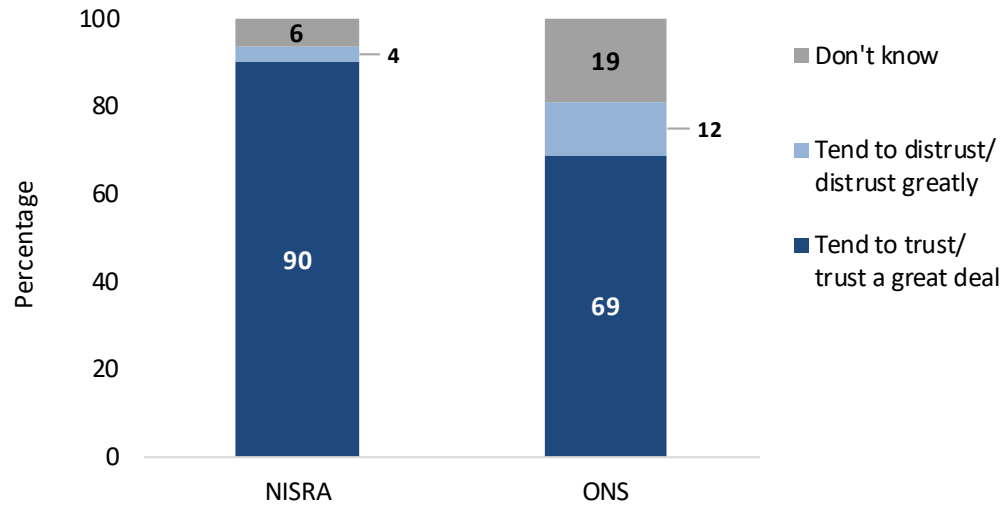




Trust in NISRA statistics is significantly higher than trust in ONS statistics (69%) based on the most recent data available for ONS (2018) (Chart 13).

This finding is consistent with previous years, when trust in ONS statistics was lower at 67% in 2014 and 69% in 2016. It does not measure change in the level of trust in ONS statistics as a result of the pandemic.

**Chart 13: Trust in statistics produced by NISRA (2020) and ONS (2018)**

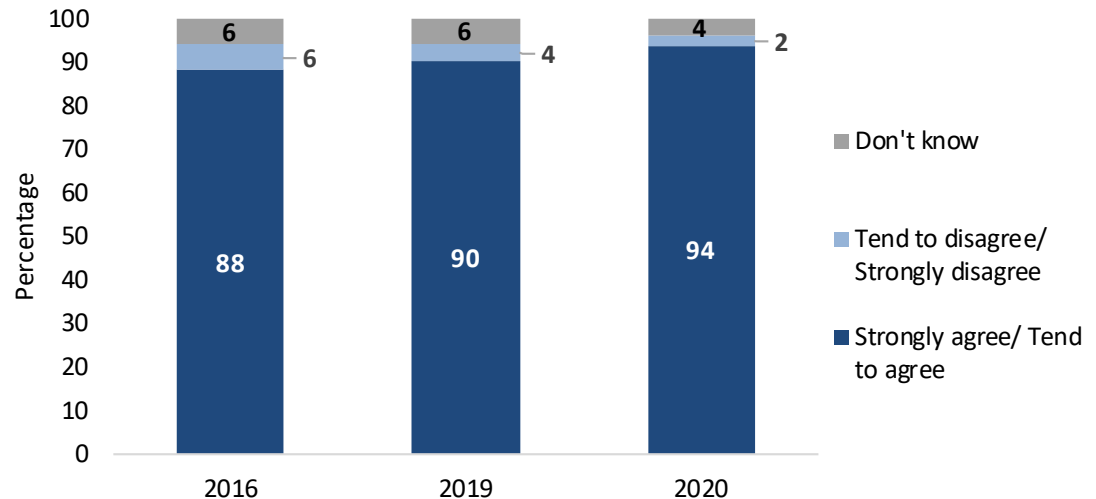


## 6. Value

The majority of respondents (94%) agreed that statistics produced by NISRA are important to understand Northern Ireland. This represents a significant increase on the 2019 (90%) and 2016 (88%) figures (Chart 14).

Overall 2% of respondents disagreed that statistics produced by NISRA are important to understand Northern Ireland, while 4% indicated that they didn't know. The level of

**Chart 14: NISRA statistics are important to understand Northern Ireland (2016-2020)**



disagreement has decreased significantly since 2019 (4%) and 2016 (6%).

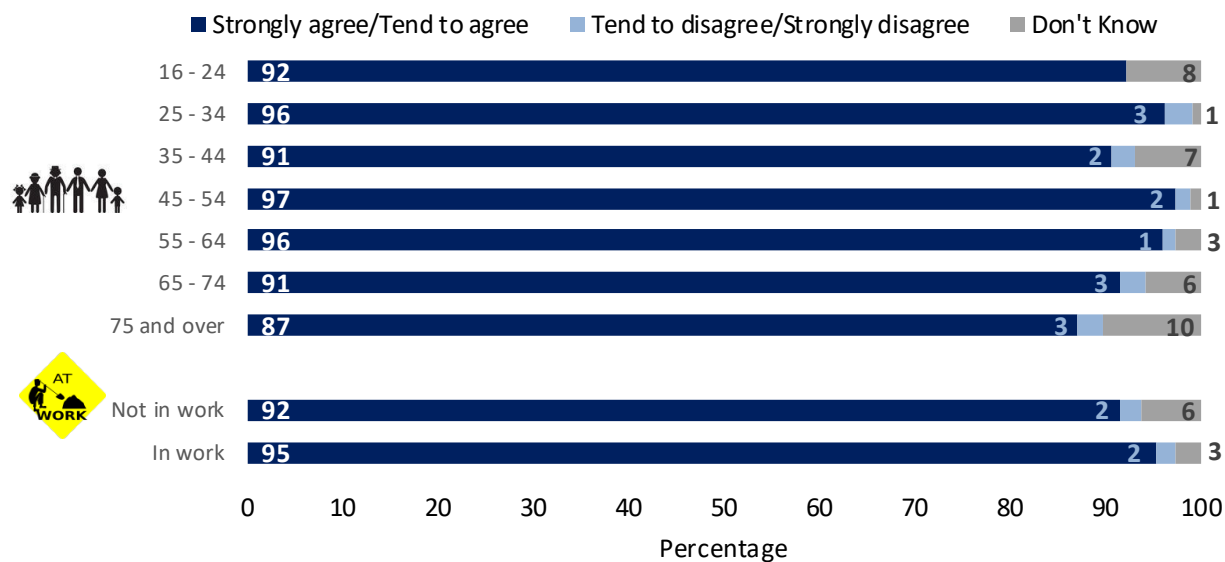
Amongst those who had a view on the importance of NISRA statistics, there was no consistent pattern by age. Respondents aged 16-24, 35-44 and 75 and over, were significantly more likely to answer 'don't know' than those aged 45-54 and 55-64 (Chart 15).

For those respondents who expressed an opinion there was no significant difference between those in and not in paid employment. However, the level of 'don't knows' was significantly higher for respondents not in paid employment.

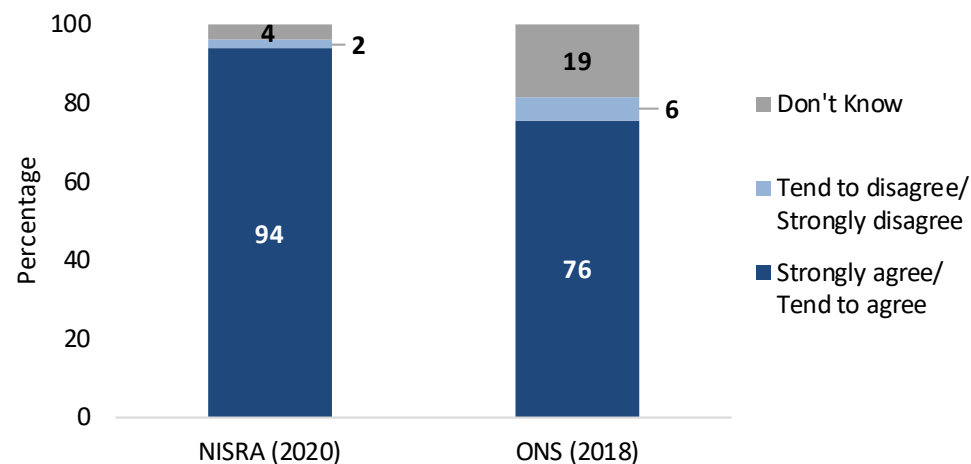
In comparison, 76% of respondents agreed, in 2018, that statistics produced by ONS are important to understanding Britain. These are the latest data available for ONS and do not capture the impact of the pandemic (Chart 16).

When only respondents who expressed an opinion are considered, the 2018 ONS figure increases to 93%, which is still significantly lower than the NISRA figure (98%, in 2020).

**Chart 15: NISRA statistics are important to understand NI by age and employment status, 2020**



**Chart 16: Statistics produced are important to understand our country, NISRA (2020) and ONS (2018)**



## 7. Political Interference

Almost nine-tenths (88%) of respondents agreed that statistics produced by NISRA are free from political interference. This has increased significantly since 2019 (82%) and 2016 and 2014 (both 77%). Similarly, although 1 in 20 respondents (5%) disagreed that NISRA statistics are free from political interference, there has been a significant decrease since 2019 (7%), 2016 (12%) and 2014 (15%). The remaining respondents (7%) indicated that they don't know whether or not NISRA statistics are free from political interference (Chart 17).

In comparison 55% of respondents agreed that statistics produced by ONS are free from political interference, based on the latest available data (2018). This equates to 73% of all respondents who expressed an opinion, which is significantly lower than the equivalent figure for NISRA (95%). While this difference is consistent with previous years, the figures for ONS do not take account of any impact of the pandemic (Chart 18).

For those respondents who expressed an opinion, there was no significant difference between age groups or by employment.

Chart 17: NISRA statistics are free from political interference (2016-2020)

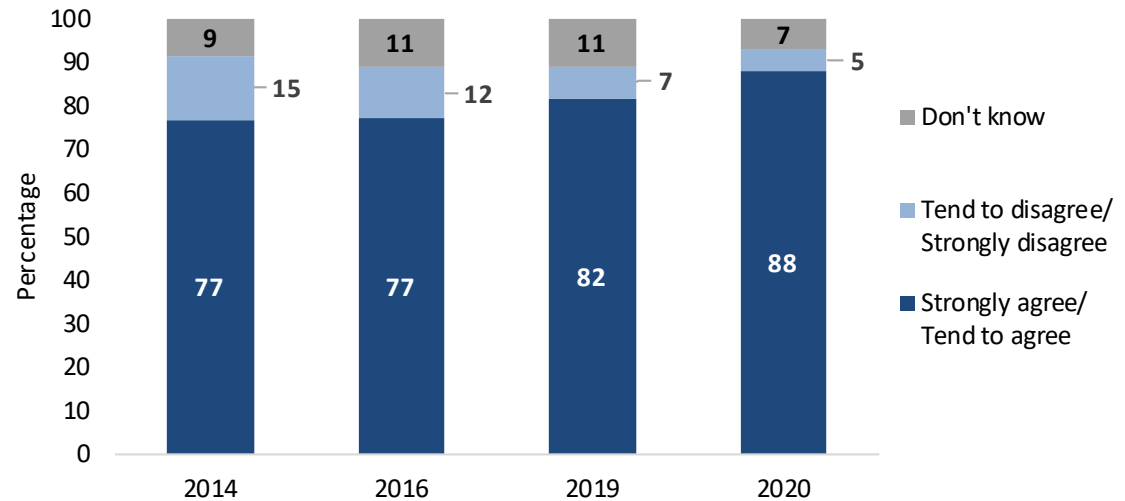
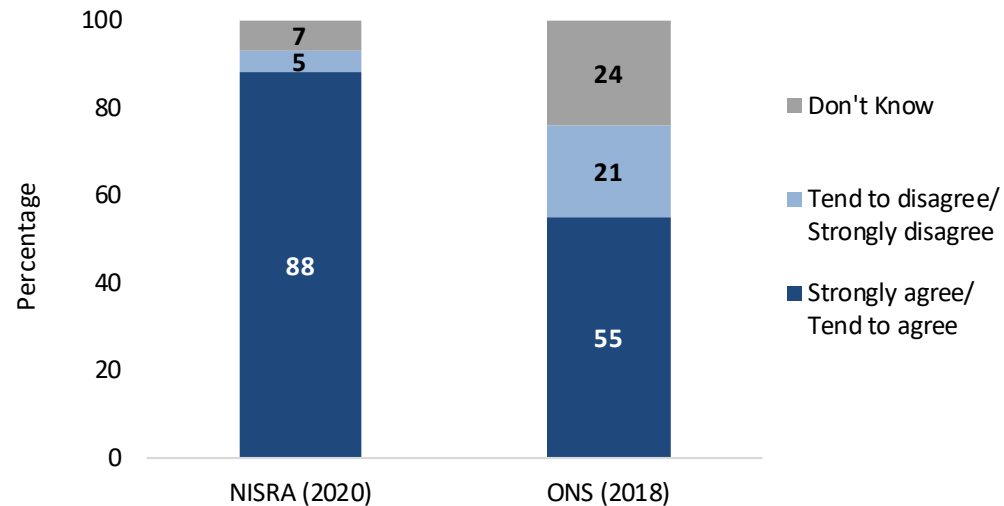


Chart 18: Statistics produced are free from political interference, NISRA (2020) and ONS (2018)

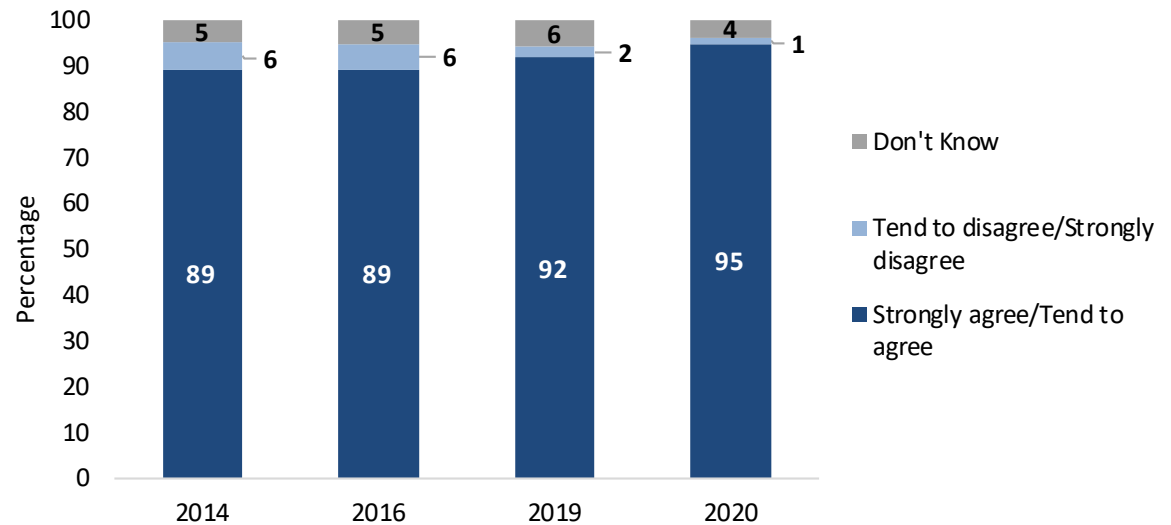


## 8. Confidentiality

Nineteen out of every twenty respondents agreed that personal information provided to NISRA is kept confidential (95%). The majority of the remaining respondents indicated that they didn't know (4%) while 1 in every 100 (1%) respondents disagreed. The percentage of respondents agreeing shows a significant increase on the 2019 figure (92%) and 2016 and 2014 figures (both 89%) (Chart 19). A comparable figure for ONS is not available.

There was no significant difference by paid employment status and no consistent pattern by age.

Chart 19: Personal information provided to NISRA is kept confidential, 2020



## Appendix A: Methodology and Quality Information

### Data Source

This report presents the results of questions relating to Public Awareness and Trust in Official Statistics in Northern Ireland that were included in the **Continuous Household Survey (CHS)**. The CHS is one of the largest continuous surveys carried out in Northern Ireland, designed and administered by the Central Survey Unit (CSU), NISRA. Prior to 2018, the questions were included as a module within the NI Omnibus Survey but following the temporary suspension of the NI Omnibus Survey in 2018, the questions were moved to the CHS. Both surveys use probabilistic sampling to select a representative sample of the general population, aged 16 and over, resident in private households. This meant that comparisons could continue to be made over time and significance tests carried out to determine if observed differences are likely to be real or due to sampling error.

Each year Central Survey Unit, NISRA, sets the content of the Continuous Household Survey questionnaire in consultation with clients. The questionnaire consists of both an overall household interview, and an individual interview with each person aged 16 and over. Both the household and individual questionnaires consist of core items that are included each year, and modules that recur on a regular cycle. Core items include household and individual demographics, accommodation, tenure, internet access, environmental issues, domestic tourism, participation in sports, arts and leisure, employment status, health and section 75 classifications. Interviews are spread equally over the 12 months from April to March, with the 'Public Awareness and Trust in Official Statistics' module normally included during the Autumn months (October to December). As a result of lower response rates due to the impact of COVID-19, the 2020 run was extended by three months and the questions were asked from October 2020 to March 2021. The questions included in the 2020 module are available in Appendix C of this report.

### Impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on data collection

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, data collection for the 2020/21 Continuous Household Survey moved from face-to-face interviewing to telephone mode. This required a reduction in the number of questions in the overall questionnaire. While the Public Awareness and Trust in Official Statistics questions were unaltered, the change in data collection mode and the number of questions may have altered how people responded to the survey. One of the questions removed related to highest education qualification which meant that analysis using this breakdown was not possible for 2020.

The achieved response rate was also lower than normal (reducing from 55% to 16%). As a result the 2020 module ran for an additional three months. While this has maintained the precision of the estimates and enabled comparisons with previous years, the timing does not align as well with previous years. As

well as the reduced response rate there was a change in the demographic profile of respondents. To account for this additional weighting variables (adjusting for area deprivation) were applied to the data to reduce bias.

Taking account of all these factors and the adjustments made, the residual impact on the Public Awareness and Trust in Official Statistics questions is likely to be minimal and the results can be interpreted as reflecting real changes. This may not be true for other modules within the CHS. More information is available on the [NISRA website](#).

## Sample

The Continuous Household Survey is based on a systematic random sample of 9,000 addresses drawn each year from the Pointer list of domestic addresses. Pointer is the address database for Northern Ireland maintained by Land & Property Services (LPS). Data was collected by telephone interview using Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI), and the interviews are spread equally over the 12 months from April to March. Of the 4,550 addresses selected for interview from October 2020 to March 2021, 1021 persons participated in this module of the survey.

## Survey Estimates

Surveys gather information from a sample rather than from the whole population. Results from surveys are always estimates, not precise figures. This means that they have a margin of error which can have an impact on how changes in the numbers should be interpreted, especially in the short term. An estimate of the amount of error due to the sampling process can be calculated and used to produce an interval of values known as a confidence interval. This has been taken into account when carrying out significance tests.

Significance tests were carried out to determine if there were differences in responses given by various respondent groups. The significance tests were carried out at 5% significance level and only differences which were statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) are included in this report. This means that there is at least a 95% probability that there is a genuine difference between responses given by, for example, males and females and the difference between the two genders is not simply explained by chance.

## Weighting

The Continuous Household Survey aspires to interview everyone aged 16 or over at a selected household, but non-response either by the household as a whole or by individuals within the household introduce non-response bias to the results. To counter this, weights are applied to the analysis on the basis of age and gender. For 2020/21 data a weight based on Multiple Deprivation Measure (MDM) was also applied to account for differences in the deprivation

profile of the achieved sample. Weights are calculated based on how the age, gender and MDM profile of the survey respondents differ from that of the latest mid-year population estimates published by NISRA. This weighting process adjusts the results to those that would have been achieved if the sample had been drawn as a random sample of adults across Northern Ireland, thus allowing inferences to be made about the population. The percentages given in the tables in this report are based on weighted data. The totals in the tables are not weighted.

## Quality Checks

CATI allows plausibility and consistency checks to be incorporated within the questionnaire to improve data quality. Data returned is coded and fully validated by CHS statistical staff, including treatment of outliers and detailed consistency checking including non-credible checks. A 100% check of all coded data is undertaken to ensure that coding procedures are of a high standard.

On receipt of CHS data, Statistical Support Branch validate and perform quality checks on the data. Range and plausibility checks are performed for returned and derived variables and the data are also checked for 'missing values'. The data is compared with previous years to identify any unusual trends or distributions, or values that lie outside expected norms. All anomalies are queried with CHS staff who can re-check the coding and source data.

## Further Information

More information on the methodology used to produce these official statistics and the quality of the data is available in the [Background Quality Report](#)<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/background-quality-report-public-awareness-and-trust-official-statistics>

## Appendix B: List of Detailed Tables

[Detailed tables](#)<sup>8</sup> including the source data for all the charts and commentary and additional breakdowns are published alongside this report. A full list of tables is provided below:

### **Awareness of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA)**

Table 1: Awareness of NISRA, 2009-2020

Table 2: Awareness of NISRA (2020) and ONS (2018)

Table 3: Awareness of NISRA by Age Band, 2020

Table 4: Awareness of NISRA by Employment Status, 2020

### **Increased awareness of NISRA**

Table 5: Has your awareness of NISRA increased since this time last year? 2020

Table 6: Awareness of NISRA increased by Employment Status, 2020

Table 7: Awareness of NISRA increased by Age Band, 2020

### **Reasons for increased awareness of NISRA**

Table 8: Reasons for increase in awareness of NISRA (2020)

### **Awareness of NISRA statistics among those who had not previously heard of NISRA**

Table 9: Aware of NISRA statistics on the number of deaths in Northern Ireland, 2020

Table 10: Aware of NISRA statistics on recorded levels of crime in Northern Ireland, 2020

Table 11: Aware of NISRA statistics on the qualifications of school leavers in Northern Ireland, 2020

Table 12: Aware of NISRA statistics on the number of people who live in Northern Ireland, 2020

Table 13: Aware of NISRA statistics on hospital waiting times in Northern Ireland, 2020

Table 14: Aware of NISRA statistics on the Northern Ireland Census every ten years, 2020

Table 15: Aware of NISRA statistics on the unemployment rate in Northern Ireland, 2020

Table 16: Aware of NISRA statistics on people living in poverty in Northern Ireland, 2020

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/public-awareness-and-trust-official-statistics-2020>



Table 17: Aware of NISRA statistics on percentage of journeys made by walking, cycling or public transport in Northern Ireland, 2020

Table 18: Number of selected NISRA statistics respondents had heard of (among those who were not previously aware of NISRA), 2020

#### **Awareness that specified statistics are produced by NISRA statisticians among those who were aware of NISRA**

Table 19: Aware that statistics on the number of deaths in Northern Ireland are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 20: Aware that statistics on recorded levels of crime in Northern Ireland are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 21: Aware that statistics on the qualifications of school leavers in Northern Ireland are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 22: Aware that statistics on the number of people who live in Northern Ireland are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 23: Aware that statistics on hospital waiting times in Northern Ireland are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 24: Aware that statistics on the Northern Ireland Census every ten years are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 25: Aware that statistics on the unemployment rate in Northern Ireland are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 26: Aware that statistics on people living in poverty in Northern Ireland are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 27: Aware that statistics on the percentage of journeys made by walking, cycling or public transport in NI are produced by NISRA statisticians, 2020

Table 28: Number of specified statistics respondents are aware are produced by NISRA statisticians (among those who had previously heard of NISRA), 2020

#### **Trust in NISRA**

Table 29: Trust in NISRA, 2014-2020

Table 30: Trust in NISRA (2020) and ONS (2018)

Table 31: Trust in NISRA by Age Band, 2020

Table 32: Trust in NISRA by Employment Status, 2020

Table 33: Trust in NISRA by respondents' awareness of NISRA, 2020

#### **Trust in the Civil Service**

Table 34: Trust in the Civil Service, 2014-2020

Table 35: Trust in the Civil Service by Age Band, 2020

Table 36: Trust in the Civil Service by Employment Status, 2020

#### **Trust in the Northern Ireland Assembly**

Table 37: Trust in the Northern Ireland Assembly, 2014-2020

Table 38: Trust in the Northern Ireland Assembly by Age Band, 2020

Table 39: Trust in the Northern Ireland Assembly by Employment Status, 2020

### **Trust in the Media**

Table 40: Trust in the Media, 2014-2020

Table 41: Trust in the Media by Age Band, 2020

Table 42: Trust in the media by Employment Status, 2020

### **Trust in the statistics produced by NISRA**

Table 43: Trust in NISRA Statistics, 2014-2020

Table 44: Trust in ONS (2018) and NISRA (2020) Statistics

Table 45: Trust in NISRA statistics by Age Band, 2020

Table 46: Trust in NISRA statistics by Employment Status, 2020

Table 47: Trust in NISRA by respondents' awareness of NISRA, 2020

### **Value**

Table 48: Statistics produced by NISRA are important to understand Northern Ireland, 2016-2020

Table 49: Statistics produced are important to understand our country (ONS 2018 and NISRA 2020)

Table 50: Statistics produced are important to understand Northern Ireland, by age band, 2020

Table 51: Statistics produced are important to understand Northern Ireland, by employment status, 2020

Table 52: Statistics produced are important to understand Northern Ireland, by whether or not the respondent had heard of NISRA, 2020

### **Political Interference**

Table 53: Statistics produced by NISRA are free from political interference, 2014-2020

Table 54: Statistics produced are free from political interference (ONS 2018 and NISRA 2020)

Table 55: Statistics produced by NISRA are free from political interference, by age band, 2020

Table 56: Statistics produced by NISRA are free from political interference, by employment status, 2020

### **Confidentiality**

Table 57: Personal information provided to NISRA will be kept confidential, 2020

Table 58: Personal information provided to NISRA will be kept confidential, by age band, 2020

Table 59: Personal information provided to NISRA will be kept confidential, by employment status, 2020

## Appendix C: Survey Questions

### PCOS1

"Before being contacted about this survey had you heard of NISRA, the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency?"

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

*If answered 'yes' to PCOS1 then*

### PCOS1a

Has your awareness of NISRA increased since this time last year? *(Prompt: Autumn 2019)*

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

*If answered 'yes' to PCOS1a then*

### PCOS1b

Why do you think your awareness of NISRA has increased? *(tick all that apply)*

- I was talking to someone who works in NISRA
- Someone I know, who doesn't work there, told me about NISRA
- I saw NISRA statistics quoted on social media
- I've heard NISRA mentioned in the news
- I was using the NISRA website
- I've seen the NISRA logo on more publications
- I attended an event run by NISRA or that NISRA were at
- I used NISRA statistics in my work or as part of my studies
- As a result of the publicity surrounding COVID-19
- Other (please state) \_\_\_\_\_

*If answered 'yes' to PCOS1 then*

**PCOS1c** NISRA produces official statistics for Northern Ireland on a wide range of issues.

I am going to list a number of these and want you to tell me if you knew before today that this information was produced by NISRA statisticians.

	Aware produced by NISRA?
• The number of deaths in NI	Yes/No
• Recorded levels of crime in NI	Yes/No
• Qualifications of school leavers in NI	Yes/No
• The number of people who live in NI	Yes/No
• Statistics on hospital waiting times in NI	Yes/No
• The NI Census every ten years	Yes/No
• The unemployment rate in NI	Yes/No
• People living in poverty in NI	Yes/No
• Percentage of journeys made by walking, cycling or public transport in NI	Yes/No

*If answered 'no' to PCOS1 then*

**PCOS1d** NISRA produces official statistics for Northern Ireland on a wide range of issues.

I am going to list a number of these and want you to tell me if you have heard of them or not.

	Heard of?
• The number of deaths in NI	Yes/No
• Recorded levels of crime in NI	Yes/No
• Qualifications of school leavers in NI	Yes/No
• The number of people who live in NI	Yes/No
• Statistics on hospital waiting times in NI	Yes/No
• The NI Census every ten years	Yes/No
• The unemployment rate in NI	Yes/No
• People living in poverty in NI	Yes/No
• Percentage of journeys made by walking, cycling or public transport in NI	Yes/No

**PCOS2a**

I will name a list of institutions. For each, please indicate whether you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.  
How much do you trust the Civil Service?

- 1 Trust a great deal
- 2 Tend to trust
- 3 Tend to distrust
- 4 Distrust greatly

**PCOS2b**

How much do you trust the NI Assembly?

- 1 Trust a great deal
- 2 Tend to trust
- 3 Tend to distrust
- 4 Distrust greatly

**PCOS2c**

How much do you trust the media?

- 1 Trust a great deal
- 2 Tend to trust
- 3 Tend to distrust
- 4 Distrust greatly

**PCOS2d**

How much do you trust NISRA?

- 1 Trust a great deal
- 2 Tend to trust
- 3 Tend to distrust
- 4 Distrust greatly

**PCOS3**

Personally, how much trust do you have in statistics produced by NISRA?

- 1 Trust them greatly
- 2 Tend to trust them
- 3 Tend not to trust them
- 4 Distrust them greatly

**PCOS4**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement 'Statistics produced by NISRA are important to understand Northern Ireland?'

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree

**PCOS5**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement 'I believe that the statistics produced by NISRA are free from political interference?'

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree

**PCOS6**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: 'I believe that personal information that is provided to NISRA will be kept confidential.'

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree