

# Northern Ireland Good Relations Indicators: Annual Update

September 2017



# 2015/2016 – At a Glance

	Adults	Young People		Adults	Young People		Adults	Young People
<b>1.1a</b> - % of people who think that relations between Protestants and Catholics are better now than they were five years ago.	✓	✓	<b>1.1a</b> - % of people who think that relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years than they are now.	✓	✓	<b>1.1b</b> - % of people who are favourable towards;	~	~
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catholics</li> <li>• Protestants</li> <li>• Minority Ethnic Groups.</li> </ul>	~	~
							✓	✓
<b>1.2a</b> - % of young people who regularly socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community.		~	<b>1.2b</b> - % of young people who have;			<b>2.1a</b> - % of people who think that Protestants and Catholics tend to go to different local shops or use different GP surgeries and other services in their area.		x
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shared sports facilities or equipment</li> <li>• shared classes</li> <li>• done projects with other schools.</li> </ul>		✓			
<b>2.1b</b> - % who think that;			<b>2.1c</b> - % of those who have children at school who think that their child's school is a shared space.	✓		<b>2.1d</b> - % of schools that have done projects or shared education with other schools. (School Omnibus Survey)	~	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• leisure centres</li> <li>• parks</li> <li>• libraries</li> <li>• shopping centres</li> </ul> in their area are 'shared and open' to both Protestants and Catholics.	~							
<b>2.1e</b> - % of people who see the area they live in as;			<b>2.2a</b> - % of people who would define their;			<b>2.2b</b> - % of people who would like mixed religion;		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protestant</li> <li>• Catholic</li> <li>• or mixed</li> </ul>	~	~	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• neighbourhood</li> <li>• workplace</li> </ul> as a shared space.	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• neighbourhoods</li> <li>• workplaces</li> <li>• schools</li> </ul>	✓	✓
	~	x					✓	✓
							✓	✓

**Key:**  
 ✓ Positive change  
 ~ No significant change  
 x Negative change

	Adults	Young People		Adults	Young People		Adults	Young People
<b>2.2c</b> - % of first preference applications and % attending integrated schools.	~	~	<b>3.1a</b> – Number of hate crimes.	~		<b>3.1b</b> – Number presenting as homeless due to intimidation.	~	
<b>3.1c</b> – % of people who felt intimidated by;			<b>3.1c</b> – % of people who felt annoyed by;			<b>3.2a</b> - % of people who see town centres as safe and welcoming for all walks of life.	✓	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Republican</li> <li>• Loyalist</li> </ul>	~	~	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Republican</li> <li>• Loyalist</li> </ul>	x	x			
<b>3.2b</b> - % of people who feel safe going to events in a;			<b>3.2c</b> - % of people who would like to see the Peace Line(s) come down now or in the future.	~		<b>4.1a</b> - % of people who feel a sense of belonging to;		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protestant secondary school</li> <li>• Catholic secondary school</li> <li>• Orange Hall</li> <li>• GAA Hall</li> </ul>	~	✓				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• their neighbourhood</li> <li>• Northern Ireland</li> </ul>	~	~
<b>4.1b</b> - % of people who feel they have an influence in;			<b>4.2a</b> - % of people who think that the culture and traditions of;			<b>4.2b</b> - % of people who believe their own cultural identity is respected by society.	✓	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• their neighbourhood</li> <li>• Northern Ireland</li> </ul>	~	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catholic</li> <li>• Protestant</li> <li>• Minority Ethnic Communities</li> </ul>	x	x			
			adds to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society.	✓				

**Key:**  
 ✓ Positive change  
 ~ No significant change  
 x Negative change

## Key Findings

### Our Children and Young People

- **52% of young people** and **59% of adults** think that relationships between Protestants and Catholics are better now than they were five years ago. Figures for the previous year were 47% and 52% respectively.
- **55% of young people** and 77% of adults report that they feel favourably towards people from minority ethnic communities. This is a respective increase of 6 percentage points and 10 percentage points since the previous year.

### Our Shared Community

- **58% of schools** were involved in shared education with another school in the previous year.
- **91% of people** say that they can be open about their cultural identity in their neighbourhood, and **89%** say the same about their workplace.

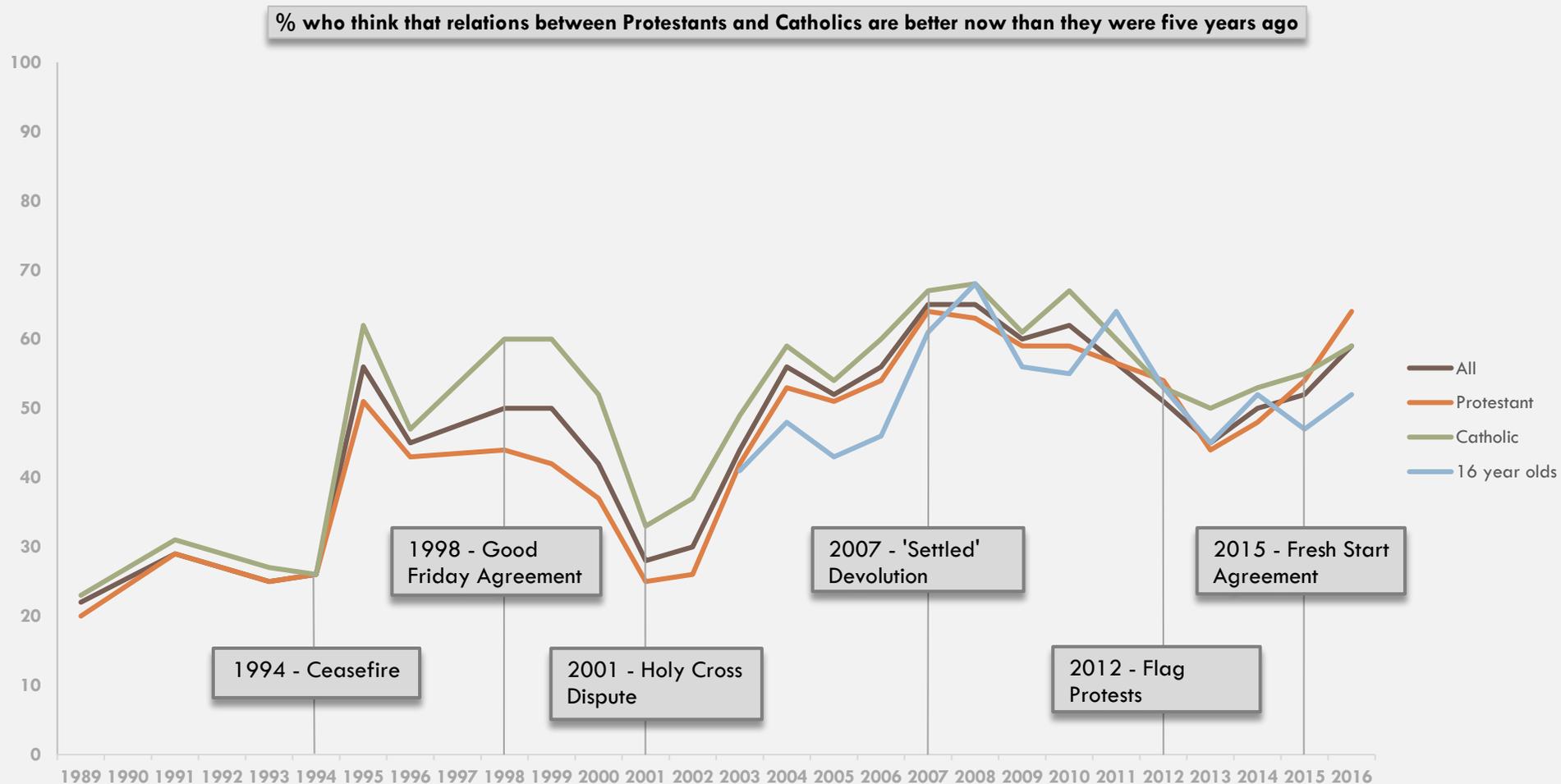
### Our Safe Community

- In 2015/16, **694 hate crimes** were **sectarian** in motive, and **660 were racially motivated**. Corresponding figures for the previous year were 1001 and 853 respectively.
- **24%** of people said they had been annoyed by **republican** murals, kerb paintings or flags in the last year. **29%** of people said they had been annoyed by **loyalist** murals, kerb paintings or flags in the last year. The previous year this was 18% and 23% respectively.

### Our Cultural Expression

- **76% of people** believe that the culture and traditions of the **Catholic community** adds to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society. **The same proportion (76%)** believe this about **Protestant** culture and traditions, whilst **a smaller proportion (64%)** believe this about the culture and traditions of people from different **Minority Ethnic groups**.
- **Less than a third of adults** felt like they have an influence when it comes to any of the local decisions made in their neighbourhood, and just over a quarter (29%) to the decisions made in Northern Ireland. **For young people**, these proportions were **much lower**.

## Key Findings



**N.B.** Data points and event lines are shown at mid-year points, rather than exact dates when data collection and/or events happened.

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## Contact

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This report was compiled by:

**Matthew McFarland and Colleen Crawford,  
Statistics and Research Branch  
The Executive Office**

For more information, please contact:

[research@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk](mailto:research@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk)

Or write to us at:

**Statistics and Research Branch  
The Executive Office  
Room E4.03  
Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
Belfast  
BT4 3SL**

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/>

# Background

## TOGETHER: BUILDING A UNITED COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The good relations strategy '*Together: Building a United Community*' was published by the Northern Ireland Executive in May 2013. The strategy sets out a range of actions and commitments for government departments, communities and individuals who will work together to build a united community and achieve change against four key strategic priorities:

- **Our Children and Young People**
- **Our Shared Community**
- **Our Safe Community**
- **Our Cultural Expression**

The Good Relations Indicators were developed to monitor progress against these key strategic priorities. For each key strategic priority, there are two outcomes that would be expected if the strategy is successful. More information on how the outcomes and indicators were chosen can be found in the [technical notes](#) at the back of this document.

## GOOD RELATIONS OUTCOMES

### Our Children and Young People

- Improved attitudes between young people from different backgrounds
- Young people engaged in bringing the community together

### Our Shared Community

- Increased use of shared space and services (e.g. leisure centres, shopping centres, education, housing)
- Shared Space is accessible to all

### Our Safe Community

- Reduction in the prevalence of hate crime and intimidation
- A community where places and spaces are safe for all

### Our Cultural Expression

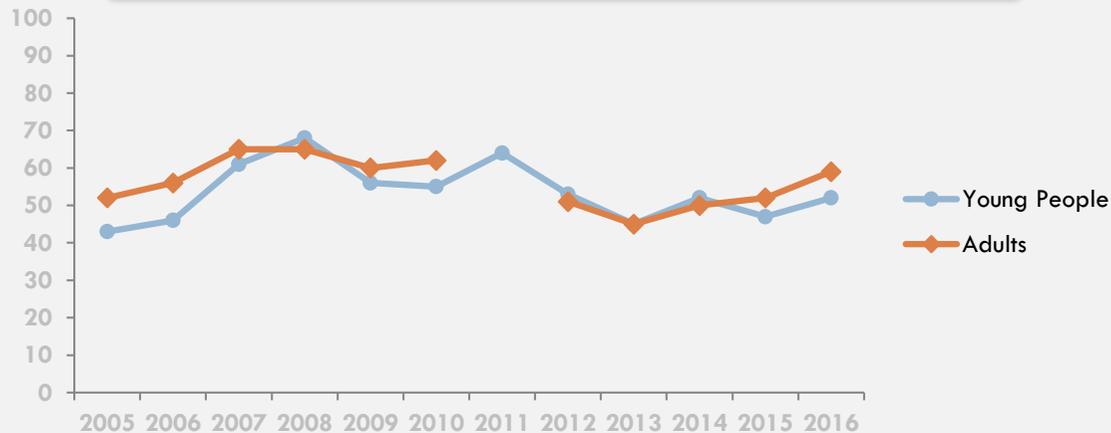
- Increased sense of community belonging
- Cultural diversity is celebrated

This report presents the latest data for the indicator set. There are 22 indicators in total, and each is linked to the relevant outcome and key priority area. Where possible, historic data are presented to show trends over time, and the indicators have been broken down by gender and religion. More detailed data on each indicator can be accessed on the [Executive Office](#) website, or by using the hyperlinks on the bottom right of each page.

## Our Children and Young People - Indicator 1.1a

**Shared Aim:** to continue to improve attitudes amongst our young people and to build a community where they can play a full and active role in building good relations

**Indicator 1.1a: % who think that relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago**



**Outcome:** Improved attitudes between young people from different backgrounds.

**52%** of young people and **59%** of adults think that relationships between Protestants and Catholics are **better now** than they were five years ago.

### How we got here

Since 2005, the proportion of young people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics have improved has increased by 9 percentage points to 52%. This is an improvement of 5 percentage points from the previous year, but remains 16 percentage points lower than the maximum figure as reported in 2008. The proportion of young people reporting an improvement in relations between Protestants and Catholics remains lower than adults.

### Why is this indicator important?

Improving attitudes, as perceived by young people using the Young Life and Times survey, is an invaluable measure of attitudinal change. Direct comparisons can be made with adults using the Northern Ireland Life and Times survey.

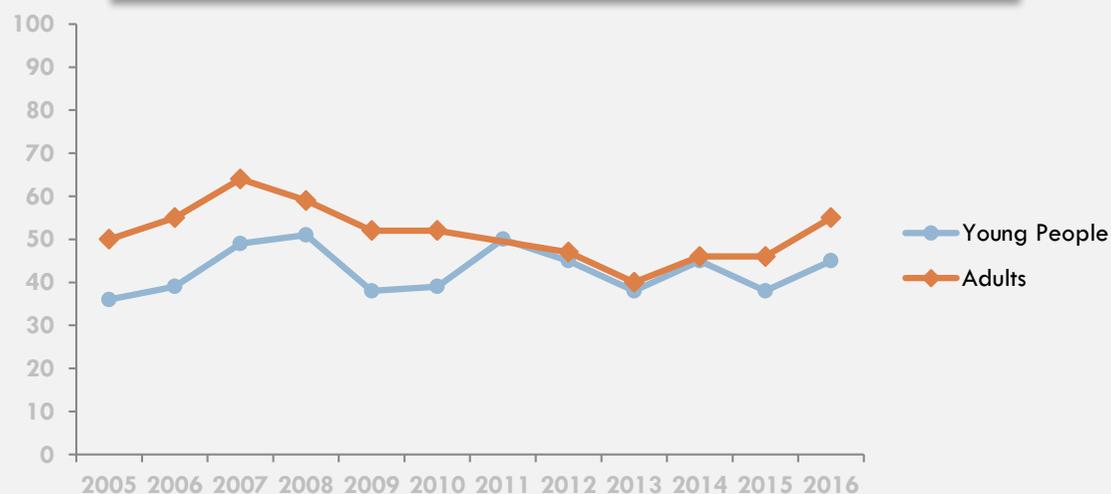
Source: [Young Life and Times/Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 1.1a](#)

## Our Children and Young People - Indicator 1.1 a

**Shared Aim:** to continue to improve attitudes amongst our young people and to build a community where they can play a full and active role in building good relations

**Indicator 1.1a: % who think that relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years time**



**Outcome:** Improved attitudes between young people from different backgrounds.

**45%** of young people and **55%** of adults think that relationships between Protestants and Catholics **will be better** in five years' time.

### How we got here

Since 2005, optimism towards relations between Protestants and Catholics has seen an improvement amongst both adults and young people. While young people remain less optimistic than adults, the difference has narrowed from 14 percentage points in 2005 to 10 percentage points in 2016.

### Why is this indicator important?

Improving attitudes, as perceived by young people using the Young Life and Times survey is an invaluable measure of attitudinal change. Direct comparisons can be made with adults using the Northern Ireland Life and Times survey.

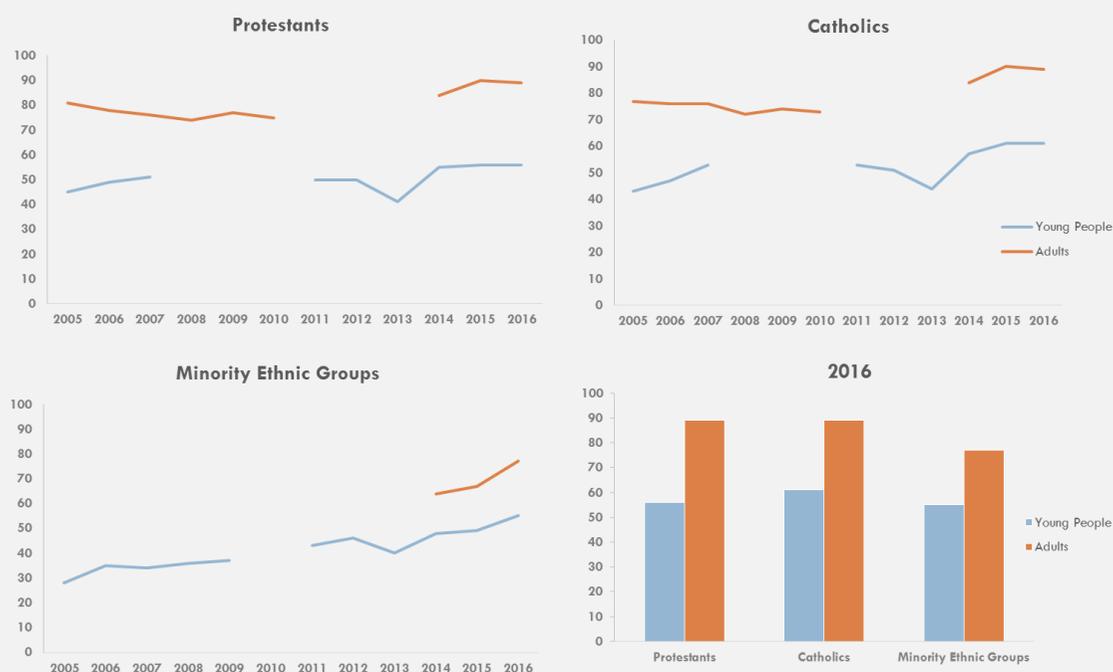
Source: [Young Life and Times](#)/[Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 1.1a](#)

## Our Children and Young People - Indicator 1.1b

**Shared Aim:** to continue to improve attitudes amongst our young people and to build a community where they can play a full and active role in building good relations

### Indicator 1.1b - % of population who are favourable towards:



**Outcome:** Improved attitudes between young people from different backgrounds.

The proportion of young people who are favourable towards people from Protestant, and Catholic communities has remained the same since 2015, **56%** and **61%** respectively. Young people continue to be **less positive** than adults towards all communities.

Views towards ethnic minority communities, while remaining low, show continuous improvement (from 28% in 2005 to **55%** in 2016). In 2016, slightly more Catholic young people report feeling favourable toward minority ethnic communities than Protestant young people.

### Why is this indicator important?

Looking at young people's views towards the different communities in Northern Ireland is an important marker for measuring how attitudes are improving.

### How we got here

Young people's attitudes towards Protestant and Catholic communities have been improving over the last decade, despite a dip in 2013. Their attitudes towards people from minority ethnic communities are consistently less favourable, however there has been significant improvement since 2015.

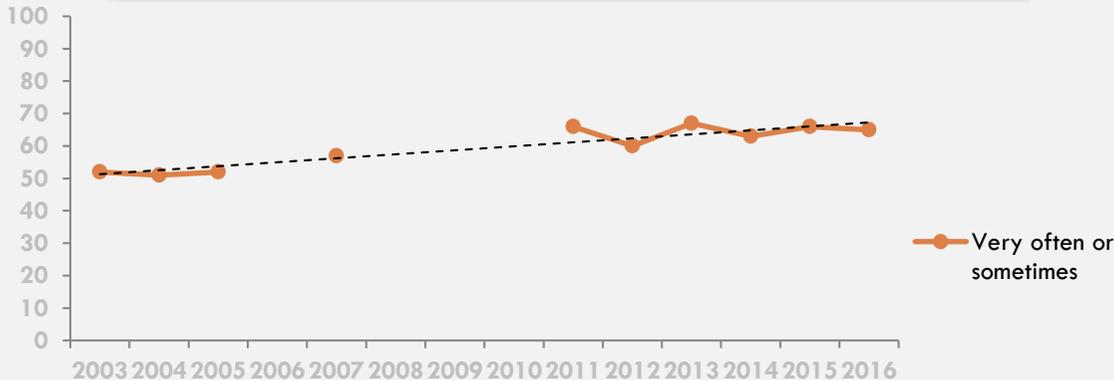
Source: [Young Life and Times/Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 1.1b](#)

# Our Children and Young People – Indicator 1.2a

**Shared Aim:** to continue to improve attitudes amongst our young people and to build a community where they can play a full and active role in building good relations.

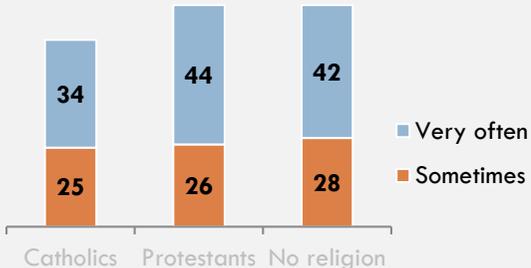
**Indicator 1.2a - % of young people who regularly socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community**



**Outcome:** Young people engaging in bringing the community together

**65%** of young people report regularly socialising or playing sport with people from a different community background.

Catholic young people are **less likely** than Protestant young people, or those of no religion to report this, however, the gap has narrowed over the last few years.



### How we got here

Since 2003, young people reporting that they regularly socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community has increased by 13 percentage points.

Since 2015, the percentage of Catholic young people who say they do this has shown a decrease while Protestant young people and those with no religion have shown an increase.

### Why is this indicator important?

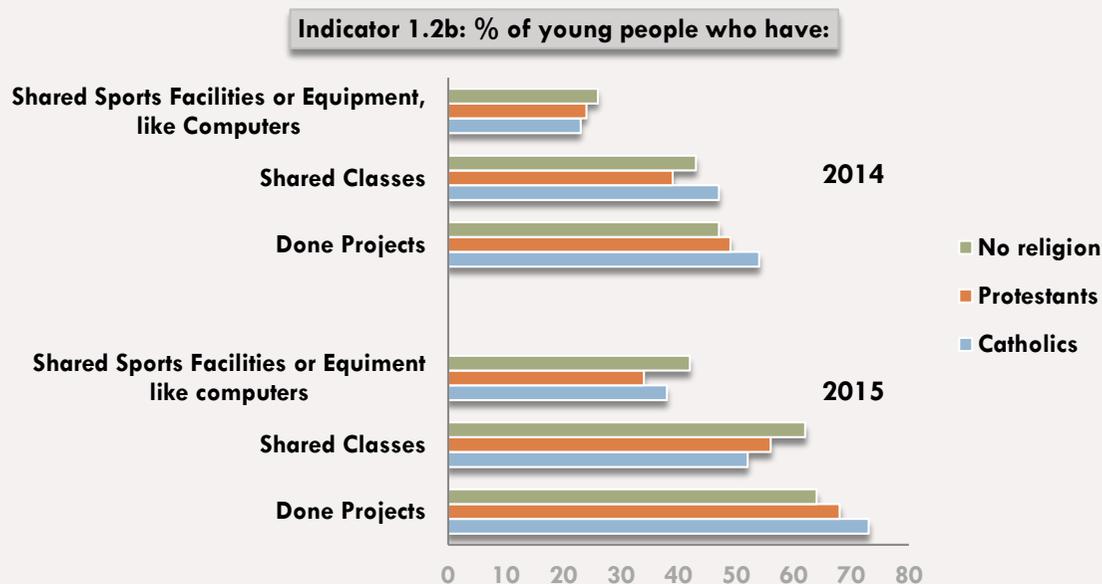
The number of young people regularly socialising or playing sport with people from a different community shows the extent of positive cross-community contact.

Source: [Young Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 1.2a](#)

## Our Children and Young People – Indicator 1.2b

**Shared Aim:** to continue to improve attitudes amongst our young people and to build a community where they can play a full and active role in building good relations.



**Outcome:** Young people engaging in bringing the community together

**69%** of young people have done projects with pupils from other schools, **55%** have shared classes, and **38%** have shared sports facilities or equipment. The proportion who enjoyed doing projects, sharing classes, and sharing sport facilities and equipment was **74%**, **64%**, and **57%**, respectively.

### How we got here

The proportion of young people who have done projects with pupils from other schools has increased nineteen percentage points since 2014. Shared classes, and shared sports facilities or equipment have also increased by twelve and thirteen percentage points, respectively.

Questions around shared education are asked in alternating Young Life and Times surveys. The next survey including these is due to run in 2017.

### Why is this indicator important?

Finding out the opinions of young people who have done projects, and shared classes or facilities helps to show what works, and where resources are best allocated.

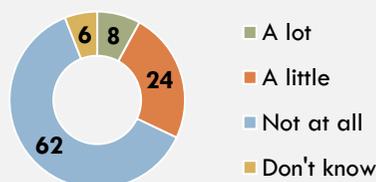
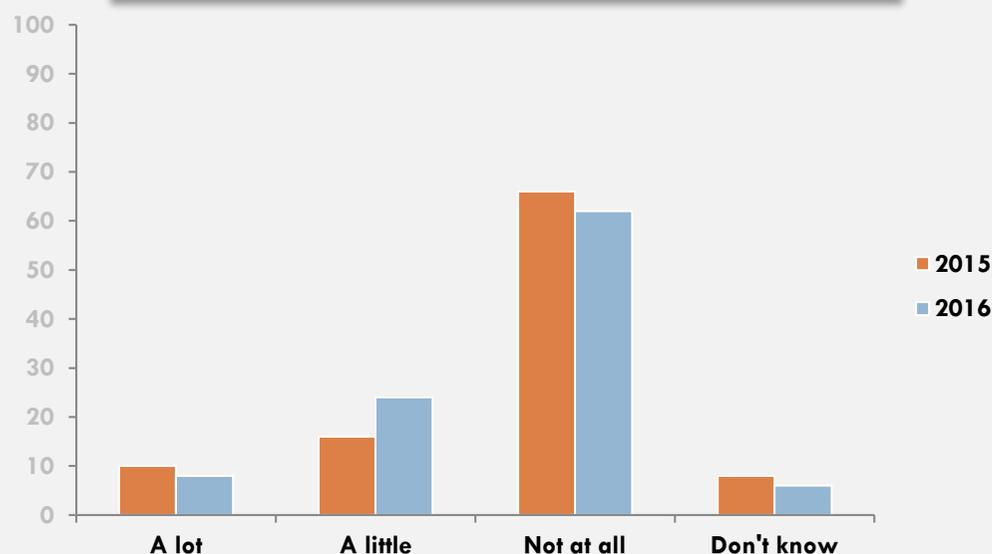
Source: [Young Life and Times 2015](#)

[Data for Indicator 1.2b](#)

## Our Shared Community – Indicator 2.1a

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.

**Indicator 2.1a - % who think that Protestants and Catholics tend to go to different local shops or use different GP surgeries and other services in their area**



### How we got here

In 2016, significantly more Catholics than in 2015 think Protestants and Catholics tend to use different local shops, GP surgeries, and other services in their area, returning to previous levels. The proportion of Protestants and those with no religion who agree with this statement is decreasing.

**Outcome:** Increased use of shared space and services

**More than six in ten** people think that Protestants and Catholics **do not** tend to go to different local shops or use different GP surgeries and other services in their area. This is a slight decrease since 2015. Catholics think this happens more than Protestants and those with no religion.

### Why is this indicator important?

It is important that all public services are seen as accessible to the whole community.

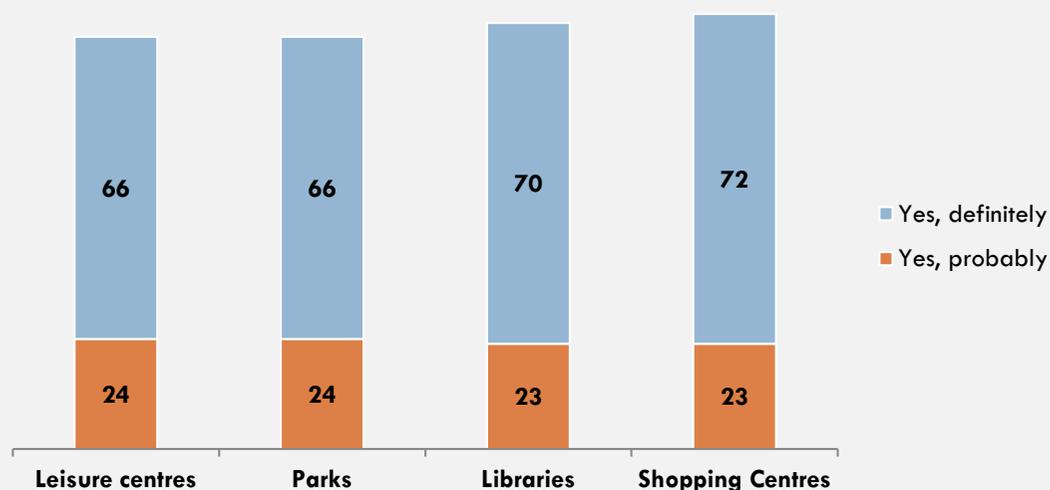
Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 2.1a](#)

## Our Shared Community – Indicator 2.1b

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.

**Indicator 2.1b - % who think that leisure centres, parks, libraries and shopping centres in their area are 'shared and open' to both Protestants and Catholics**



**Outcome:** Increased use of shared space and services

The **majority** of respondents think that leisure centres, parks, libraries and shopping centres in their area are 'shared and open' to both Protestants and Catholics. There is little difference across religions and genders.

### How we got here

There have only been slight fluctuations in responses since this question was first asked in 2012.

### Why is this indicator important?

It is important that all public services and shared spaces are seen as accessible to the whole community.

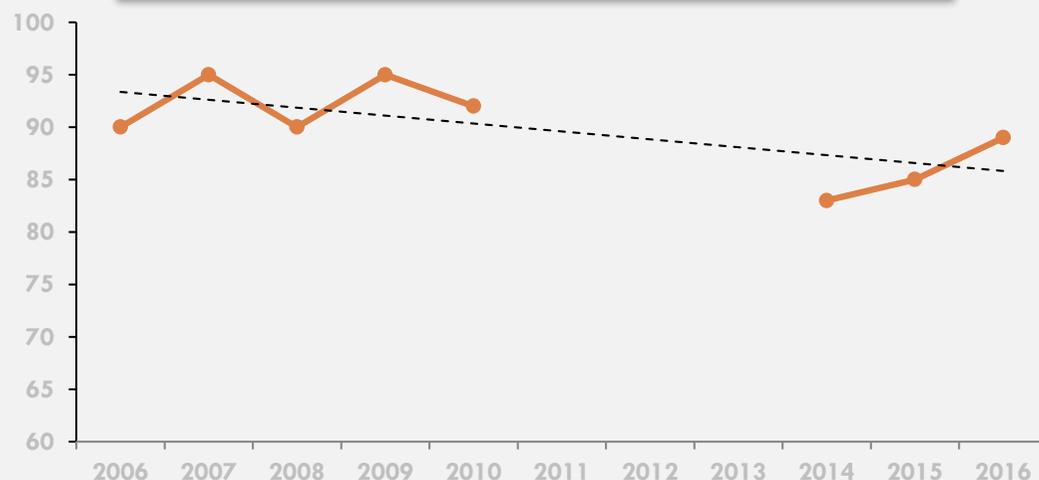
Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 2.1b](#)

## Our Shared Community – Indicator 2.1c

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.

**Indicator 2.1c - % of those who have children at school who think that their child's school is a shared space**



**Outcome:** Increased use of shared space and services

**89%** of respondents who have children at school think that their child's school is somewhere they can be open about their cultural identity.

### How we got here

Between 2006 and 2010, the percentage of respondents who have children at school and think that their child's school is somewhere they can be open about their cultural identity did not drop below 90 percent. The question was not asked again until 2014, when positive responses had dropped by nine percentage points (83%). Positive responses have risen since 2015, but remain 6 percentage points below the maximum (95%) reported in 2007 and 2009.

### Why is this indicator important?

With education playing such a fundamental role in the development of children, it is important that schools are seen as places where they feel they can be open about their cultural identity.

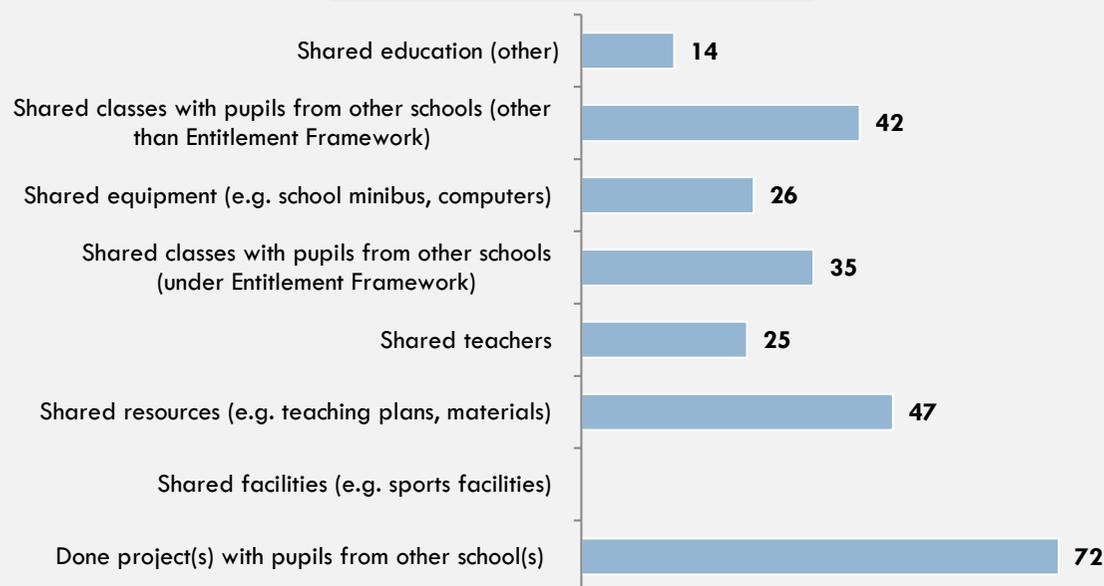
Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 2.1c](#)

## Our Shared Community – Indicator 2.1 d

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.

Indicator 2.1 d - % of schools who have:



**Outcome:** Increased use of shared space and services

**58%** of schools were involved in shared education with another school in the last academic year. Of those, **72%** of schools did projects with pupils from other schools, **47%** shared resources, and **25%** shared teachers.

### How we got here

The proportion of schools reporting that they have taken part in shared education has remained similar to the levels in 2015. Previously there was a significant decrease which was likely due to a change in the question text within the School Omnibus Survey. Further details can be found in the metadata for Indicator 2.1 d.

### Why is this indicator important?

Shared education is being taken forward as one of the key elements of the Together: Building a United Community strategy.

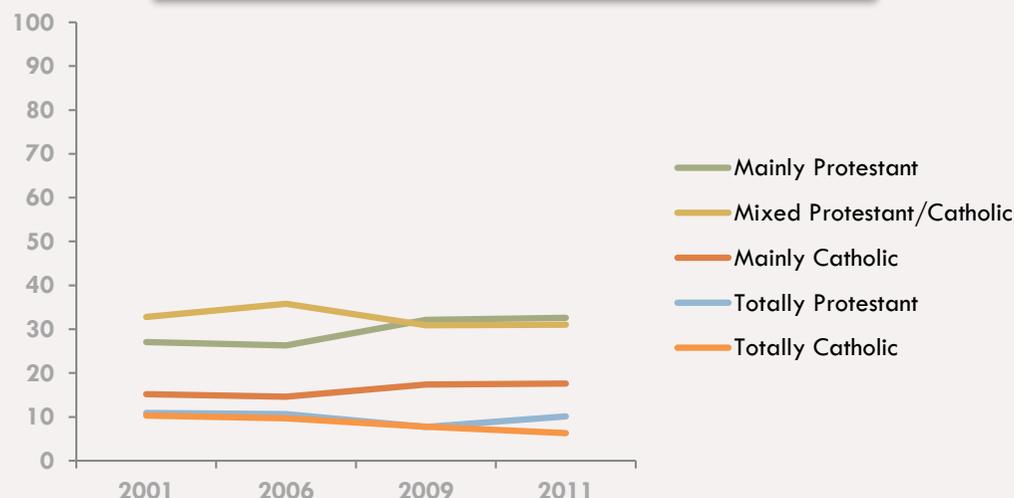
Source: [School Omnibus Survey 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 2.1 d](#)

## Our Shared Community – Indicator 2.1e

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.

**Indicator 2.1e - % of people who see the area they live in as Protestant, Catholic, or mixed**



### How we got here

The number of areas seen as mainly or totally Catholic, or mixed, has seen a drop in percentage points since 2001, while the number of areas seen as mainly or totally Protestant has increased five percentage points. For comparison, in the 2011 Census, 28.2% of Super Output Areas (SOAs) were 70% or more Catholic, and 34.8% of SOAs were 70% or more Protestant.

An updated Northern Ireland House Condition Survey was completed in 2016 with data expected to be published in early 2018.

**Outcome:** Increased use of shared space and services

**43%** of people see the area they live in as mainly or totally Protestant. **24%** of people see the area they live in as mainly Catholic. **31%** see their area as mixed.

### Why is this indicator important?

If shared spaces in Northern Ireland are to thrive, perception of segregation in housing needs to be reduced.

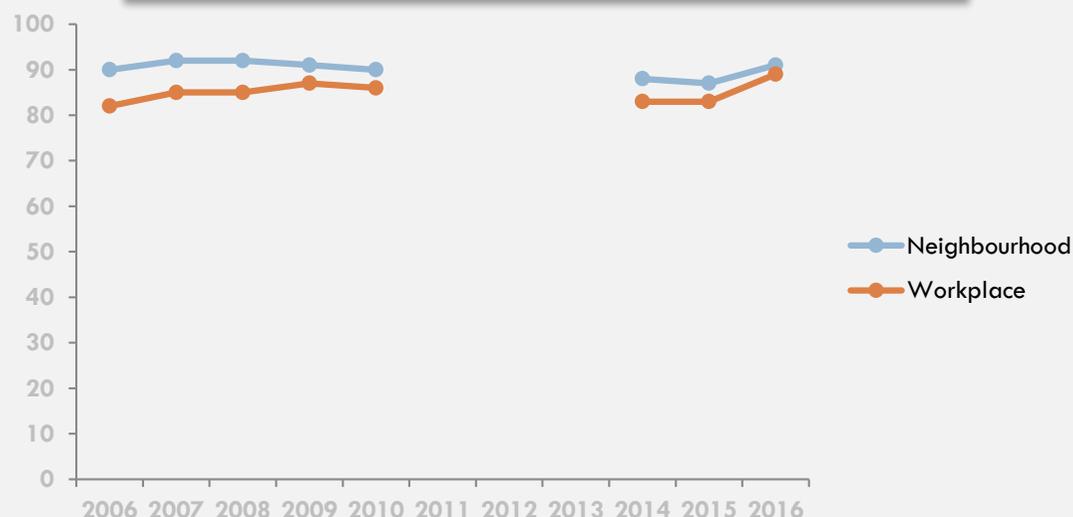
Source: [Northern Ireland House Condition Survey 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 2.1e](#)

## Our Shared Community – Indicator 2.2a

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.

**Indicator 2.2a - % who would define the neighbourhood/workplace where they live as a shared space**



**Outcome:** Shared space is accessible to all

**91%** of respondents say they can be open about their cultural identity in their neighbourhood, and **89%** say the same about their workplace. Protestants remain more certain of this than Catholics, and people of no religion.

### How we got here

Since 2006, the majority of people appear to feel that they can be open about their cultural identity in their neighbourhood and in their workplace. In 2016, those who feel that they can be open about their cultural identity in their workplace has increased by 6 percentage points since 2015 and is the maximum reported since 2006 – a further increase of 2 percentage points on the previous maximum (87%) reported in 2009.

### Why is this indicator important?

The accessibility of Shared Space to all, including neighbourhoods and workplaces is a central tenet of good relations policy going forward.

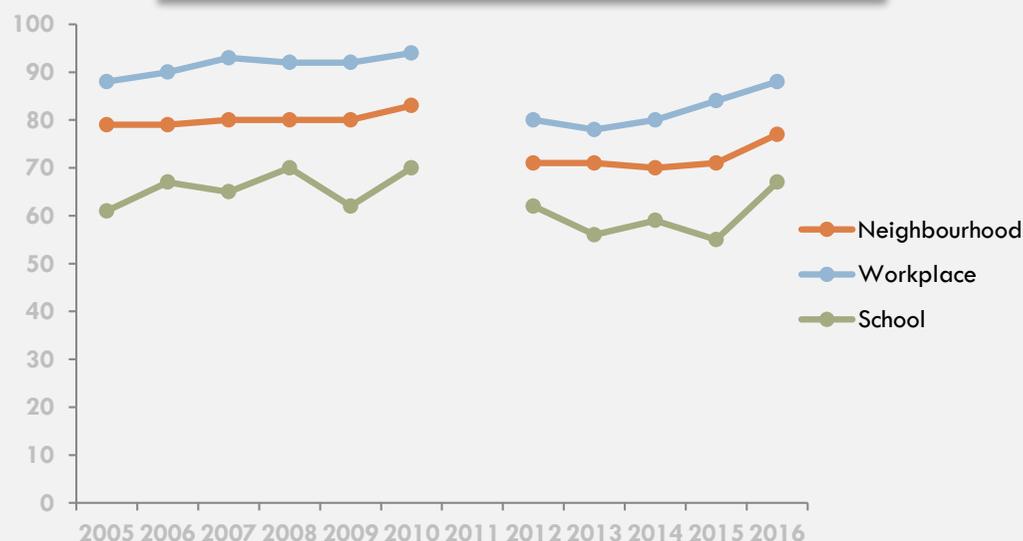
Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 2.2a](#)

## Our Shared Community – Indicator 2.2b

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.

Indicator 2.2b - % who would prefer mixed neighbourhoods, workplaces and schools



Outcome: Shared Space is accessible to all

**77%** of people would prefer to live in a mixed-religion neighbourhood, and **88%** would prefer a mixed-religion workplace. **67%** would prefer to send their children to a mixed-religion school. All figures are **higher** for those of no religion.

### How we got here

Preferences for mixed religion workplaces, neighbourhoods and schools were at their highest in 2010. Whilst preferences for mixed religion neighbourhoods, workplaces, and schools remains below this maximum, each has seen significant increases since 2015.

### Why is this indicator important?

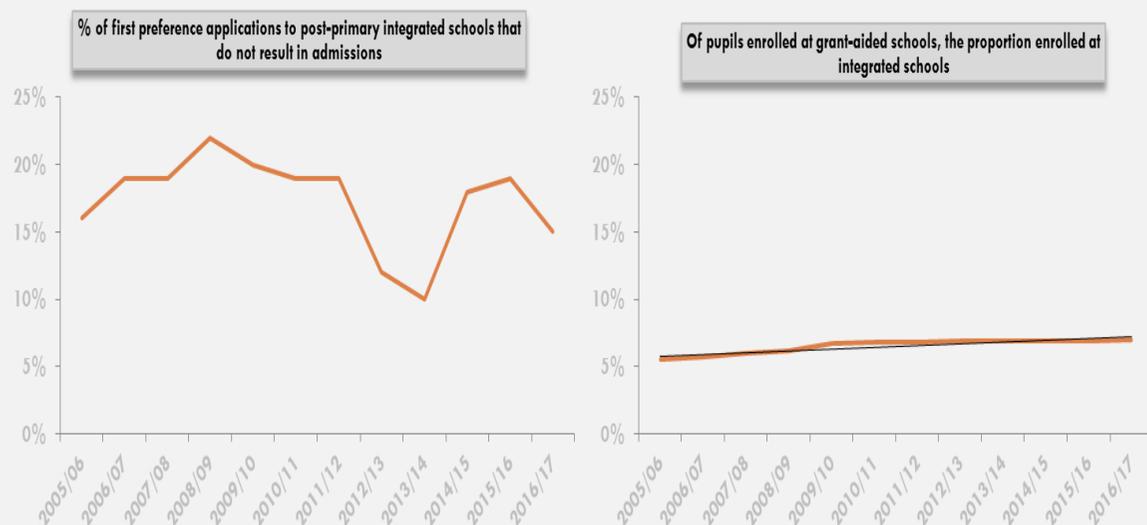
Preference for mixed neighbourhoods and workplaces is an important indicator of attitudes towards other communities, as well as an indicator of preference for a shared community.

Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 2.2b](#)

## Our Shared Community – Indicator 2.2c

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone.



**Outcome:** Shared Space is accessible to all

**15%** of applications to post-primary integrated schools did not result in admission in 2016/17. **7.0%** of pupils enrolled at grant-aided schools attend integrated schools.

### How we got here

The proportion of pupils enrolled at integrated schools has not changed, due to the number of places available not changing for several years.

### Why is this indicator important?

Preference for integrated education is an important indicator of attitudes towards other communities, as well as an indicator of preference for a shared community.

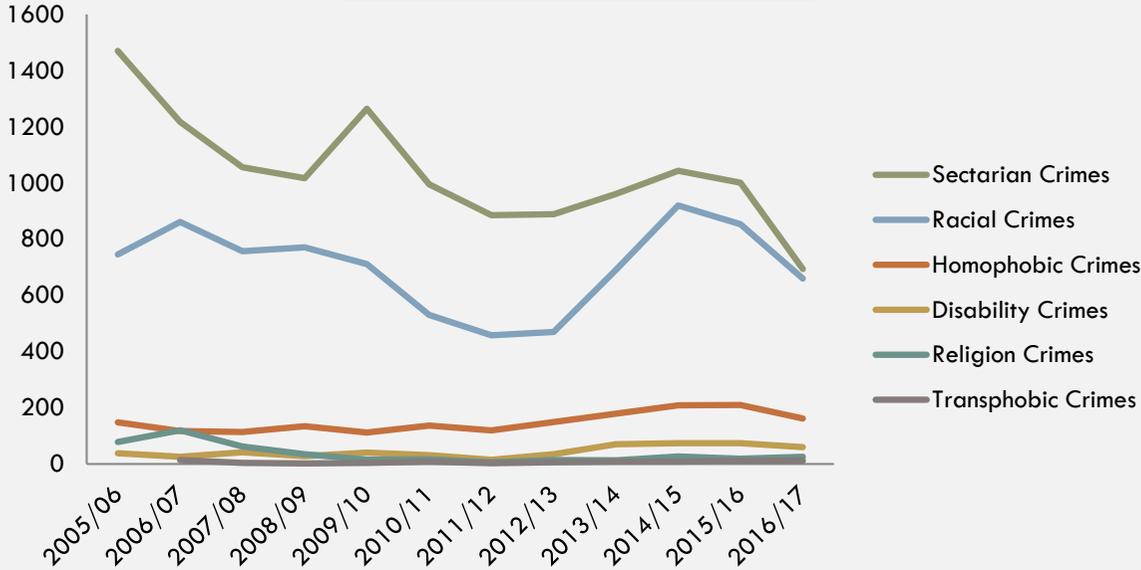
Source: [Department of Education](#)

[Data for Indicator 2.2c](#)

# Our Safe Community - Indicator 3.1 a

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety.

Indicator 3.1 a - Number of Hate Crimes



**Outcome:** Reduce the prevalence of hate crime and intimidation

In 2016/17, **694** hate crimes were **sectarian** in motive, and **660** were **racially motivated**.

The number of other hate crimes has remained relatively small: homophobic (162), disability (60), religion (19), and transphobic (12).

### How we got here

The number of homophobic crimes, and crimes relating to disability are similar when compared to 2015/16, and crimes relating to religion remain small, so that year on year differences are difficult to interpret. The number of sectarian and racially motivated hate crimes have shown considerable decreases, 307 and 193 respectively. It should be noted, that increases or decreases in the number of crimes may be attributed to changes in reporting, detection, or confidence in the police.

### Why is this indicator important?

An increase in good relations should result in lower numbers of hate crimes and incidents being recorded.

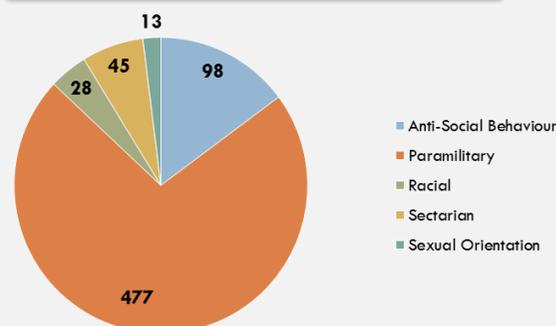
Source: [PSNI](#)

[Data for Indicator 3.1 a](#)

## Our Safe Community - Indicator 3.1 b

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety.

Indicator 3.1 b - Number of households presenting as homeless as a result of intimidation



**Outcome:** Reduce the prevalence of hate crime and intimidation

**72%** of the **661** households that presented as homeless due to intimidation in 2016/17 did so because of paramilitary intimidation, **more than twice as many** as for all the other categories of intimidation put together.

### Why is this indicator important?

The number presenting as homeless due to intimidation is an indicator of people's fears around safety, as well as allowing us to measure the prevalence of intimidation.

### How we got here

Although the overall trend in the number presenting as homeless as a result of intimidation appears to be a downward one, the introduction of a new data management system in July 2011 means data across all years is not comparable.

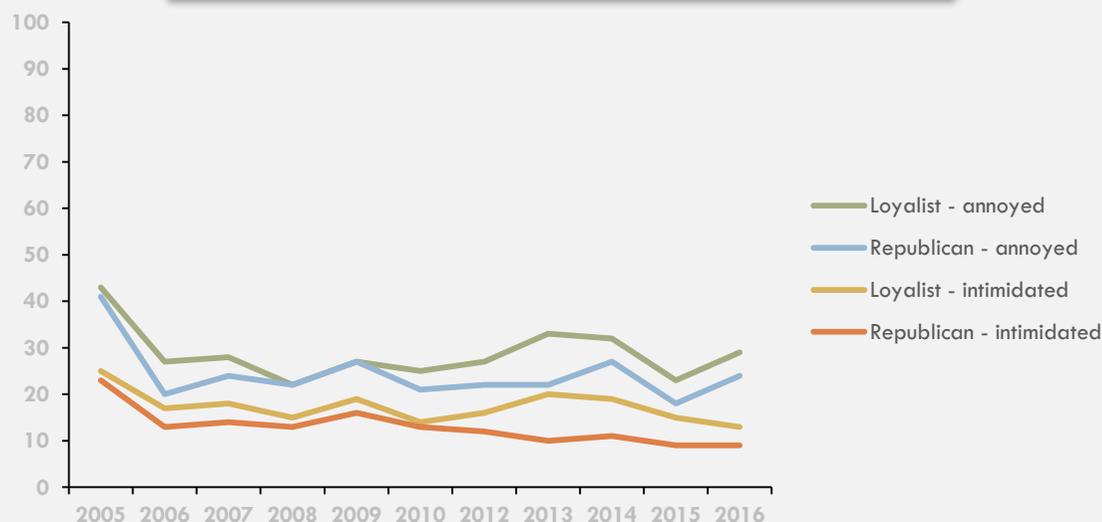
Source: [Northern Ireland Housing Executive](#)

[Data for Indicator 3.1 b](#)

## Our Safe Community – Indicator 3.1c

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety.

**Indicator 3.1c - % of people who felt annoyed/intimidated by republican/loyalist murals, kerb-paintings or flags in the past year**



**Outcome:** Reduce the prevalence of hate crime and intimidation

**24%** of people said they had been annoyed and **9%** intimidated by republican murals, kerb-paintings or flags in the last year. **29%** of people said they had been annoyed and **13%** intimidated by loyalist murals, kerb-paintings or flags in the same period.

### How we got here

In 2016, there was a significant increase in levels of annoyance when compared to 2015, which was similar to the lower levels pre-2012. This may be due to increased awareness surrounding tensions within the political arena. Feelings of intimidation due to republican murals, kerb-paintings or flags have remained the same since 2015 and the proportion of those who say they felt intimidated due to loyalist murals, kerb-paintings or flags has decreased.

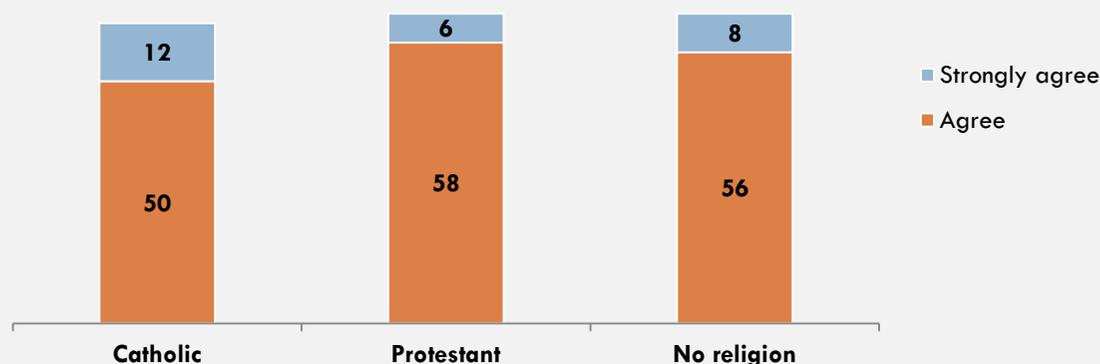
### Why is this indicator important?

A reduction in the use of murals, kerb-paintings and flags to mark territory will result in a community where people feel safe moving around, and are not inhibited by fear.

## Our Safe Community – Indicator 3.2a

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety.

**Indicator 3.2a - % of people who see town centres as safe and welcoming places for people of all walks of life**



**Outcome:** A community where places and spaces are safe for all

**62%** of Catholics and **64%** of Protestants see town centres as safe and welcoming places for people from all walks of life.

### How we got here

Overall, the proportion of people who think town centres are safe and welcoming for people of all walks of life has increased by 6 percentage points since 2015. Protestants have reported the greatest increase of 7 percentage points with Catholics being the group who least reported thinking town centres are safe and welcoming to people of all walks of life.

### Why is this indicator important?

Town centres must be seen as places where people can feel safe in moving around, and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety.

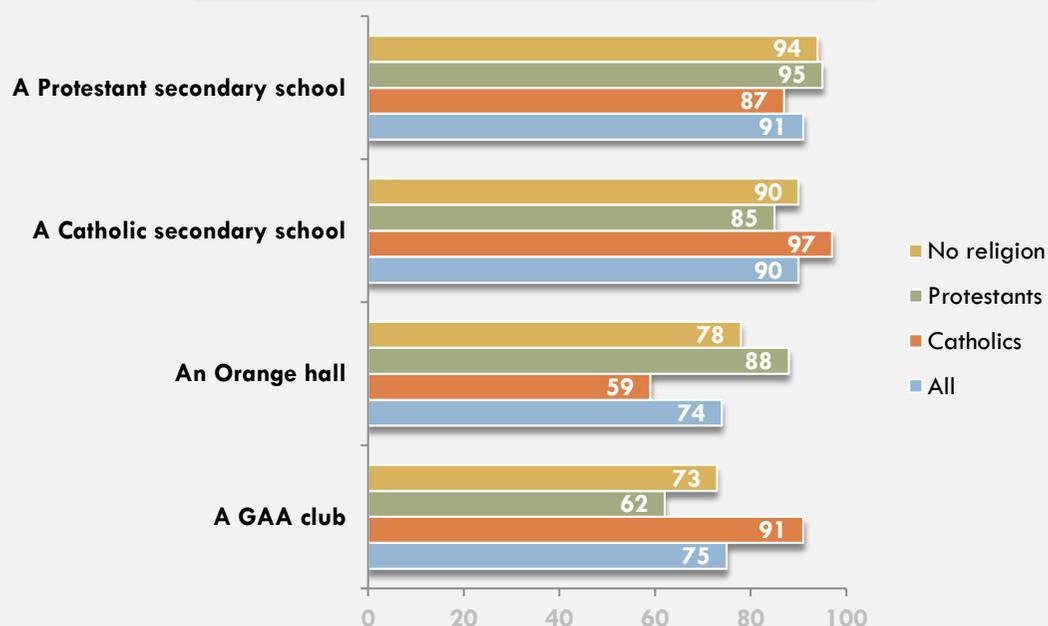
Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 3.2a](#)

## Our Safe Community – Indicator 3.2b

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety.

Indicator 3.2b - % feeling safe going to events held in:



### How we got here

Since 2013, there has been an overall increase in feelings of safety at events held in venues commonly associated with a particular community. Significant increases in feelings of safety at events in both Orange Halls and GAA clubs have been reported since 2015.

**Outcome:** A community where places and spaces are safe for all

In 2016, **62%** of Protestants said they would feel safe going to events held in a GAA club, and **59%** of Catholics said they would feel safe going to events held in an Orange Hall. **85%** of Protestants said they would feel safe going to an event held in a Catholic secondary school, and **87%** of Catholics said they would feel safe going to an event held in a Protestant secondary school.

### Why is this indicator important?

Asking people about where they feel safe helps to measure whether all communities are perceived as welcoming for everybody. This helps to identify what extra steps we can take to overcome negative perceptions.

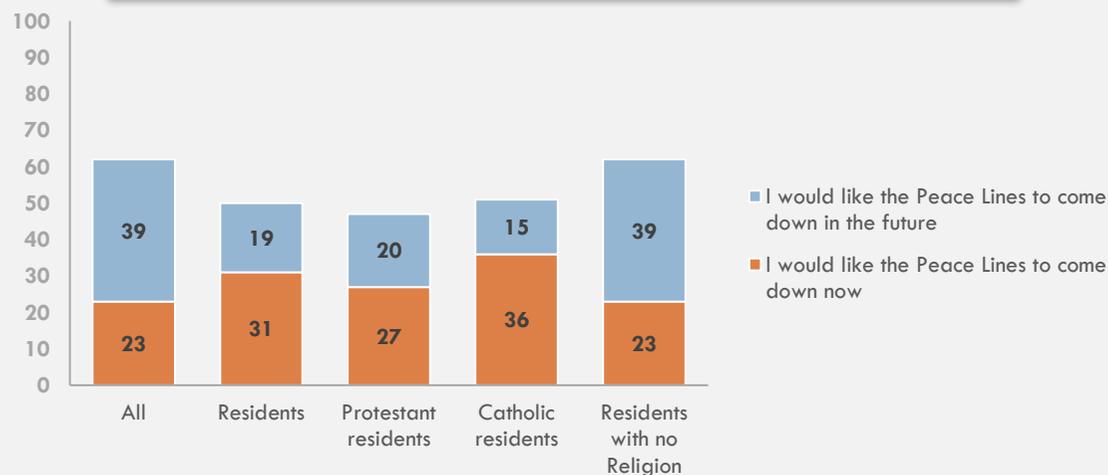
Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 3.2b](#)

## Our Safe Community - Indicator 3.2c

**Shared Aim:** to create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety.

**Indicator 3.2c - % who would like to see the Peace Walls come down now or in the future**



**Outcome:** A community where places and spaces are safe for all

**50%** of Peace Line Residents would like to see the Peace Line(s) come down now or in the future. With **51%** of Catholic residents reporting that they would like to see the Peace Line(s) come down, they are more in favour than Protestant residents (**47%**).

### How we got here

The majority (62%) of people in Northern Ireland would like the Peace Lines to come down now or in the future. Interestingly, those who live within a few streets of the peace lines are most likely to say that they would like things kept the way they are now (38%).

Similar research was previously conducted in 2012 and 2015 reporting that 58% and 49% of residents would like the peace lines taken down now or in the future. These data are not directly comparable, however this question is to be included in future Northern Ireland Life and Times surveys allowing future trends to be measured.

### Why is this indicator important?

Peace Lines impact on the delivery of services and reduce the potential for communities living in these areas to attract and benefit from inward investment. This indicator helps identify where more work is needed to create the conditions and gain the confidence of the community that will allow the peace lines to come down.

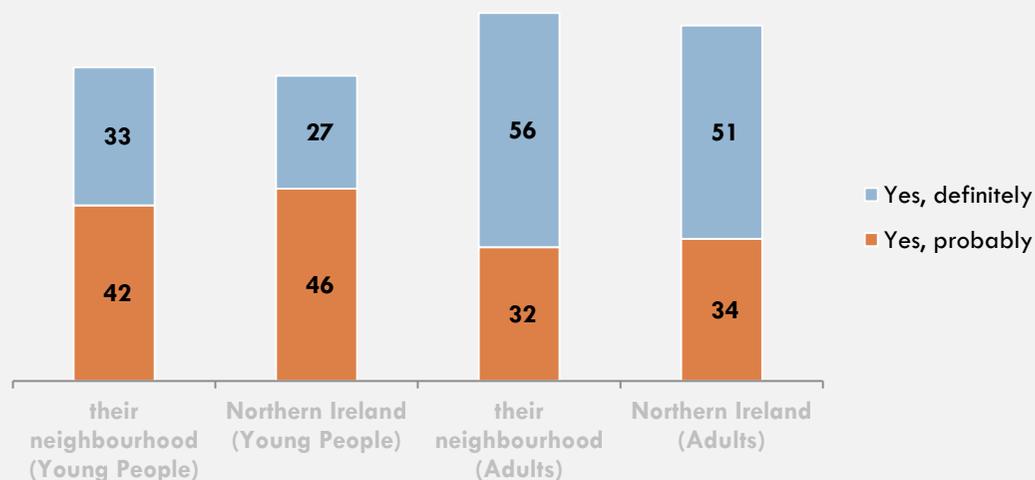
Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 3.2c](#)

## Our Cultural Expression – Indicator 4.1 a

**Shared Aim:** to create a community which promotes mutual respect and understanding, is strengthened by its diversity, and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced.

Indicator 4.1 a - % who feel a sense of belonging to;



### How we got here

Since 2015, there has been a slight increase in the number of adults who report that they feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood, and Northern Ireland as a whole. Young people saying the same has decreased since 2015, with the gap between adults and young people widening.

**Outcome:** Increased sense of community belonging

**88%** of adults said they felt a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood, with **85%** saying they felt a sense of belonging to Northern Ireland as a whole. Young people were **13** and **12** percentage points below adults, respectively.

### Why is this indicator important?

This indicator measures people's sense of belonging towards their neighbourhood and Northern Ireland as a whole, and compares young people to adults.

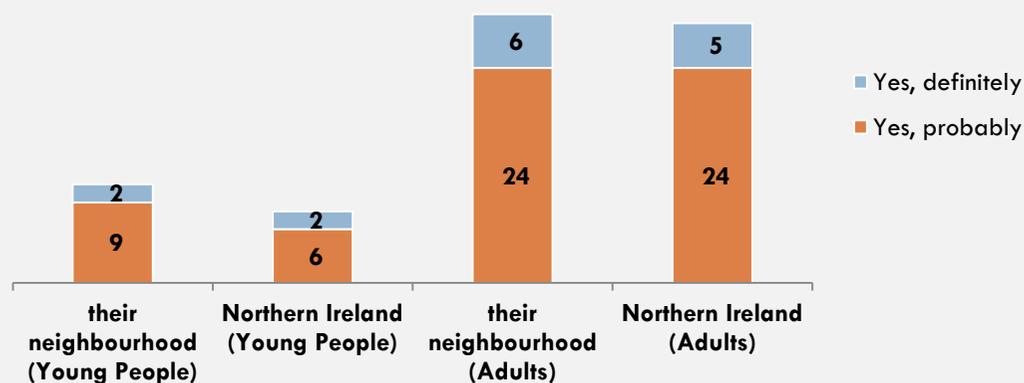
Source: [Young Life and Times/Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 4.1 a](#)

## Our Cultural Expression – Indicator 4.1b

**Shared Aim:** to create a community which promotes mutual respect and understanding, is strengthened by its diversity, and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced.

**Indicator 4.1b - % who feel like they have an influence when it comes to any of the decisions made in:**



### How we got here

The general feeling of having influence has increased between 2015 and 2016 across both adults, and young people. Adults who feel they have an influence in decisions made in Northern Ireland have shown the greatest increase which was reflected by the increased voter turnout during the latest election.

**Outcome:** Increased sense of community belonging

**Three in ten** adults (30%) feel like they have an influence when it comes to any of the local decisions made in their neighbourhood, and **more than a quarter** (29%) the decisions made in Northern Ireland. For young people, these proportions were **much lower** (11% and 8%, respectively).

### Why is this indicator important?

For people to feel like they belong to their community, it is important that they feel like they have an influence when it comes to decisions made in their neighbourhood, and in Northern Ireland.

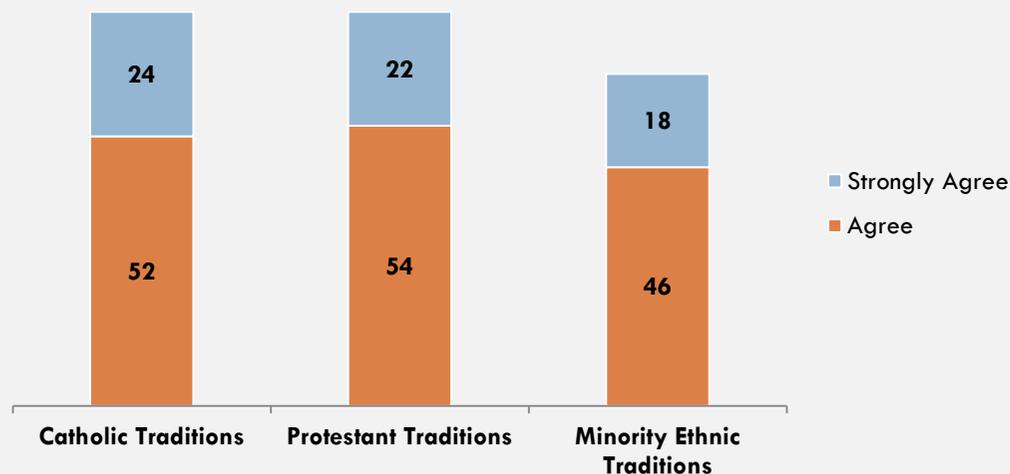
Source: [Young Life and Times](#) / [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 4.1b](#)

## Our Cultural Expression – Indicator 4.2a

**Shared Aim:** to create a community which promotes mutual respect and understanding, is strengthened by its diversity, and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced.

**Indicator 4.2a - % who think the culture and traditions of Catholics, Protestants and minority ethnic groups add to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society**



### How we got here

Since 2015, the percentage of people who think the culture and traditions of Catholics and Protestants add to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society has fallen (decreasing 4 and 6 percentage points, respectively) while those who think the same of minority ethnic communities has increased significantly.

**Outcome:** Cultural Diversity is celebrated

**76%** of people believe that the culture and traditions of both the Catholic community and Protestant community adds to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society, whilst a **smaller proportion (64%)** believe this about culture and traditions of people from different Minority Ethnic groups.

### Why is this indicator important?

Embracing cultural diversity and celebrating cultural expression will be key to good relations in the future.

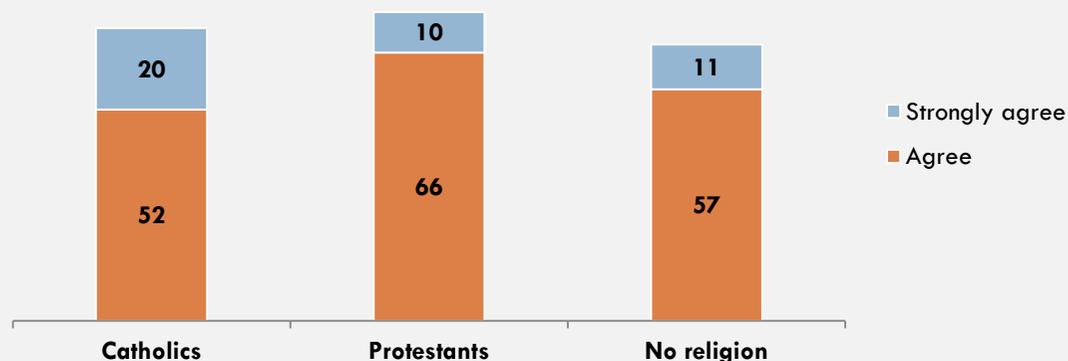
Source: [Young Life and Times/Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 4.2a](#)

## Our Cultural Expression – Indicator 4.2b

**Shared Aim:** to create a community which promotes mutual respect and understanding, is strengthened by its diversity, and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced.

**Indicator 4.2b - % who feel their own cultural identity is respected by society**



**Outcome:** Cultural diversity is celebrated

**72%** of Catholics and **76%** of Protestants think that their cultural identity is respected by society. **68%** of people with no religion think this.

### How we got here

There has been an overall increase in those feeling their own cultural identity is respected by society since 2015 across all groups. Those with no religion have shown a marked increase of 15 percentage points. Since this question was first included, in 2014, Catholics have shown a slight decrease in feeling their own cultural identity is respected by society while Protestants have shown a significant increase.

### Why is this indicator important?

If our society is to be based on mutual respect, then everyone must feel that their own cultural identity is respected by the society in which they live.

Source: [Northern Ireland Life and Times 2016](#)

[Data for Indicator 4.2b](#)

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## Technical Notes

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### Good Relations Indicators Criteria

The criteria for selecting the indicators as agreed by an expert advisory group, comprised of key stakeholders from departments, District Councils and the community and voluntary sector, are that indicators should be:

- **Outcome focussed**, rather than process focussed. In other words the indicator will give an indication that the outcome is being achieved;
- **Relevant**, that is, relevant to one or more of the high level priorities or aims of the Strategy;
- **Available**, that is published regularly; and
- **Robust**, in other words the sample should be representative of the relevant population and collected using recognised best practice in surveys.

A draft set of outcomes and indicators was agreed by the Advisory Group and consulted on more widely between 22nd January and 31st March 2014. Consultees were invited to provide comments on the indicators via an online survey on the Executive Office website, or by hardcopy.

The indicators are measured using a range of data sources. The data from each source are not available at the same time, but those contained within this report are the most current at the time of this publication. More information on each data source used can be found below.

## Data Sources

### Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey

The Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey was launched in the autumn of 1998. Its mission is to monitor the attitudes and behaviour of people across Northern Ireland annually to provide a time-series and a public record of how our attitudes and behaviour develop on a wide range of social policy issues. The Northern Ireland Life and Times (NILT) Survey is a direct descendent of the Northern Ireland Social Attitudes Survey (NISA) which ran from 1989 to 1996.

The 2016 Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey received ethical approval from the Ethics Committee in the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast, where the survey coordinator is based.

The 2016 NILT Survey involved 1,208 face-to-face interviews with adults aged 18 years or over. The sample consisted of a systematic random sample of 2,210 addresses selected from the Postcode Address File database, resulting in a 54.6% response rate.

All analyses of the adult data are weighted in order to allow for disproportionate household size. As only one individual is sampled at an address means that the probability of selection for the survey is inversely related to the size of the household. In other words individuals living in large household have a

lower chance of being included in the sample than individuals living in small households.

Before analysis the data are weighted in relation to the number of eligible adults at the address, derived from the details of the household structure recorded by interviewers on the questionnaire. This weighting process adjusts the results to those which would have been achieved if the sample had been drawn as a systematic random sample of adults rather than of addresses. ([ARK](#))

### Young Life and Times Survey

From 1998 to 2000, the Young Life and Times (YLT) survey sought the views of all 12 to 17 year olds living in the same household as the respondent to the Northern Ireland Life and Times survey. However, in 2003, the aims and methodology of the survey were changed. From 2003 onwards, the Young Life and Times survey recorded the attitudes of 16 year olds only.

The YLT sample is drawn from the Child Benefit Register and usually contains the names and addresses of all young people resident in Northern Ireland who celebrated their 16th birthday during February and March.

In 2016, 3,513 names of eligible respondents were received. 1,009 completed questionnaires were received by the end of the fieldwork period, resulting in a response rate of 28.7%.

Please note that the YLT data does not require weighting.

([ARK](#))

### School Omnibus Survey

The School Omnibus Survey is a multi-purpose survey of all Principals in grant-aided schools, designed to collect a range of required information as determined by DE policy teams. The questions produced both quantitative and qualitative data, generally using yes/no and multiple response questions as well as open-ended response types.

The survey was web-based, with the option to complete in either English or Irish, and each school received the link to the survey via email, along with a unique username and password to maximise security. The survey was issued on September 2016, with a four week period given for survey returns. A reminder was issued one week prior to the closing date of the survey period.

The shared education section received 418 responses out of a total of 424 responses to the online survey. ([Dept. of Education](#))

### Northern Ireland House Condition Survey

The 2011 Northern Ireland House Condition Survey was based on a random sample of 2,030 dwellings completed in two stages. The sampling method chosen was one considered to permit a better matching with the 2011 Census for the purpose of regression modelling.

The first stage was a random sample of 1,000 properties across Northern Ireland. This was checked for distribution and was considered to be a reasonable representation of District Council areas.

The second stage was a further random sample of 1,030 properties selected by District Council Area to ensure that each district total added to 70. In Belfast District Council Area, a total of 280 households were selected (70 in North, East, South and West Belfast). The overall response rate was 71%.

The sample frame in 2011 was the survey sampling database held at the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). This database contained a subset of the computerised records for domestic residential property maintained by the Valuation and Lands Agency. ([NIHE](#))

## School Census

Information on pupil enrolments is collected annually from schools, as part of what is commonly known as the schools census. This data collection exercise is an annual snapshot of pupil and school level data for each pre-school centre, nursery, special, primary, post-primary, hospital and independent school in Northern Ireland. As well as data relating to school enrolments and numbers, information in relation to attendance is collected as part of the overall school return. ([Dept. of Education](#))

## Integrated Education

Data on numbers of first preference applicants admitted to post-primary schools is collated each year at the end of the annual admissions process by the regional offices of the Education Authority. The figures for integrated post-primary schools have been extracted from this. ([Dept. of Education](#))

## PSNI Hate Crime Statistics

Unlike the Northern Ireland Crime Survey (NICS), police recorded crime figures do not include crimes that have not been reported to the police or those that the police decide not to record, but they do cover crimes against those aged under 16, organisations such as businesses, and crimes 'against the state' i.e. with no immediate victim (e.g. possession of drugs). Like any administrative data, police recorded crime statistics

are affected by the rules governing the recording of data, systems in place and operational decisions in respect of the allocation of resources. More proactive policing in a given area could lead to an increase in crimes recorded without any real change in underlying crime trends. These issues need to be taken into account when using these data. ([PSNI](#))

## Northern Ireland Housing Executive Homeless Presentation Figures

Statistics on Homelessness are sourced from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE). They are published in the DSD's annual Housing Statistics report. The figures reported for each reason for presentation from 2011-12 onwards are not fully comparable with other published figures. Data migration issues and coding variations following the introduction of a new operational Housing Management System (HMS) in July 2011 meant that no data on reason for presentation was recorded for 3,731 cases in 2011-12 and 835 cases during April-June 2012. ([NIHE](#))

## Attitudes to Peace Walls Survey

Two separate but similar questionnaires were used for the study. The first questionnaire was designed to gather the views of the wider Northern Ireland population. The second questionnaire was refined to take account of the situation of those living in close proximity to identified Peace Lines.

The primary research took the form of two distinct postal surveys. The first survey was administered to residents situated on, or within a short distance from, a peace wall in Belfast and Derry~Londonderry. The second survey was administered to people who resided across Northern Ireland. The surveys were conducted by post, and included an incentive to encourage

response rate, with a reminder sent to non-responders. A total of 840 Peace Line residents and 611 residents in the rest of Northern Ireland completed and returned questionnaires. This represents response rates of 26% and 32% respectively.

([Peace Walls Survey](#))

## Supplementary Data

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency ([NISRA](#)) is committed to increasing the amount of data released in open and reusable formats in the production of its statistical outputs. To this end, additional data is also available in .xls and .csv format. This data includes additional breakdowns by gender and religion. Excel files are linked throughout the report, but data can also be found on the [Executive Office website](#):

### Our Children and Young People

**1.1a** – % of people who think that relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago

**1.1b** – % of people who are favourable towards; Catholics, Protestants, Minority Ethnic Groups

**1.2a** – % of young people who regularly socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community.

**1.2b** – % of young people who have; shared sports facilities or equipment; shared classes; done projects, with other schools

### Our Shared Community

**2.1a** – % of people who think that Protestants and Catholics tend to go to different local shops or use different GP surgeries and other services in their area

**2.1b** – % who think that leisure centres, parks, libraries and shopping centres in their area are 'shared and open' to both Protestants and Catholics

**2.1c** – % of those who have children at school who think that their child's school is a shared space

**2.1d** – % of schools that have done projects or shared education with other schools

**2.1e** – % of people who see the area they live in as Protestant, Catholic, or mixed

**2.2a** – % of people who would define their neighbourhood/workplace as a shared space

**2.2b** – % of people who would like mixed religion neighbourhoods, workplaces, schools

**2.2c** – % of first preference applications, and % attending, integrated schools

### Our Safe Community

**3.1a** – Number of hate crimes

**3.1b** – Number presenting as homeless due to intimidation

**3.1c** – % of people who felt annoyed/intimidated by Republican/Loyalist murals

**3.2a** – % of people who see town centres as safe and welcoming for all walks of life

**3.2b** – % of people who feel safe going to events in a; Protestant secondary school; Catholic secondary school; Orange Hall; GAA Hall

**3.2c** – % of people who would like to see the Peace Line(s) come down now or in the future

### Our Cultural Expression

**4.1a** – % of people who feel a sense of belonging to; their neighbourhood; Northern Ireland

**4.1b** – % of people who feel they have an influence in; their neighbourhood; Northern Ireland

**4.2a** – % of people who think that the culture and traditions of; Catholic; Protestant; Minority Ethnic, communities adds to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society

**4.2b** – % of people who believe their own cultural identity is respected by society