

# **Children's Health in Northern Ireland**

**A statistical profile of births using data drawn from the  
Northern Ireland Child Health System,  
Northern Ireland Maternity System and  
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency**

**2019/20**

**Public Health Intelligence Unit  
January 2023**

## Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and with staff being redeployed, the publication of this report had to be delayed. In order to publish the outstanding reports as quickly as possible, it has been agreed to produce this report and the 2020/21 report as summary versions. Some of the detail of the full report will not be available for these years, but the majority of data tables will be provided.

The report containing 2021/22 data, to be published early 2023, will revert back to the full version of the report, similar to the 2018/19 report available below.

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/directorates/operations/statistics>

Please note that data for 2019/20 will be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore data should be interpreted with a degree of caution.

## Executive Summary

- There were 22,514 registered births to Northern Ireland residents in 2019 with a birth rate of 11.9 per thousand (2018 = 12.1, 2017 = 12.3, 2016 = 12.9). There were 67 registered still births to Northern Ireland residents in 2019. This number of still births is the lowest on record for Northern Ireland. *[Page 7]*
- In 2019, the percentage of live births to mothers whose country of birth was not Northern Ireland was 18.1%. *[Page 7]*
- In the next twenty years, the number of registered resident births in Northern Ireland is projected to decrease from 22,514 in 2019 to 21,689 in 2039 (-3.7%). The Western Trust area is projected to have the largest decrease (-11.5%), with the Southern Trust showing an increase (+5.1%). *[Page 10]*
- In 2019/20, births to teenage mothers represented 2.7% of all births. Following a year on year increase in the proportion of births to older mothers (aged 40+), the percentage decreased slightly in 2016/17 and 2017/18, with increases again in 2018/19 and 2019/20 (4.4%). *[Page 15]*
- In 2019/20, 8% of births were booked at 15 weeks or more gestation. This is a slight decrease on the previous year (8.3%). *[Page 23]*
- There were 340 (1.5%) infants born to women who were estimated to be 28 weeks or more gestation at booking. This proportion has been falling year on year since 2011/12, with slight increases in 2017/18 and 2018/19, however the 2019/20 figure shows a decrease again. *[Page 23]*
- Over the last nine years there has been little variation in the proportion of infants born pre-term (<37 weeks gestation) (2019/20 = 7.6%). *[Page 26]* The figures differ considerably by type of birth: 7.4% of live births, 70.4% of still births. The same can be seen for multiple births (62%) compared to singleton births (6%). *[Page 27]*
- In 2019/20, 13.1% of mothers smoked (2010/11 = 15.5%) and 13.4% of mothers had diabetes (2010/11 = 1.8%). *[Page 30]*
- Almost 25% of mothers giving birth during 2019/20 were measured as obese at time of booking appointment. This proportion has increased year on year since 2011/12. *[Page 38]*
- In 2019/20, 32.9% of infants were delivered by Caesarian section. *[Page 43]*
- In 2019/20, 6.1% of all births were measured as low birth weight i.e. less than 2,500g (5.9% of live and 68.6% of still births). 14% of live infants were born with a higher birth weight of 4,000g+ and 1.8% with a birth weight of 4,500g+. *[Page 48, 47]*
- In 2019/20, 50.1% of live infants were breastfed (total/partial feeding) at discharge (feeding status known). *[Page 52]*.
- Of mothers who delivered in 2018/19, the proportion breastfeeding gradually decreased as the child reached 12 months old – 49.3% of infants in Northern Ireland were breastfed at discharge, falling to only 15.5% of infants at 12 months old. *[Page 55]*
- Of those children measured in Primary 1 in 2018/19, 21.8% were considered overweight or obese, a slight increase on the previous year. (Based on IOTF classification) *[Page 60]*

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## Introduction

The **Child Health System (CHS)** is a patient centred community based operational system comprising seven modules:

- Module 1 – Child Register
- Module 2 – Preschool Vaccination and Immunisation
- Module 3 – Preschool Developmental Surveillance
- Module 4 – School Health
- Module 5 – Special Needs
- Module 6 – New-born Hearing
- Module 7 – Influenza

This report draws on the information in Modules 1 and 4 and is supplemented with information from the Registrar General's birth registrations and Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS) to provide a statistical profile.

The **General Register Office for Northern Ireland (GRONI)** is the part of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) that administers civil registration e.g. the registration of births, deaths, marriages through District Registration Offices. The Registrar General has additional statutory duties relating to the production and publication of vital statistics. Vital Statistics Team within NISRA manage these duties in partnership with GRONI.

**(Source: Registrar General Northern Ireland Annual Report 2011)**

The **Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATs)** contains a range of demographic and clinical information on mothers and infants. It captures data relating to the current complete maternity process, but also contains details about the mother's past medical and obstetric history. It is a key source for data on birth numbers, interventions, maternal risk factors, birth weights, maternal smoking, BMI and breastfeeding on discharge. NIMATs is available in all five Health Trust areas across Northern Ireland and is available through the Regional Data Warehouse. As a result of ongoing work, data coverage and completeness on NIMATs has improved in recent years.

### Note:

1. **Births are presented using all of the above sources, and therefore may not agree. For example, births provided by NISRA are based on the number of births registered with a District Registrar in any year. It is likely that some births occurring in a year may not be registered until the following year and therefore the reason for any differences.**

# Section 1: Trends in Births

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## Key Points

- There were 22,514 registered births to Northern Ireland residents in 2019 with a birth rate of 11.9 per thousand (2018 = 12.1, 2017 = 12.3, 2016 = 12.9) *[Page 7]*.
- There were 67 registered still births to Northern Ireland residents in 2019. *[Page 7]* This number of still births is the lowest on record for Northern Ireland.
- The number of births in Northern Ireland to non-NI resident mothers continued to decrease. In 2019, there were 140 such births. *[Page 7]*
- In 2019, the highest number of registered births was recorded to residents in the Northern Trust area (5,400 or 24% of all births), with the lowest number in the Western Trust (3,697 or 16% of all births). *[Page 8]*
- The percentage change in the number of births registered in the last ten years (2010 to 2019) has not been consistent across Northern Ireland. Although the number of births fell in all Trust areas, South Eastern Trust decreased by 13.8%, while in Belfast Trust there was a decrease of 9.6% (NI decreased by 11.4%). *[Page 8]*
- In 2019, the percentage of live births to mothers whose country of birth was not Northern Ireland was 18.1%. *[Page 7]*
- In the next twenty years, the number of registered resident births in Northern Ireland is projected to decrease from 22,514 in 2019 to 21,689 in 2039 (-3.7%). The Western Trust area is projected to have the largest decrease (-11.5%), with the Southern Trust showing an increase (+5.1%). The number of births in Belfast Trust is projected to decrease by 4.3%, Northern to decrease by 8.5% and South Eastern Trusts to decrease by 0.5%. *[Page 10]*

**Table 1.1: Trends in births (live and still) registered in Northern Ireland, 2010 - 2019**

		Year of birth (registered)									
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total resident births (live and still)		<b>25,420</b>	<b>25,364</b>	<b>25,375</b>	<b>24,387</b>	<b>24,475</b>	<b>24,291</b>	<b>24,158</b>	<b>23,177</b>	<b>22,908</b>	<b>22,514</b>
Total resident crude birth rate / 1,000 population		<b>14.0</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.9</b>
Birth status (NI maternal residents)	Live	25,315	25,273	25,269	24,277	24,394	24,215	24,076	23,075	22,829	22,447
	Still	105	91	106	110	81	76	82	102	79	67
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>25,420</b>	<b>25,364</b>	<b>25,375</b>	<b>24,387</b>	<b>24,475</b>	<b>24,291</b>	<b>24,158</b>	<b>23,177</b>	<b>22,908</b>	<b>22,514</b>
Born to NI-resident / non-resident mothers	Resident	25,420	25,364	25,375	24,387	24,475	24,291	24,158	23,177	22,908	22,514
	Non-resident	455	461	354	261	221	210	186	173	152	140
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>25,875</b>	<b>25,825</b>	<b>25,729</b>	<b>24,648</b>	<b>24,696</b>	<b>24,501</b>	<b>24,344</b>	<b>23,350</b>	<b>23,060</b>	<b>0</b>
Country of birth of mother (live births only)	NI	20,805	20,808	20,819	19,937	20,129	19,968	19,882	19,031	18,804	18,374
	Rest of UK	1,323	1,296	1,293	1,271	1,170	1,186	1,052	1,051	985	1,072
	Republic of Ireland	714	692	698	626	626	635	618	572	608	597
	A8 countries	1,235	1,210	1,202	1,257	1,258	1,205	1,184	1,041	995	986
	All other countries	1,238	1,267	1,257	1,186	1,211	1,221	1,340	1,380	1,437	1,418
	Not stated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>25,315</b>	<b>25,273</b>	<b>25,269</b>	<b>24,277</b>	<b>24,394</b>	<b>24,215</b>	<b>24,076</b>	<b>23,075</b>	<b>22,829</b>	<b>22,447</b>
Place of birth (live births only)	Altnagelvin	2,623	2,830	2,741	2,554	2,695	2,675	2,588	2,528	2,496	2,422
	Antrim	2,770	2,671	2,640	2,638	2,820	2,953	2,970	2,910	2,816	2,933
	Causeway	1,412	1,432	1,413	1,362	1,204	1,086	1,033	943	903	895
	Craigavon	4,000	3,975	4,170	3,993	4,015	4,040	4,150	4,028	3,911	3,876
	Daisy Hill	1,840	1,765	1,814	1,701	1,806	1,794	1,760	1,745	1,624	1,656
	Downe	40	72	97	86	57	81	46	42	30	13
	Lagan Valley	979	334	213	206	178	193	170	107	87	96
	Mater	1,204	1,219	1,194	437	191	196	237	262	291	303
	Royal	5,473	5,555	5,584	5,927	5,995	5,748	5,630	5,137	5,126	4,861
	SWAH/Erne	1,307	1,206	1,226	1,217	1,233	1,220	1,252	1,233	1,252	1,197
	Ulster	3,553	4,120	4,086	4,036	4,119	4,131	4,140	4,028	4,183	4,059
	Other hospitals	2	5	1	0	1	5	2	3	1	3
	Home	95	73	72	105	67	75	82	89	93	111
	Other locations	17	16	18	15	13	18	16	20	16	22
	<b>All places of birth</b>	<b>25,315</b>	<b>25,273</b>	<b>25,269</b>	<b>24,277</b>	<b>24,394</b>	<b>24,215</b>	<b>24,076</b>	<b>23,075</b>	<b>22,829</b>	<b>22,447</b>

**Table 1.1 continued: Trends in births (live and still) registered in Northern Ireland, 2010 – 2019**

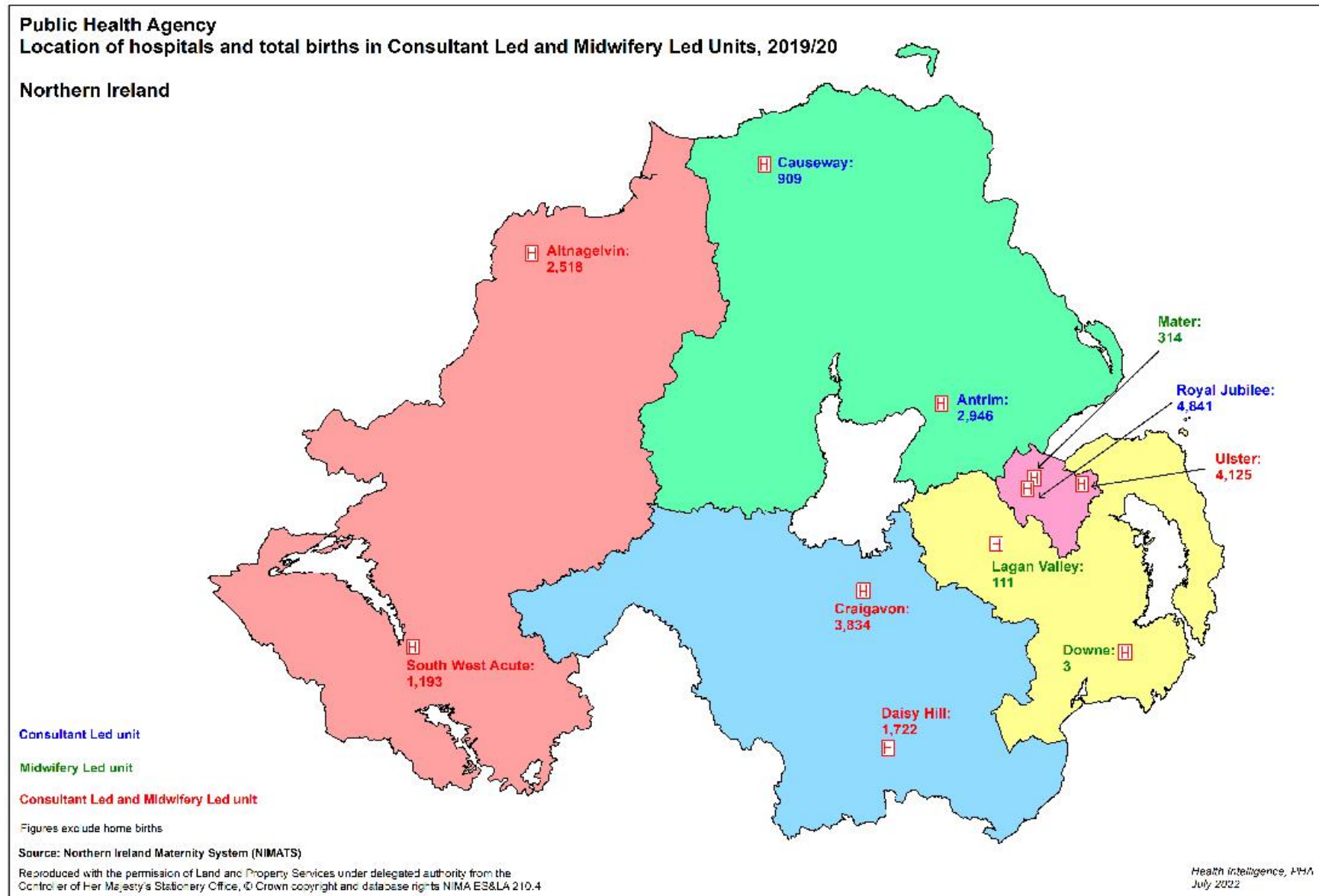
		Year of birth (registered)									
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total resident births (live and still)		<b>25,420</b>	<b>25,364</b>	<b>25,375</b>	<b>24,387</b>	<b>24,475</b>	<b>24,291</b>	<b>24,158</b>	<b>23,177</b>	<b>22,908</b>	<b>22,514</b>
Local Government District (2014) of residence of mother	Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,927	1,914	1,896	1,744	1,779	1,799	1,767	1,674	1,634	1,670
	Ards and North Down	1,812	1,889	1,796	1,739	1,748	1,756	1,657	1,566	1,537	1,537
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	3,156	3,061	3,139	2,884	2,931	2,990	2,947	2,877	2,849	2,751
	Belfast	4,773	4,847	4,938	4,743	4,641	4,601	4,612	4,212	4,277	4,216
	Causeway Coast and Glens	1,755	1,777	1,768	1,771	1,712	1,726	1,663	1,632	1,524	1,514
	Derry City and Strabane	2,128	2,242	2,155	2,066	2,104	2,067	2,009	1,912	1,906	1,872
	Fermanagh and Omagh	1,623	1,559	1,549	1,461	1,513	1,418	1,517	1,508	1,500	1,421
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,819	1,808	1,767	1,740	1,757	1,722	1,752	1,727	1,798	1,727
	Mid and East Antrim	1,628	1,627	1,569	1,535	1,596	1,513	1,577	1,522	1,452	1,469
	Mid Ulster	2,197	2,115	2,195	2,219	2,142	2,181	2,155	2,133	2,060	2,092
	Newry, Mourne and Down	2,602	2,525	2,603	2,485	2,552	2,518	2,502	2,414	2,371	2,245
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>25,420</b>	<b>25,364</b>	<b>25,375</b>	<b>24,387</b>	<b>24,475</b>	<b>24,291</b>	<b>24,158</b>	<b>23,177</b>	<b>22,908</b>	<b>22,514</b>
Trust of residence of mother (NI resident mothers only)	Belfast	4,809	4,854	4,956	4,786	4,718	4,665	4,663	4,345	4,435	4,347
	Northern	6,134	6,062	5,986	5,901	5,895	5,776	5,764	5,565	5,308	5,400
	South Eastern	4,539	4,615	4,547	4,374	4,338	4,333	4,249	4,033	4,074	3,911
	Southern	5,733	5,538	5,721	5,384	5,477	5,547	5,527	5,376	5,265	5,159
	Western	4,205	4,295	4,165	3,942	4,047	3,970	3,955	3,858	3,826	3,697
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>25,420</b>	<b>25,364</b>	<b>25,375</b>	<b>24,387</b>	<b>24,475</b>	<b>24,291</b>	<b>24,158</b>	<b>23,177</b>	<b>22,908</b>	<b>22,514</b>

Source: NISRA <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/births-deaths-and-marriages/births>

A8 countries are the eight central and eastern European countries that joined the EU in May 2004 - Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia



**Figure 1.1: Location of hospitals and number of births in Consultant Led Units/Midwifery Led Units, Northern Ireland, 2019/20**



## Projected births

**Table 1.2: Resident registered births by Health Trust and 2014 Local Government District, 2017 - 2019 and projected to 2039**

No. of resident births		Registered births			2018 based projections			
		2017	2018	2019	2024/25	2029/30	2034/35	2039/40
Northern Ireland		<b>23,177</b>	<b>22,908</b>	<b>22,514</b>	<b>21,472</b>	<b>20,793</b>	<b>20,869</b>	<b>21,689</b>
Health Trust of residence	Belfast	4,345	4,435	4,347	4,207	4,034	4,027	4,162
	Northern	5,565	5,308	5,400	5,066	4,857	4,805	4,939
	South Eastern	4,033	4,074	3,911	3,831	3,732	3,745	3,893
	Southern	5,376	5,265	5,159	4,957	4,922	5,089	5,422
	Western	3,858	3,826	3,697	3,411	3,248	3,203	3,273
	<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>23,177</b>	<b>22,908</b>	<b>22,514</b>	<b>21,472</b>	<b>20,793</b>	<b>20,869</b>	<b>21,689</b>
Local Government District (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,674	1,634	1,670	1,545	1,494	1,482	1,531
	Ards and North Down	1,566	1,537	1,537	1,463	1,411	1,401	1,437
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	2,877	2,849	2,751	2,690	2,669	2,759	2,942
	Belfast	4,212	4,277	4,216	4,090	3,907	3,895	4,011
	Causeway Coast and Glens	1,632	1,524	1,514	1,437	1,341	1,295	1,308
	Derry City and Strabane	1,912	1,906	1,872	1,761	1,667	1,636	1,662
	Fermanagh and Omagh	1,508	1,500	1,421	1,279	1,230	1,224	1,261
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,727	1,798	1,727	1,675	1,669	1,702	1,814
	Mid and East Antrim	1,522	1,452	1,469	1,403	1,357	1,346	1,380
	Mid Ulster	2,133	2,060	2,092	1,915	1,879	1,923	2,035
	Newry, Mourne and Down	2,414	2,371	2,245	2,214	2,169	2,206	2,308
	<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>23,177</b>	<b>22,908</b>	<b>22,514</b>	<b>21,472</b>	<b>20,793</b>	<b>20,869</b>	<b>21,689</b>

Source:

Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/births-deaths-and-marriages/births>

NISRA (Components of Change) <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/SNPP18-Methodology.pdf>

# Section 2: Fertility Rates

## Key Points

- Total Period Fertility Rates (TPFR) show that fertility has not been at replacement level (2.10 children per “average woman”) since 1991. Replacement level is taken to be the level at which the population would replace itself, ignoring migration. In 2019 fertility levels were below replacement level at 1.81 children; however this is still higher than the record fertility low of 1.75 in 2000. [Page 11, 12]
- Age specific fertility rates have remained fairly steady over the last ten years in most age groups with small increases in the 35-39 and 40-44 age groups and overall decreases in the younger age groups (15-19, 20-24 and 25-29). [Page 14]. The shift to women having children later in life is clearly shown in Figure 2.4. [Page 13]
- In 2016, there was a slight increase in the teenage fertility rate (13.8), however the rate has continued to decrease since then to 11.6 in 2019. (The lowest number of registered teenage births on record occurred during 2019, NI = 631). The primary driver in this reduction in births is the decline in the fertility rate in this age group e.g. 29.2 per 1,000 population in 1990 to 11.6 in 2019. [Page 14]

**Table 2.1: UK/Rol fertility rates 1992 - 2019, and projections 2024 – 2039**

Total Fertility Rate	1992	1997	2002	2007	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2018 based projections			
													2024/25	2029/30	2034/35	2039/40
Northern Ireland	2.08	1.93	1.76	1.98	2.03	1.96	1.97	1.96	1.95	1.87	1.85	1.82	1.83	1.86	1.89	1.91
England	1.79	1.73	1.64	1.88	1.94	1.85	1.83	1.82	1.81	1.76	1.70	1.66	1.68	1.72	1.77	1.80
Wales	1.87	1.81	1.64	1.86	1.88	1.80	1.78	1.77	1.74	1.69	1.63	1.54	1.61	1.64	1.68	1.71
Scotland	1.67	1.58	1.47	1.70	1.67	1.61	1.62	1.56	1.52	1.47	1.42	1.37	1.41	1.44	1.47	1.49
UK	1.79	1.72	1.63	1.87	1.92	1.83	1.82	1.80	1.79	1.74	1.68	1.63	1.66	1.70	1.74	1.78
<b>Total Period Fertility Rate</b>																
Republic of Ireland	1.99	1.94	1.98	2.03	1.98	1.93	1.90	1.86	1.81	1.77	1.75	1.71	-	-	-	-

Source:

United Kingdom home countries: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Vital statistics in the UK: births, deaths and marriages, January 2021

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/vitalstatisticspopulationandhealthreferencetables>

Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office, Vital Statistics Annual Reports/Yearly Summaries

<http://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/birthsdeathsandmarriages/>

2018 based projections are fertility rates per 1,000 females (principal projection)

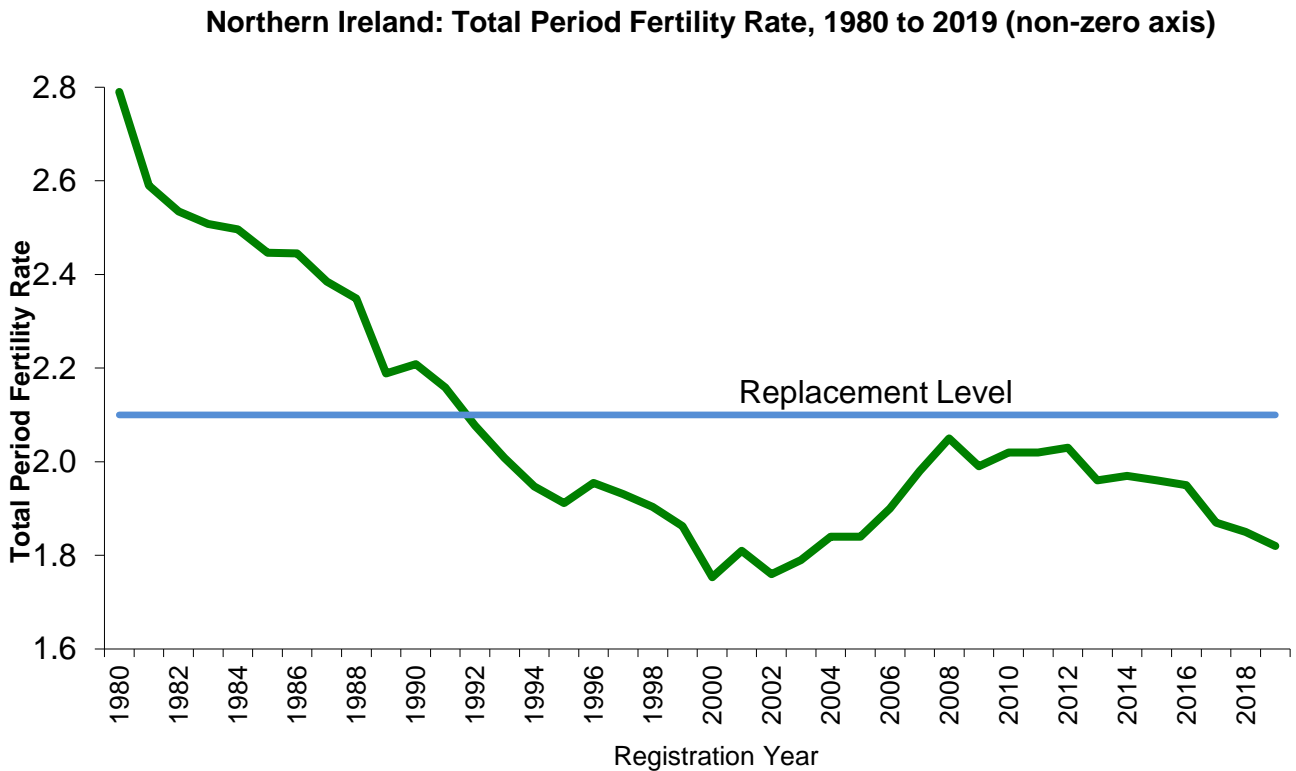
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/datalist?filter=datasets>

UK: Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is the average number of live children that a group of women would bear if they experienced the age-specific fertility rates of the calendar year in question throughout their childbearing lifespan

Rol: The Total Period Fertility Rate (TPFR) gives the theoretical average number of children who would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the age-specific fertility rates of a given year

Rol projections data not produced in this format

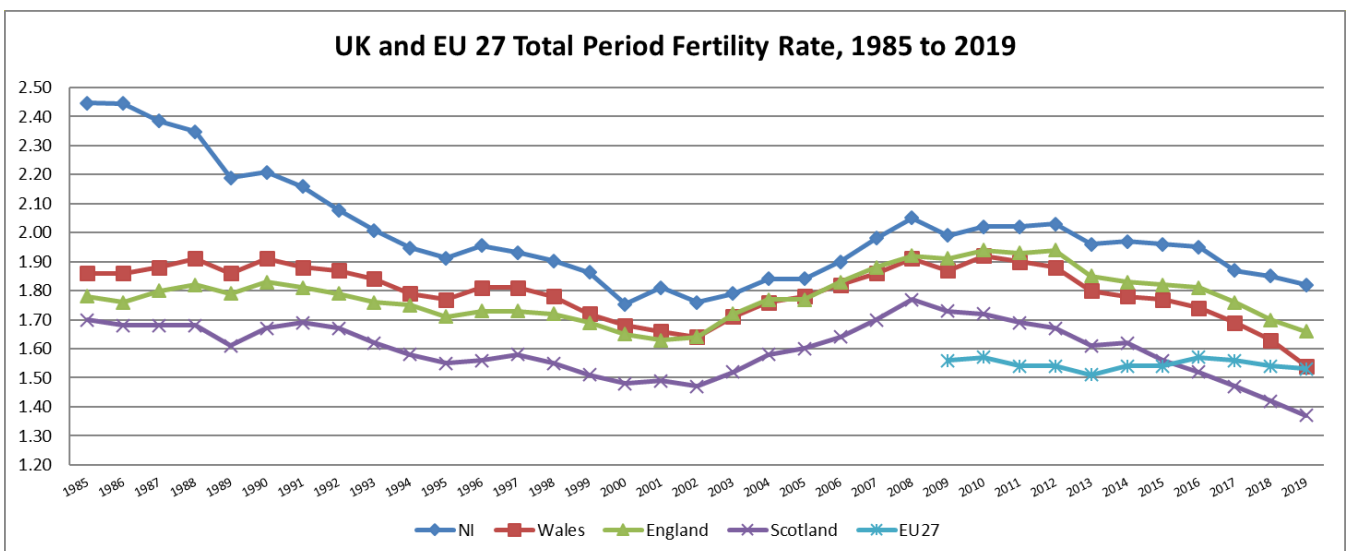
**Figure 2.1: Total Period Fertility Rate (TPFR), Northern Ireland, 1980 - 2019**



Source: NISRA <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/registrar-general-annual-reports-2011-2019>

The line at a TPFR of 2.1 represents the 'replacement level' which is the number of births that are required to maintain a steady Northern Ireland population taking account of this population's mortality rates but ignoring any outside effects of population movement.

**Figure 2.2: UK and EU total period fertility rate, 1985 to 2019**



Source: NISRA <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/registrar-general-annual-reports-2011-2019>

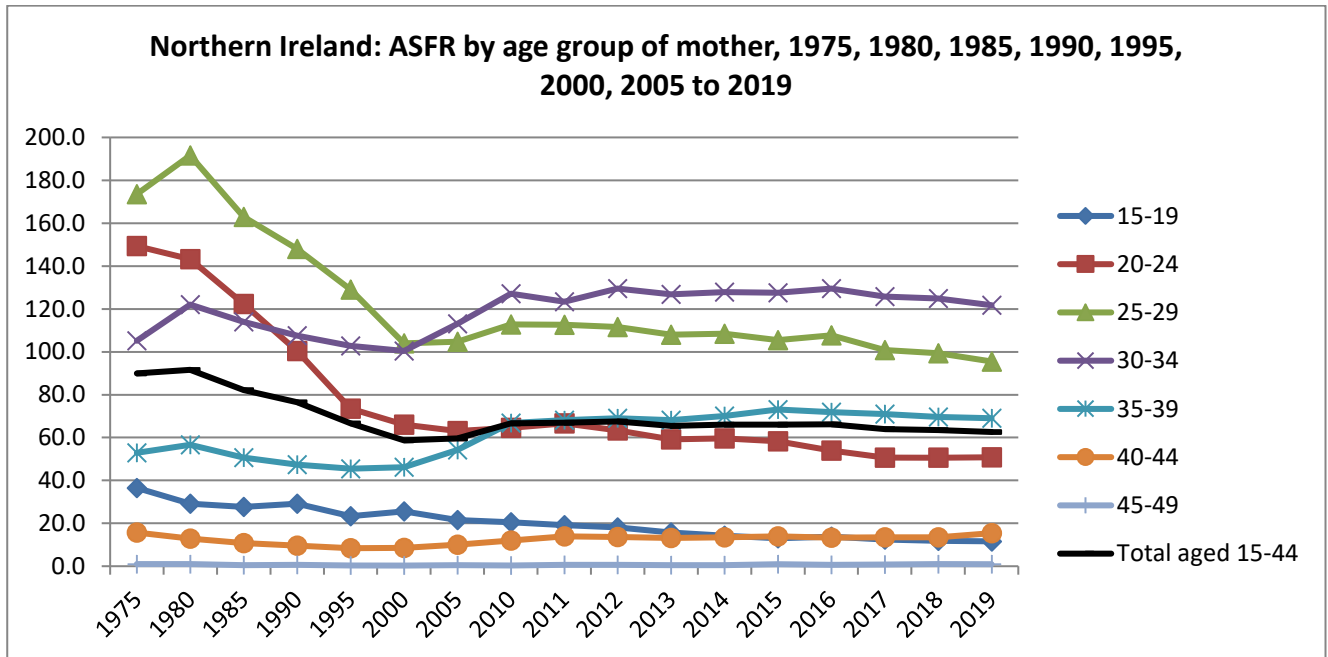
United Kingdom home countries: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Vital statistics in the UK: births, deaths and marriages, November 2019

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/vitalstatisticspopulationandhealthreferencetables>

Eurostat (European Commission) - <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main/data/database>

EU 27 refers to the 27 member states of the European Union as at 1 February 2020 (excluding United Kingdom). Data only available from 2009. Rate refers to the mean number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to survive and pass through her childbearing years conforming to the fertility rates by age of a given year.

**Figure 2.3: Age-Specific Fertility Rates (ASFR) by age-group of mother, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2011 to 2019**

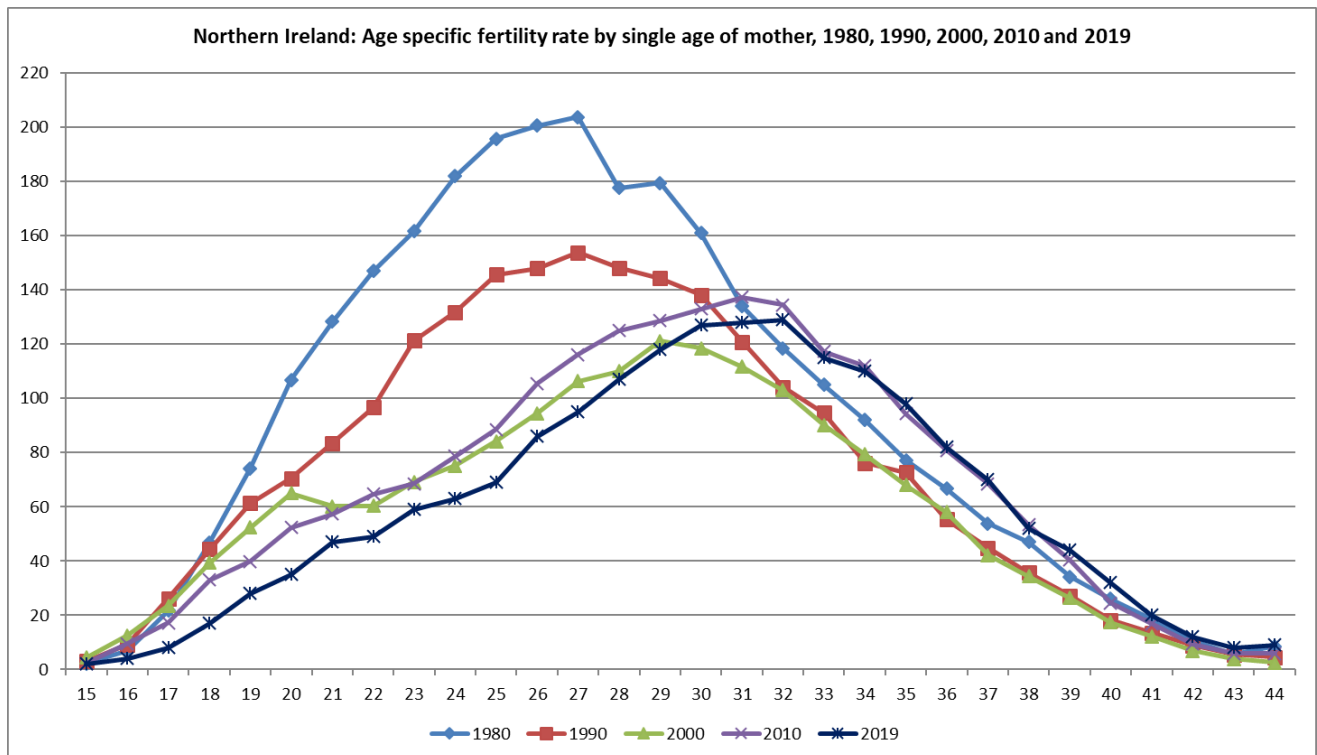


Source: NISRA <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/registrars-general-annual-reports-2011-2019>

Age-specific fertility rate is the number of live births occurring to a particular woman of a particular age or age group per year, normally expressed per 1,000 women

Rate for 15-44 includes births for those aged under 15 and over 49

**Figure 2.4: Fertility by age of mother 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2019**



Source: NISRA <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/registrars-general-annual-reports-2011-2019>

Age-specific fertility rate is the number of live births occurring to a particular woman of a particular age or age group per year, normally expressed per 1,000 women

Rate for age 15 includes births at younger ages and for age 44 includes births at older ages

**Table 2.2: Age-Specific Fertility Rates by age-group of mother, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2011 to 2019**

Age Group of Mother	Registration Year																
	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
15-19	36.5	29.2	27.6	29.2	23.4	25.6	21.5	20.5	19.1	18.1	15.7	14.2	13.0	13.8	12.4	11.9	11.6
20-24	149.3	143.2	122.3	100.4	73.5	66.0	63.0	64.6	66.7	63.3	59.2	59.6	58.3	53.9	50.7	50.6	50.8
25-29	173.5	191.6	162.9	148.0	129.1	103.9	104.7	112.8	112.7	111.6	108.0	108.5	105.4	107.7	100.8	99.4	95.5
30-34	105.1	122.1	114.0	107.6	102.7	100.4	113.1	127.1	123.4	129.5	126.8	127.9	127.6	129.5	125.7	124.9	121.8
35-39	52.9	56.6	50.7	47.4	45.5	46.2	54.3	66.8	68.1	69.1	68.2	70.1	73.1	71.8	71.0	69.6	69.1
40-44	15.7	12.9	10.8	9.6	8.4	8.5	10.1	12.0	13.9	13.6	13.2	13.5	14.0	13.4	13.5	13.5	15.4
45-49	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.8	1.0	0.9
Total aged 15-44	90.0	91.6	82.1	76.5	66.6	58.7	59.6	66.7	67.0	67.5	65.4	66.1	66.0	66.2	64.0	63.5	62.6

Source: NISRA <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/registrars-general-annual-reports-2011-2019>

Age-specific fertility rate is the number of live births occurring to a particular woman of a particular age or age group per year, normally expressed per 1,000 women

Rate for 15-44 includes births for those aged under 15 and over 49

# Section 3: Age Profile of Mother

## Key Points

- In 2019/20, births to teenage mothers represented 2.7% of all births (n=604) in Northern Ireland. [Page 15]
- Following a year on year increase in the proportion of births to older mothers (aged 40+), the percentage decreased slightly in 2016/17 and 2017/18, with increases again in 2018/19 and 2019/20 (4.4%). [Page 15]
- Based on 2017 deprivation quintiles, the proportion of births to teenage mothers decreased from 5.2% in the most deprived areas (2018/19=5.0%, 2017/18=5.4%, 2016/17 = 5.7%) to 1.1% in the least deprived (2018/19=1.2%, 2017/18 = 1.5%, 2016/17 = 1.4%). The opposite can be seen in the proportion of births to older mothers (40+), increasing from 3.3% in the most deprived areas (2018/19=2.9%, 2017/18 = 2.4%, 2016/17 = 2.5%) to 6.3% in the least deprived areas (2018/19=4.9%, 2017/18 = 5.4%, 2016/17 = 5.6%). [Page 18]

**Table 3.1: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by age of mother, 2010/11 - 2019/20**

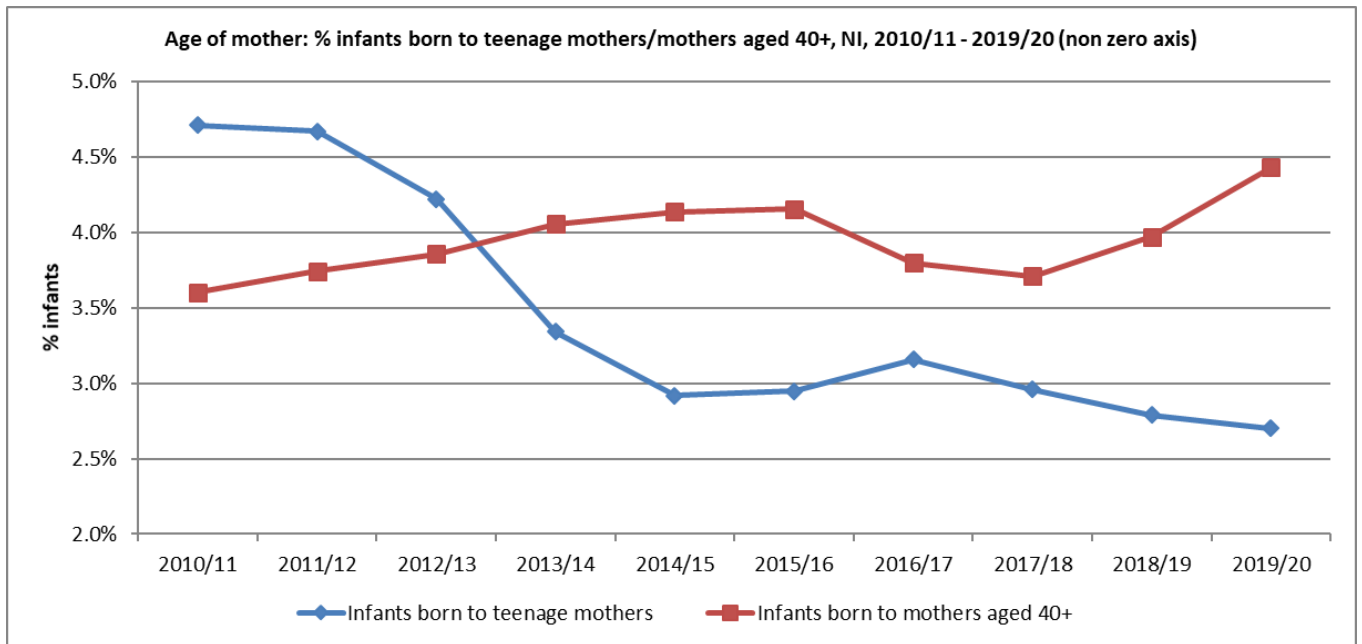
Year of birth		Infants born by age of mother								Total	Infants born to teenage mothers
		≤ 17	18-19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 +	Not known		
2010/11	n	343	864	4,103	7,177	7,902	4,308	923	39	<b>25,659</b>	<b>1,207</b>
	%	1.3%	3.4%	16.0%	28.0%	30.8%	16.8%	3.6%	-	-	<b>4.7%</b>
2011/12	n	318	863	4,098	7,196	7,706	4,172	947	9	<b>25,309</b>	<b>1,181</b>
	%	1.3%	3.4%	16.2%	28.4%	30.5%	16.5%	3.7%	-	-	<b>4.7%</b>
2012/13	n	263	793	3,737	6,891	8,211	4,164	965	4	<b>25,028</b>	<b>1,056</b>
	%	1.1%	3.2%	14.9%	27.5%	32.8%	16.6%	3.9%	-	-	<b>4.2%</b>
2013/14	n	187	624	3,466	6,780	7,955	4,280	984	1	<b>24,277</b>	<b>811</b>
	%	0.8%	2.6%	14.3%	27.9%	32.8%	17.6%	4.1%	-	-	<b>3.3%</b>
2014/15	n	170	542	3,441	6,619	8,220	4,396	1,009	3	<b>24,400</b>	<b>712</b>
	%	0.7%	2.2%	14.1%	27.1%	33.7%	18.0%	4.1%	-	-	<b>2.9%</b>
2015/16	n	165	555	3,305	6,605	8,160	4,629	1,015	2	<b>24,436</b>	<b>720</b>
	%	0.7%	2.3%	13.5%	27.0%	33.4%	18.9%	4.2%	-	-	<b>2.9%</b>
2016/17	n	174	586	3,060	6,584	8,267	4,492	914	2	<b>24,079</b>	<b>760</b>
	%	0.7%	2.4%	12.7%	27.3%	34.3%	18.7%	3.8%	-	-	<b>3.2%</b>
2017/18	n	157	523	2,835	6,274	7,963	4,395	853	4	<b>23,004</b>	<b>680</b>
	%	0.7%	2.3%	12.3%	27.3%	34.6%	19.1%	3.7%	-	-	<b>3.0%</b>
2018/19	n	141	498	2,879	6,062	8,002	4,420	910	3	<b>22,915</b>	<b>639</b>
	%	0.6%	2.2%	12.6%	26.5%	34.9%	19.3%	4.0%	-	-	<b>2.8%</b>
2019/20	n	148	456	2,759	5,705	7,848	4,450	990	6	<b>22,362</b>	<b>604</b>
	%	0.7%	2.0%	12.3%	25.5%	35.1%	19.9%	4.4%	-	-	<b>2.7%</b>

Source: Child Health System

Teenage refers to those aged less than twenty years

This refers to live and still births to NI residents irrespective of place of birth. These numbers will vary slightly from the registered births shown in Table 1.1.

**Figure 3.1: % infants born to teenage/older mothers, Northern Ireland, 2010/11 - 2019/20**



Source: Child Health System

Teenage refers to those aged less than twenty years

This refers to live and still births to NI residents irrespective of place of birth. These numbers will vary slightly from the registered births shown in Table 1.1.



**Table 3.2: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by age of mother, 2019/20**

		Infants born by age of mother								% infants born to teenage mothers	% infants born to mothers aged 40+	
		≤ 17	18-19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 +	Not known			Total
Multiple births	Single	144	452	2705	5587	7615	4265	936	6	<b>21,710</b>	2.7%	4.3%
	Multiple	4	4	54	118	233	185	54	0	<b>652</b>	1.2%	8.3%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>5,705</b>	<b>7,848</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>
Ethnic group of mother (NIMATS)	White	140	431	2,666	5,471	7,585	4,317	960	0	<b>21,570</b>	2.6%	4.5%
	Non-white	7	21	93	225	273	161	37	0	<b>817</b>	3.4%	4.5%
	Not stated / Blank	1	0	1	6	8	5	1	1	<b>23</b>	4.5%	4.5%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>2,760</b>	<b>5,702</b>	<b>7,866</b>	<b>4,483</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>
Ethnic group of infant (CHS)	White	126	420	2,618	5,431	7,487	4,223	933	2	<b>21,240</b>	2.6%	4.4%
	Non-white	9	36	138	269	353	225	54	0	<b>1,084</b>	4.2%	5.0%
	Not stated / Blank	13	0	3	5	8	2	3	4	<b>38</b>	38.2%	8.8%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>5,705</b>	<b>7,848</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	6	43	312	661	793	482	115	0	<b>2,412</b>	2.0%	4.8%
	Antrim	23	45	351	762	1,057	588	118	1	<b>2,945</b>	2.3%	4.0%
	Causeway	<10	<35	141	246	277	169	36	0	<b>905</b>	>2.7%	4.0%
	Craigavon	9	69	415	996	1,403	765	170	0	<b>3,827</b>	2.0%	4.4%
	Daisy Hill	14	27	162	424	675	337	73	0	<b>1,712</b>	2.4%	4.3%
	Downe	0	0	0	<5	<5	0	0	0	<b>5</b>	0.0%	0.0%
	Lagan Valley	0	<5	<20	34	40	<20	<5	0	<b>111</b>	<2.7%	<4.4%
	Mater	0	<10	71	78	104	45	<5	0	<b>308</b>	<2.7%	<4.4%
	Royal	54	131	731	1,209	1,530	947	227	0	<b>4,829</b>	3.8%	4.7%
	SWAH	<5	<15	104	274	461	253	54	0	<b>1,161</b>	<2.7%	4.7%
	Ulster	34	84	456	1,014	1,493	845	190	0	<b>4,116</b>	2.9%	4.6%
	Home/Other	0	<5	<5	<10	<15	<5	<5	5	<b>31</b>	>2.7%	>4.4%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>5,705</b>	<b>7,848</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>

**Table 3.2 continued: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by age of mother, 2019/20**

		Infants born by age of mother									% infants born to teenage mothers	% infants born to mothers aged 40+
		≤ 17	18-19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 +	Not known	Total		
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	55	119	674	987	1,412	870	210	1	<b>4,328</b>	4.0%	4.9%
	Northern	35	110	673	1,407	1,875	1,013	215	1	<b>5,329</b>	2.7%	4.0%
	South Eastern	30	80	450	1,018	1,362	782	167	2	<b>3,891</b>	2.8%	4.3%
	Southern	21	93	547	1,341	1,943	1,034	226	2	<b>5,207</b>	2.2%	4.3%
	Western	7	54	415	952	1,256	751	172	0	<b>3,607</b>	1.7%	4.8%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>5,705</b>	<b>7,848</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	15	35	214	431	605	307	64	1	<b>1,672</b>	3.0%	3.8%
	Ards and North Down	10	28	171	409	526	306	70	1	<b>1,521</b>	2.5%	4.6%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	10	53	329	750	992	511	109	1	<b>2,755</b>	2.3%	4.0%
	Belfast	53	131	700	986	1,322	802	189	1	<b>4,184</b>	4.4%	4.5%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	5	36	198	403	491	277	61	0	<b>1,471</b>	2.8%	4.1%
	Derry City and Strabane	5	35	262	527	581	356	83	0	<b>1,849</b>	2.2%	4.5%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	<5	<20	116	317	529	319	73	0	<b>1,371</b>	<2.7%	5.3%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	15	21	170	397	657	385	90	0	<b>1,735</b>	2.1%	5.2%
	Mid and East Antrim	13	27	195	424	477	249	55	0	<b>1,440</b>	2.8%	3.8%
	Mid Ulster	<5	<40	187	490	799	461	90	1	<b>2,063</b>	<2.7%	4.4%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	17	43	217	571	869	477	106	1	<b>2,301</b>	2.6%	4.6%
<b>All infants</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>5,705</b>	<b>7,848</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	68	184	969	1,362	1,396	717	158	4	<b>4,858</b>	5.2%	3.3%
	2	23	108	608	1,289	1,658	895	218	1	<b>4,800</b>	2.7%	4.5%
	3	33	72	525	1,179	1,621	908	194	1	<b>4,533</b>	2.3%	4.3%
	4	15	61	424	1,087	1,653	966	181	0	<b>4,387</b>	1.7%	4.1%
	Least deprived	9	31	233	788	1,520	964	239	0	<b>3,784</b>	1.1%	6.3%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>5,705</b>	<b>7,848</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>

Source: Child Health System/NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Teenage refers to those aged less than twenty years

Due to small numbers, it is not possible to show data by individual ethnic group

Disclosure controls have been applied to this table. As a result, for some places of birth and Council areas, it is not possible to show the exact percentage values in the final two columns and so a comparison to the Northern Ireland value has been provided

# Section 4: Multiple Births

## Key Points

- The proportion of infants born within a multiple birth has remained fairly steady over the last ten years (2019/20 = 2.9%). [Page 19]
- The incidence of multiple births increased with mother's age. In 2019/20 across Northern Ireland, 1.3% of births to mothers aged less than twenty years were multiple births, compared to 5.5% of births to mothers aged 40 and over. [Page 20]

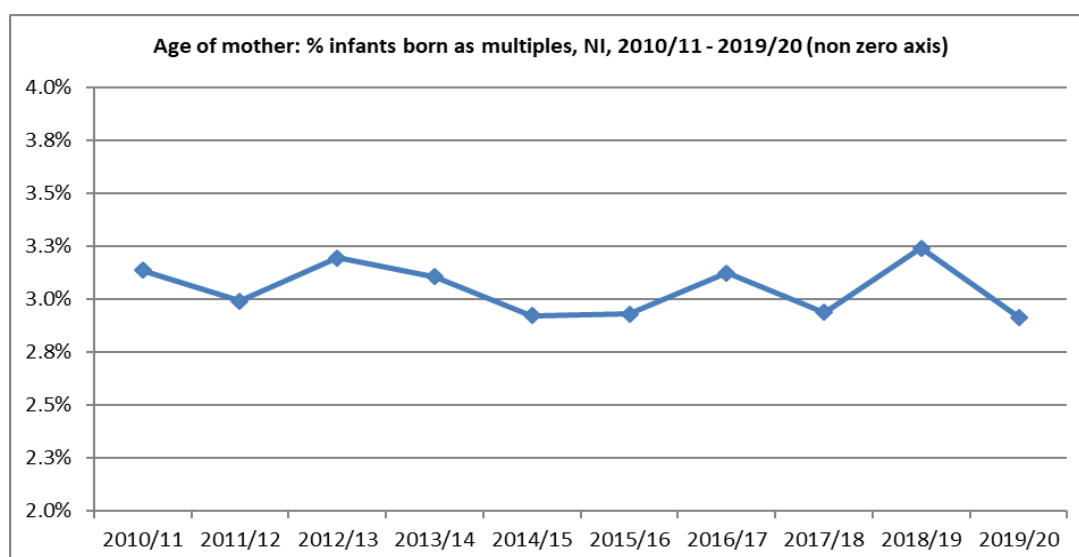
**Table 4.1: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by singleton/multiple, 2010/11 - 2019/20**

Year of birth	Infants born by singleton/multiple birth					Infants born as multiples
		Single	Twin	Triplet / Other	Total	
2010/11	n	24,854	784	21	<b>25,659</b>	<b>805</b>
	%	96.9%	3.1%	0.1%	-	<b>3.1%</b>
2011/12	n	24,552	748	9	<b>25,309</b>	<b>757</b>
	%	97.0%	3.0%	0.0%	-	<b>3.0%</b>
2012/13	n	24,228	782	18	<b>25,028</b>	<b>800</b>
	%	96.8%	3.1%	0.1%	-	<b>3.2%</b>
2013/14	n	23,523	742	12	<b>24,277</b>	<b>754</b>
	%	96.9%	3.1%	0.0%	-	<b>3.1%</b>
2014/15	n	23,687	698	15	<b>24,400</b>	<b>713</b>
	%	97.1%	2.9%	0.1%	-	<b>2.9%</b>
2015/16	n	23,720	686	30	<b>24,436</b>	<b>716</b>
	%	97.1%	2.8%	0.1%	-	<b>2.9%</b>
2016/17	n	23,327	716	36	<b>24,079</b>	<b>752</b>
	%	96.9%	3.0%	0.1%	-	<b>3.1%</b>
2017/18	n	22,328	664	12	<b>23,004</b>	<b>676</b>
	%	97.1%	2.9%	0.1%	-	<b>2.9%</b>
2018/19	n	22,172	730	13	<b>22,915</b>	<b>743</b>
	%	96.8%	3.2%	0.1%	-	<b>3.2%</b>
2019/20	n	21,710	640	12	<b>22,362</b>	<b>652</b>
	%	97.1%	2.9%	0.1%	-	<b>2.9%</b>

Source: Child Health System

Figures for multiple births show the number of infants born

**Figure 4.1: % infants born as multiples, Northern Ireland, 2010/11 – 2019/20**



Source: Child Health System

**Table 4.2: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by singleton/multiple, 2019/20**

		Infants born by singleton/multiple birth			% infants born as multiples
		Single	Multiple	Total	
Birth status	Live	21,643	648	<b>22,291</b>	2.9%
	Still	67	4	<b>71</b>	5.6%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>21,710</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
Age Group of mother	Under 20	596	8	<b>604</b>	1.3%
	20 - 24	2705	54	<b>2,759</b>	2.0%
	25 - 29	5587	118	<b>5,705</b>	2.1%
	30 - 34	7615	233	<b>7,848</b>	3.0%
	35 - 39	4265	185	<b>4,450</b>	4.2%
	40 +	936	54	<b>990</b>	5.5%
	Not known	6	0	<b>6</b>	0.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>21,710</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
Ethnic group of mother (NIMATS)	White	20,940	630	<b>21,570</b>	2.9%
	Non-white	801	16	<b>817</b>	2.0%
	Not stated / Blank	21	2	<b>23</b>	8.7%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>21,762</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
Ethnic group of infant (CHS)	White	20,614	626	<b>21,240</b>	2.9%
	Non-white	1,058	26	<b>1,084</b>	2.4%
	Not stated / Blank	38	0	<b>38</b>	0.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>21,710</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	2,320	92	<b>2,412</b>	3.8%
	Antrim	2,832	113	<b>2,945</b>	3.8%
	Causeway	903	2	<b>905</b>	0.2%
	Craigavon	3,734	93	<b>3,827</b>	2.4%
	Daisy Hill	1,674	38	<b>1,712</b>	2.2%
	Downe	5	0	<b>5</b>	0.0%
	Lagan Valley	111	0	<b>111</b>	0.0%
	Mater	308	0	<b>308</b>	0.0%
	Royal	4,655	174	<b>4,829</b>	3.6%
	SWAH	1,139	22	<b>1,161</b>	1.9%
	Ulster	4,000	116	<b>4,116</b>	2.8%
	Home/Other	29	2	<b>31</b>	6.5%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>21,710</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	4,183	145	<b>4,328</b>	3.4%
	Northern	5,176	153	<b>5,329</b>	2.9%
	South Eastern	3,764	127	<b>3,891</b>	3.3%
	Southern	5,082	125	<b>5,207</b>	2.4%
	Western	3,505	102	<b>3,607</b>	2.8%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>21,710</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>2.9%</b>

**Table 4.2 continued: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by singleton/multiple, 2019/20**

		Infants born by singleton/multiple birth			% infants born as multiples
		Single	Multiple	Total	
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,622	50	<b>1,672</b>	3.0%
	Ards and North Down	1,474	47	<b>1,521</b>	3.1%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	2,684	71	<b>2,755</b>	2.6%
	Belfast	4,052	132	<b>4,184</b>	3.2%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	1,437	34	<b>1,471</b>	2.3%
	Derry City and Strabane	1,793	56	<b>1,849</b>	3.0%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	1,331	40	<b>1,371</b>	2.9%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,675	60	<b>1,735</b>	3.5%
	Mid and East Antrim	1,399	41	<b>1,440</b>	2.8%
	Mid Ulster	2,009	54	<b>2,063</b>	2.6%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	2,234	67	<b>2,301</b>	2.9%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>21,710</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>22,362</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	4,715	143	<b>4,858</b>	2.9%
	2	4,667	133	<b>4,800</b>	2.8%
	3	4,404	129	<b>4,533</b>	2.8%
	4	4,267	120	<b>4,387</b>	2.7%
	Least deprived	3,657	127	<b>3,784</b>	3.4%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>21,710</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>22,362</b>

Source: Child Health System/NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Due to small numbers, it is not possible to show data by individual ethnic group

# Section 5: Infant Gestation

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## Key Points

### Infant gestation at booking

- In 2019/20, 8% of births were booked at 15 weeks or more gestation. This is a slight decrease on the previous year (8.3%). *[Page 23]*
- There were 340 (1.5%) infants born to women who were estimated to be 28 weeks or more gestation at booking. This proportion has been falling year on year since 2011/12, with slight increases in 2017/18 and 2018/19, however the 2019/20 figure shows a decrease again. *[Page 23]*
- There were substantial differences in the timescales of when mothers booked by ethnic group during 2019/20. 32.8% of births to mothers from a 'non-white' ethnic group booked at 15+ weeks, compared to 7.1% of those of a white ethnic group (all births = 8.0%). *[Page 24]*
- In 2019/20, and based on 2017 deprivation quintiles, data revealed that more mothers booked at 15+ weeks gestation from the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland (11.2% of births), compared to births to those mothers from least deprived areas (5.9%). *[Page 25]*

### Infant gestation at delivery

- Over the last nine years there has been little variation in the proportion of infants born pre-term (<37 weeks gestation) (2019/20 = 7.6%). *[Page 26]* The 2019/20 figures differ considerably by type of birth: 7.4% of live births, 70.4% of still births born pre-term. The same can be seen for multiple births (62%) compared to singleton births (6%). *[Page 27]*
- In 2019/20, 8.3% of infants were born pre-term to mothers living in the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland. This compared to 6.8% of infants born to mothers living in those areas considered least deprived (all infants = 7.6%). *[Page 28]*

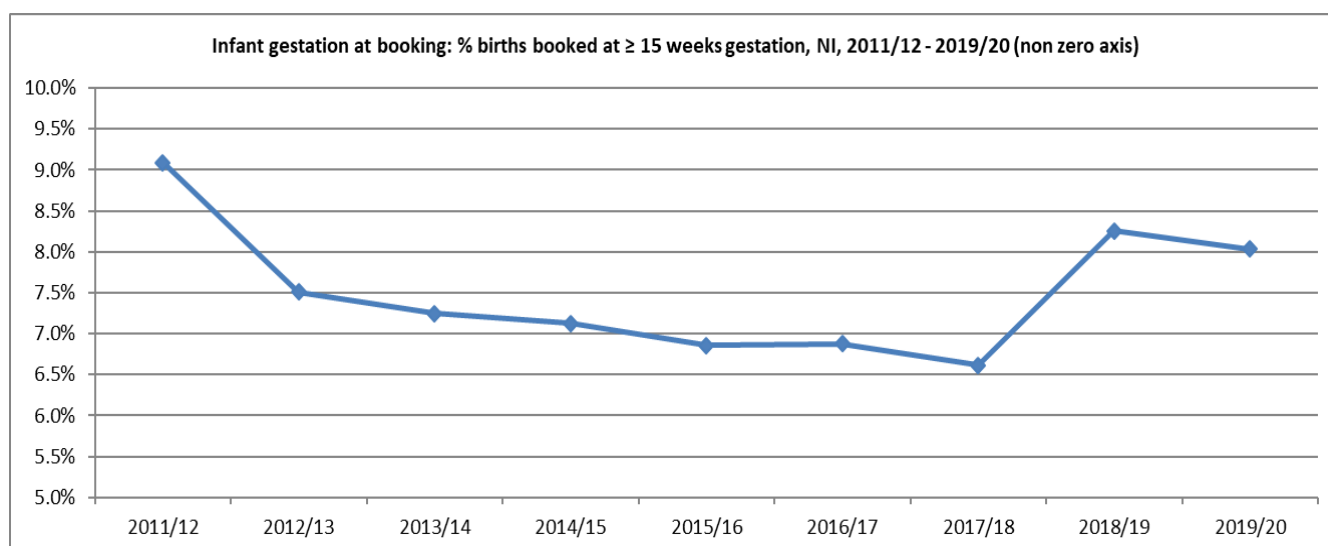
## GESTATION AT BOOKING

**Table 5.1: Gestation at booking, for births to Northern Ireland residents, by completed weeks, 2011/12 - 2019/20**

Year of birth		Infants born by gestation at booking								Booking at ≥ 15 weeks
		≤ 14 weeks	15 - 20 weeks	21 - 27 weeks	28 - 32 weeks	33 - 36 weeks	37+ weeks	Not known	Total	
2011/12	n	22,106	1,317	364	212	177	141	26	<b>24,343</b>	<b>2,211</b>
	%	90.9%	5.4%	1.5%	0.9%	0.7%	0.6%	-	-	<b>9.1%</b>
2012/13	n	23,050	1,050	325	200	159	138	20	<b>24,942</b>	<b>1,872</b>
	%	92.5%	4.2%	1.3%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	-	-	<b>7.5%</b>
2013/14	n	22,444	1,020	329	171	144	89	11	<b>24,208</b>	<b>1,753</b>
	%	92.8%	4.2%	1.4%	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	-	-	<b>7.2%</b>
2014/15	n	22,585	1,001	316	197	160	58	5	<b>24,322</b>	<b>1,732</b>
	%	92.9%	4.1%	1.3%	0.8%	0.7%	0.2%	-	-	<b>7.1%</b>
2015/16	n	22,729	998	287	180	136	72	3	<b>24,405</b>	<b>1,673</b>
	%	93.1%	4.1%	1.2%	0.7%	0.6%	0.3%	-	-	<b>6.9%</b>
2016/17	n	22,427	1,013	280	156	141	67	0	<b>24,084</b>	<b>1,657</b>
	%	93.1%	4.2%	1.2%	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%	-	-	<b>6.9%</b>
2017/18	n	21,517	881	278	149	135	81	4	<b>23,045</b>	<b>1,524</b>
	%	93.4%	3.8%	1.2%	0.6%	0.6%	0.4%	-	-	<b>6.6%</b>
2018/19	n	21,061	1,230	291	166	138	70	1	<b>22,957</b>	<b>1,895</b>
	%	91.7%	5.4%	1.3%	0.7%	0.6%	0.3%	-	-	<b>8.3%</b>
2019/20	n	20,608	1,189	272	157	130	53	1	<b>22,410</b>	<b>1,801</b>
	%	92.0%	5.3%	1.2%	0.7%	0.6%	0.2%	-	-	<b>8.0%</b>

Source: NIMATS

**Figure 5.1: % births booked at ≥ 15 weeks gestation, Northern Ireland residents, 2011/12 – 2019/20**



Source: NIMATS

**Table 5.2: Gestation at booking, for births to Northern Ireland residents, by completed weeks, 2019/20**

		Infants born by gestation at booking							Total	% booking at ≥ 15 weeks
		≤ 14 weeks	15 - 20 weeks	21 - 27 weeks	28 - 32 weeks	33 - 36 weeks	37+ weeks	Not known		
Age Group of mother	Under 20	470	61	32	<15	17	<10	0	<b>600</b>	>8.0%
	20 - 24	2,441	199	57	28	23	13	0	<b>2,761</b>	11.6%
	25 - 29	5,251	297	61	44	39	10	0	<b>5,702</b>	7.9%
	30 - 34	7,396	325	54	41	33	16	1	<b>7,866</b>	6.0%
	35 - 39	4,151	246	47	24	10	5	0	<b>4,483</b>	7.4%
	40 +	899	61	21	<10	8	<5	0	<b>998</b>	>8.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>20,608</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
Ethnic group of mother	White	20,042	1,040	229	119	105	34	1	<b>21,570</b>	7.1%
	Non-white	549	146	43	35	25	19	0	<b>817</b>	32.8%
	Not stated / Blank	17	3	0	3	0	0	0	<b>23</b>	26.1%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>20,608</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	2,340	63	21	15	<15	<5	0	<b>2,453</b>	<8.0%
	Antrim	2,777	101	31	16	<20	<5	0	<b>2,944</b>	<8.0%
	Causeway	863	22	<15	<5	7	<5	0	<b>906</b>	<8.0%
	Craigavon	3,377	342	50	26	21	8	0	<b>3,824</b>	11.7%
	Daisy Hill	1,500	159	26	13	6	6	0	<b>1,710</b>	12.3%
	Downe / Lagan Valley	108	<5	0	<5	<5	0	0	<b>114</b>	<8.0%
	Mater	287	22	<5	0	<5	<5	0	<b>314</b>	>8.0%
	Royal	4,325	312	84	49	39	15	0	<b>4,824</b>	10.3%
	SWAH	1,120	32	12	8	<10	<5	0	<b>1,181</b>	<8.0%
	Ulster	3,887	131	35	26	<25	<10	1	<b>4,113</b>	<8.0%
	Home/Other	24	<5	0	<5	0	0	0	<b>27</b>	>8.0%
<b>All infants</b>	<b>20,608</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	3,885	264	69	51	48	21	1	<b>4,339</b>	10.4%
	Northern	4,987	212	62	25	26	5	0	<b>5,317</b>	6.2%
	South Eastern	3,675	133	36	22	15	5	0	<b>3,886</b>	5.4%
	Southern	4,568	474	73	37	25	14	0	<b>5,191</b>	12.0%
	Western	3,493	106	32	22	16	8	0	<b>3,677</b>	5.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>20,608</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>8.0%</b>



**Table 5.2 continued: Gestation at booking, for births to Northern Ireland residents, by completed weeks, 2019/20**

		Infants born by gestation at booking							Total	% booking at ≥ 15 weeks
		≤ 14 weeks	15 - 20 weeks	21 - 27 weeks	28 - 32 weeks	33 - 36 weeks	37+ weeks	Not known		
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,552	70	24	<10	10	<5	0	<b>1,666</b>	<8.0%
	Ards and North Down	1,439	50	10	<10	<10	<5	0	<b>1,515</b>	<8.0%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	2,432	231	37	20	16	9	0	<b>2,745</b>	11.4%
	Belfast	3,747	268	68	53	46	21	1	<b>4,204</b>	10.8%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	1,412	28	11	7	8	0	0	<b>1,466</b>	3.7%
	Derry City and Strabane	1,802	51	17	11	<15	<5	0	<b>1,895</b>	<8.0%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	1,318	50	13	8	<10	<5	0	<b>1,399</b>	<8.0%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,630	58	15	10	<10	<5	0	<b>1,724</b>	<8.0%
	Mid and East Antrim	1,341	67	14	8	<10	<5	0	<b>1,436</b>	<8.0%
	Mid Ulster	1,853	155	30	12	<10	<5	0	<b>2,058</b>	>8.0%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	2,082	161	33	14	<10	<5	0	<b>2,302</b>	>8.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>20,608</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	4,398	355	92	54	40	15	0	<b>4,954</b>	11.2%
	2	4,413	277	72	27	20	11	1	<b>4,821</b>	8.4%
	3	4,170	220	50	27	21	12	0	<b>4,500</b>	7.3%
	4	4,082	209	31	20	19	7	0	<b>4,368</b>	6.5%
	Least deprived	3,545	128	27	29	30	8	0	<b>3,767</b>	5.9%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>20,608</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22,410</b>

Source: NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Due to small numbers, it is not possible to show data by individual ethnic group

Disclosure controls have been applied to the data. There were 3 births recorded in Downe Hospital during 2020/21 – disclosure controls have been applied by combining data for Downe and Lagan Valley Hospitals.

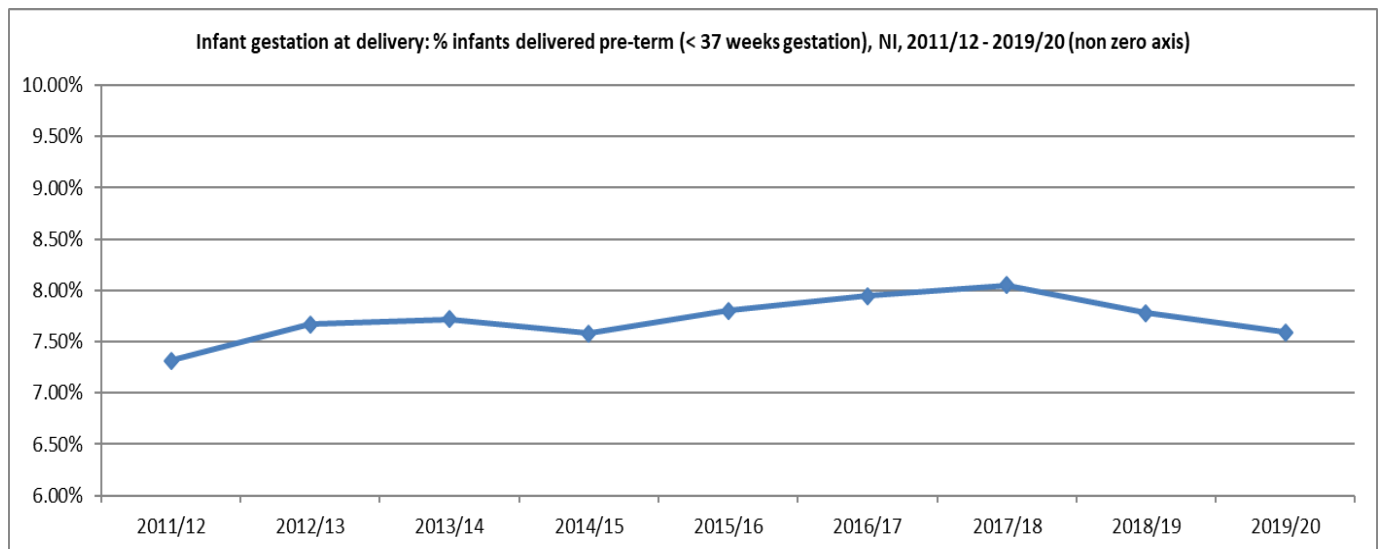
## GESTATION AT DELIVERY

**Table 5.3: Gestation at delivery, for births (live and still) to Northern Ireland residents, by completed weeks, 2011/12 – 2019/20**

Year of birth		Infants born by gestation at delivery						Total	Infants born pre-term (< 37 wks)
		< 28 weeks	28 - 31 weeks	32 - 36 weeks	37 - 38 weeks	39+ weeks	Not known		
2011/12	n	118	192	1,470	4,493	18,067	3	24,343	1,780
	%	0.48%	0.79%	6.04%	18.46%	74.23%	-	-	7.31%
2012/13	n	116	203	1,593	4,570	18,459	1	24,942	1,912
	%	0.47%	0.81%	6.39%	18.32%	74.01%	-	-	7.67%
2013/14	n	105	212	1,551	4,472	17,868	0	24,208	1,868
	%	0.43%	0.88%	6.41%	18.47%	73.81%	-	-	7.72%
2014/15	n	101	226	1,517	4,658	17,820	0	24,322	1,844
	%	0.42%	0.93%	6.24%	19.15%	73.27%	-	-	7.58%
2015/16	n	106	186	1,612	4,985	17,516	0	24,405	1,904
	%	0.43%	0.76%	6.61%	20.43%	71.77%	-	-	7.80%
2016/17	n	123	192	1,598	5,410	16,761	0	24,084	1,913
	%	0.51%	0.80%	6.64%	22.46%	69.59%	-	-	7.94%
2017/18	n	105	162	1,588	5,186	16,004	0	23,045	1,855
	%	0.46%	0.70%	6.89%	22.50%	69.45%	-	-	8.05%
2018/19	n	113	177	1,496	5,042	16,129	0	22,957	1,786
	%	0.49%	0.77%	6.52%	21.96%	70.26%	-	-	7.78%
2019/20	n	110	153	1,438	5,057	15,652	0	22,410	1,701
	%	0.49%	0.68%	6.42%	22.57%	69.84%	-	-	7.59%

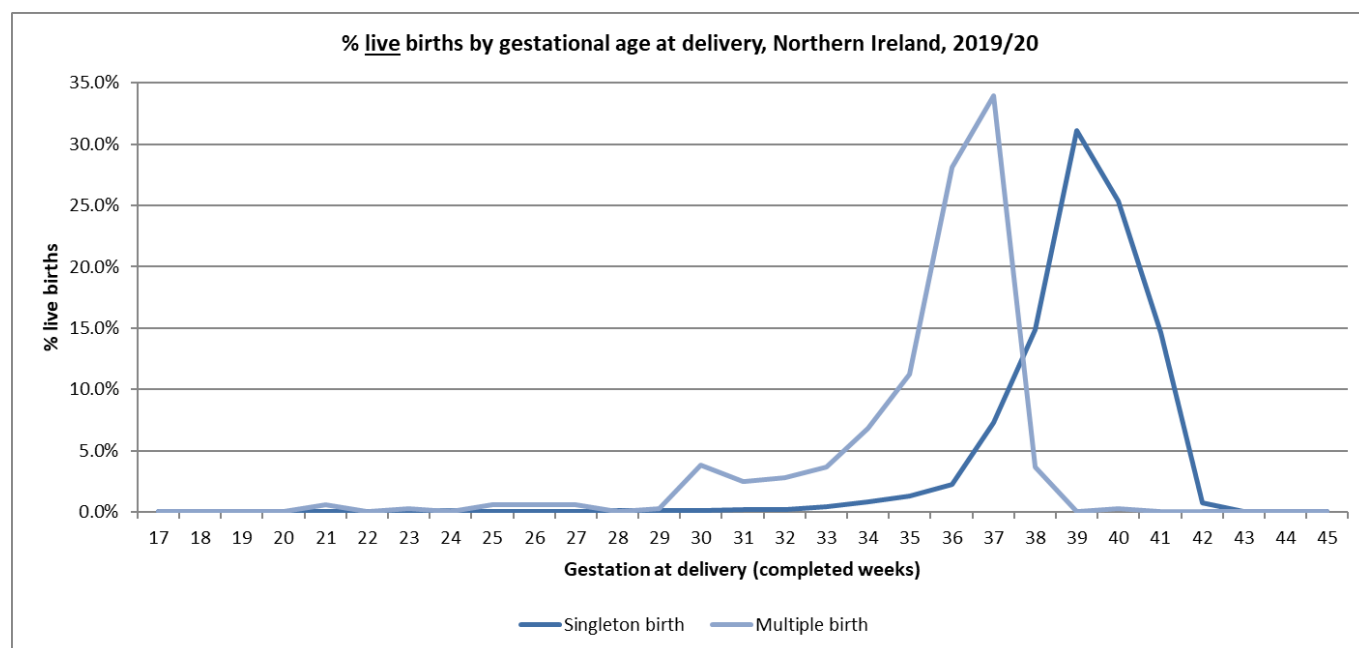
Source: NIMATS

**Figure 5.2: % infants delivered pre-term (<37 weeks), Northern Ireland, 2011/12 – 2019/20**



Source: NIMATS

**Figure 5.3: % live infants by gestational age at delivery, Northern Ireland, 2019/20**



**Table 5.4: Gestation at delivery, for births (live and still) to Northern Ireland residents, by completed weeks, 2019/20**

		Infants born by gestation at delivery							% infants born pre-term (< 37 wks)
		< 28 weeks	28 - 31 weeks	32 - 36 weeks	37 - 38 weeks	39+ weeks	Not known	Total	
Age Group of mother	Under 20	<10	<5	42	132	416	0	<b>600</b>	>7.6%
	20 - 24	12	14	179	619	1,937	0	<b>2,761</b>	7.4%
	25 - 29	28	35	332	1,189	4,118	0	<b>5,702</b>	6.9%
	30 - 34	27	45	467	1,717	5,610	0	<b>7,866</b>	6.9%
	35 - 39	32	44	315	1,100	2,992	0	<b>4,483</b>	8.7%
	40 +	<5	<15	103	300	579	0	<b>998</b>	>7.6%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>15,652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
Multiple births	Single	92	110	1,097	4,813	15,650	0	<b>21,762</b>	6.0%
	Multiple	18	43	341	244	2	0	<b>648</b>	62.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>15,652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
Birth status	Live	94	138	1,419	5,048	15,640	0	<b>22,339</b>	7.4%
	Still	16	15	19	9	12	0	<b>71</b>	70.4%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>15,652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>7.6%</b>

**Table 5.4 continued: Gestation at delivery, for births (live and still) to Northern Ireland residents, by completed weeks, 2019/20**

		Infants born by gestation at delivery							% infants born pre-term (< 37 wks)
		< 28 weeks	28 - 31 weeks	32 - 36 weeks	37 - 38 weeks	39+ weeks	Not known	Total	
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	12	15	200	600	1,626	0	<b>2,453</b>	9.3%
	Antrim	<5	25	245	765	1,905	0	<b>2,944</b>	>7.6%
	Causeway	<5	<5	12	209	683	0	<b>906</b>	<7.6%
	Craigavon	10	38	284	972	2,520	0	<b>3,824</b>	8.7%
	Daisy Hill	<5	<5	97	295	1,312	0	<b>1,710</b>	<7.6%
	Downe / Lagan Valley	0	0	0	<20	<100	0	<b>114</b>	0.0%
	Mater	0	0	<5	<40	276	0	<b>314</b>	<7.6%
	Royal	55	46	282	1,102	3,339	0	<b>4,824</b>	7.9%
	SWAH	<5	0	<60	197	929	0	<b>1,181</b>	<7.6%
	Ulster	21	25	266	860	2,941	0	<b>4,113</b>	7.6%
	Home/Other	0	0	0	<5	<25	0	<b>27</b>	0.0%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>15,652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	28	41	278	913	3,079	0	<b>4,339</b>	8.0%
	Northern	16	29	328	1,290	3,654	0	<b>5,317</b>	7.0%
	South Eastern	25	31	248	848	2,734	0	<b>3,886</b>	7.8%
	Southern	18	35	339	1,192	3,607	0	<b>5,191</b>	7.6%
	Western	23	17	245	814	2,578	0	<b>3,677</b>	7.8%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>15,652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	10	11	100	371	1,174	0	<b>1,666</b>	7.3%
	Ards and North Down	12	12	97	337	1,057	0	<b>1,515</b>	8.0%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	13	21	183	662	1,866	0	<b>2,745</b>	7.9%
	Belfast	28	41	265	891	2,979	0	<b>4,204</b>	7.9%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	5	6	85	381	989	0	<b>1,466</b>	6.5%
	Derry City and Strabane	10	6	137	444	1,298	0	<b>1,895</b>	8.1%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	10	8	81	279	1,021	0	<b>1,399</b>	7.1%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	10	15	110	370	1,219	0	<b>1,724</b>	7.8%
	Mid and East Antrim	<5	<15	100	358	965	0	<b>1,436</b>	>7.6%
	Mid Ulster	<5	<10	130	485	1,431	0	<b>2,058</b>	<7.6%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	6	14	150	479	1,653	0	<b>2,302</b>	7.4%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>15,652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	32	30	348	1,235	3,309	0	<b>4,954</b>	8.3%
	2	22	33	332	1,089	3,345	0	<b>4,821</b>	8.0%
	3	26	28	282	1,003	3,161	0	<b>4,500</b>	7.5%
	4	17	27	268	992	3,064	0	<b>4,368</b>	7.1%
	Least deprived	13	35	208	738	2,773	0	<b>3,767</b>	6.8%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>15,652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>

Source: NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Due to small numbers, it is not possible to show data by individual ethnic group

Disclosure controls have been applied to the data. There were 3 births recorded in Downe Hospital during 2020/21 – disclosure controls have been applied by combining data for Downe and Lagan Valley Hospitals.

# Section 6: Maternal Risk Factors

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## Key Points

- In 2019/20 *[Page 30]*:
  - 13.1% of mothers smoked (2010/11 = 15.5%)
  - 13.4% of mothers had diabetes (2010/11 = 1.8%).
  - 1.7% of mothers experienced an antepartum haemorrhage (2010/11 = 2.2%)

### Smoking

- The proportion of mothers who smoked (recorded at antenatal booking appointment) decreased with age, from 27.7% of those aged less than 20 years (a decrease on the previous year (2018/19=29.5%)), to 9.0% of those aged 40 and over (an increase on the previous year (2018/19=7.5%)). *[Page 31]*
- In the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland (NIMDM 2017), 23.8% of mothers smoked, compared to 5.1% in the least deprived areas. *[Page 32]*
- Mothers who had previously given birth were more likely to smoke (14.3%), compared to first time mothers (10.5%). *[Page 31]*
- Smoking rates were higher amongst those women who were of a white ethnic background (13.4%), compared to those of a non-white background (5.3%). *[Page 31]*

### Diabetes

- The percentage of mothers with diabetes increased with age, 7.0% of those aged less than 20 years, compared to 22.7% of mothers aged 40 and over. *[Page 33]*
- A higher proportion of mothers from a non-white ethnic background had diabetes (17.9%), compared to all mothers (13.3%). *[Page 33]*
- The proportion of mothers with diabetes was fairly consistent across the five Health Trusts, ranging from 12.1% in South Eastern Trust to 15.1% in Western Trust. *[Page 33]*

**Table 6.1: Mothers resident in Northern Ireland, by maternal risk factor, 2010/11 - 2019/20**

Year of birth	Maternal risk factor							
	Mothers (n)	Smoking (at antenatal booking)	Diabetes	Pregnancy induced hypertension	Anaemia	Alcohol use	Antepartum haemorrhage (APH)	History of psychiatric illness
2010/11	25,253	3,923	444	1,136	940	22	563	
	-	15.5%	1.8%	4.5%	3.7%	0.09%	2.2%	
2011/12	24,929	4,087	575	1,199	863	27	743	
	-	16.4%	2.3%	4.8%	3.5%	0.11%	3.0%	
2012/13	24,625	3,959	890	1,138	1,069	26	719	
	-	16.1%	3.6%	4.6%	4.3%	0.11%	2.9%	
2013/14	23,898	3,544	1,230	1,207	989	21	682	
	-	14.8%	5.1%	5.1%	4.1%	0.09%	2.9%	
2014/15	24,041	3,497	1,361	1,034	787	19	623	
	-	14.5%	5.7%	4.3%	3.3%	0.08%	2.6%	
2015/16	24,073	3,389	1,517	1,063	850	20	574	
	-	14.1%	6.3%	4.4%	3.5%	0.08%	2.4%	
2016/17	23,697	3,194	1,822	1,029	779	12	514	1,668
	-	13.5%	7.7%	4.3%	3.3%	0.05%	2.2%	7.0%
2017/18	22,705	3,134	2,086	1,109	735	83	417	1,711
	-	13.8%	9.2%	4.9%	3.2%	0.37%	1.8%	7.5%
2018/19	Mothers giving birth (n)	22,582	22,582	22,582	22,582	22,582	22,582	22,582
	Valid responses (n) (smoking only)	21,637	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Risk factor (n)	2,862	2,500	1,106	967	85	381	1,751
	%	13.2%	11.1%	4.9%	4.3%	0.38%	1.7%	7.8%
2019/20	Mothers giving birth (n)	22,084	22,084	22,084	22,084	22,084	22,084	22,084
	Valid responses (n) (smoking only)	21,400	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Risk factor (n)	2,801	2,969	1,039	1,057	70	368	1,829
	%	13.1%	13.4%	4.7%	4.8%	0.32%	1.7%	8.3%

Source: Child Health System (2010/11 - 2016/17), NIMATS (2017/18 onwards)

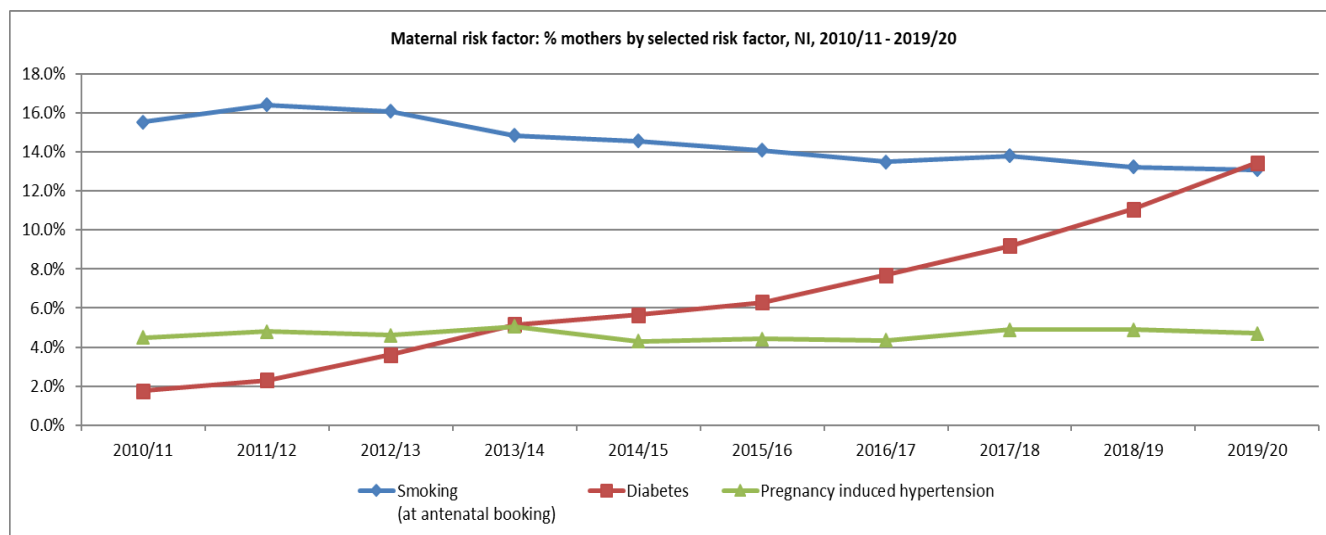
Following a change in the interface between NIMATS and CHS during 2017/18, fields containing information on ante-natal risk factors, which had usually transferred from NIMATS to CHS are not now available on CHS. As a result, the data must be sourced from NIMATS. However, on CHS, only four ante-natal risk factors are recorded and so e.g. history of psychiatric of illness may not have been recorded on CHS (but would be recorded on NIMATS), therefore this may account for lower figures when comparing CHS data to NIMATS data. The data from both sources were analysed and the impact of changing the source of the data was considered minimal. History of psychiatric illness - coverage prior to 2016/17 was not regarded as sufficient. There has been a concerted effort to identify diabetes risk factors in women and this may in part be reflected in the increased numbers.

In September 2016, new screens were added to NIMATS to collect more detailed data on the mother's smoking habits. This data could not be used due to the large number of incomplete records. However, from 2018/19, CO levels, the proportion of mothers who smoked and the number of cigarettes smoked per day will be presented using this new data.

As a result of this change in source of smoking data, how the percentage of mothers who smoked is calculated will change from 2018/19 onwards. The percentage is now a valid percentage i.e. the % calculation is based on those records where smoking status was known and blank data has been removed from the denominator value.

Percentage calculations for all other ante natal risk factors remain the same i.e. as a % of ALL mothers giving birth

**Figure 6.1: % mothers by selected risk factor, Northern Ireland residents, 2010/11 - 2019/20**



Source: Child Health System (2010/11 - 2016/17), NIMATS (2017/18 onwards)

**Table 6.2: Mothers resident in Northern Ireland, by smoking status, 2019/20**

		Smoking status at time of booking appointment						% who smoked (valid percentage)
		Smoked	Never smoked	No stopped smoking prior to this pregnancy	No stopped smoking this pregnancy	Blank	All mothers	
Age Group of mother	Under 20	160	277	62	79	19	<b>597</b>	27.7%
	20 - 24	658	1,345	340	309	82	<b>2,734</b>	24.8%
	25 - 29	869	3,580	663	358	173	<b>5,643</b>	15.9%
	30 - 34	678	5,678	862	281	249	<b>7,748</b>	9.0%
	35 - 39	352	3,147	606	161	125	<b>4,391</b>	8.3%
	40 +	84	672	147	32	36	<b>971</b>	9.0%
	Not known	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	-
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>14,699</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Multiple births	Single	2,767	14,465	2,642	1,211	677	<b>21,762</b>	13.1%
	Multiple	34	234	38	9	7	<b>322</b>	10.8%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>14,699</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
First time mothers	First time mother	708	4,676	796	534	240	<b>6,954</b>	10.5%
	Not a first time mother	2,093	10,023	1,884	686	444	<b>15,130</b>	14.3%
	Not known	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	-
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>14,699</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Ethnic group of mother	White	2,758	14,008	2,642	1,198	647	<b>21,253</b>	13.4%
	Non-white	41	678	36	19	35	<b>809</b>	5.3%
	Not stated / Blank	2	13	2	3	2	<b>22</b>	10.0%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>14,699</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	309	1,612	296	155	35	<b>2,407</b>	13.0%
	Antrim	361	2,015	295	146	71	<b>2,888</b>	12.8%
	Causeway	150	558	99	68	30	<b>905</b>	17.1%
	Craigavon	412	2,576	391	195	204	<b>3,778</b>	11.5%
	Daisy Hill	156	1,177	210	90	58	<b>1,691</b>	9.6%
	Downe / Lagan Valley	<15	79	10	6	<10	<b>114</b>	<13.1%
	Mater	41	197	42	23	11	<b>314</b>	13.5%
	Royal	765	2,991	633	225	122	<b>4,736</b>	16.6%
	SWAH	120	823	144	68	15	<b>1,170</b>	10.4%
	Ulster	471	2,652	555	244	132	<b>4,054</b>	12.0%
	Home	<5	19	5	0	<5	<b>27</b>	<13.1%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>14,699</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	675	2,701	556	230	103	<b>4,265</b>	16.2%
	Northern	690	3,570	574	272	136	<b>5,242</b>	13.5%
	South Eastern	459	2,435	538	236	153	<b>3,821</b>	12.5%
	Southern	550	3,519	566	264	231	<b>5,130</b>	11.2%
	Western	427	2,474	446	218	61	<b>3,626</b>	12.0%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>14,699</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.1%</b>

**Table 6.2 continued: Mothers resident in Northern Ireland, by smoking status, 2019/20**

		Smoking status at time of booking appointment						
		Smoked	Never smoked	No stopped smoking prior to this pregnancy	No stopped smoking this pregnancy	Blank	All mothers	% who smoked (valid percentage)
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	210	1,096	191	89	56	<b>1,642</b>	13.2%
	Ards and North Down	204	961	217	95	14	<b>1,491</b>	13.8%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	310	1,833	298	120	150	<b>2,711</b>	12.1%
	Belfast	713	2,526	563	241	93	<b>4,136</b>	17.6%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	213	948	159	92	37	<b>1,449</b>	15.1%
	Derry City and Strabane	260	1,214	240	123	31	<b>1,868</b>	14.2%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	135	982	166	71	25	<b>1,379</b>	10.0%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	135	1,204	211	74	70	<b>1,694</b>	8.3%
	Mid and East Antrim	194	965	164	65	28	<b>1,416</b>	14.0%
	Mid Ulster	202	1,479	193	109	47	<b>2,030</b>	10.2%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	225	1,491	278	141	133	<b>2,268</b>	10.5%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>14,699</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	1,127	2,618	664	331	139	<b>4,879</b>	23.8%
	2	676	3,075	574	316	113	<b>4,754</b>	14.6%
	3	466	3,055	535	242	140	<b>4,438</b>	10.8%
	4	348	3,089	488	217	166	<b>4,308</b>	8.4%
	Least deprived	184	2,862	419	114	126	<b>3,705</b>	5.1%
		<b>All mothers</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>14,699</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>22,084</b>

Source: NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Alcohol use - figures are too small and so have not been provided

In September 2016, new screens were added to NIMATS to collect more detailed data on the mother's smoking habits. This data could not be used due to the large number of incomplete records. However from 2018/19, CO levels, the proportion of mothers who smoked and the number of cigarettes smoked per day will be presented using this new data.

As a result of this change in source of smoking data, how the percentage of mothers who smoked is calculated will change from 2018/19 onwards and so the smoking information presented in this report has been separated out to a new table. The percentage is now a valid percentage i.e. the % calculation is based on those records where smoking status was known and blank data has been removed from the denominator value.

Disclosure controls have been applied to the data. There were 3 births recorded in Downe Hospital during 2020/21 – disclosure controls have been applied by combining data for Downe and Lagan Valley Hospitals.



**Table 6.3: Mothers resident in Northern Ireland, by maternal risk factor, 2019/20**

		% mothers by risk factor					
		Total mothers	Diabetes	Pregnancy induced hypertension	Anaemia	Antepartum haemorrhage (APH)	History of psychiatric illness
Age Group of mother	Under 20	597	7.0%	6.0%	10.6%	1.2%	10.4%
	20 - 24	2,734	10.4%	5.0%	6.4%	1.1%	12.8%
	25 - 29	5,643	12.4%	4.5%	4.7%	1.4%	8.8%
	30 - 34	7,748	13.1%	4.4%	4.0%	1.7%	6.8%
	35 - 39	4,391	16.1%	4.8%	4.3%	2.0%	6.3%
	40 +	971	22.7%	6.2%	5.8%	3.0%	11.8%
	Not known	0	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
Multiple births	Single	21,762	13.5%	4.7%	4.7%	1.6%	8.3%
	Multiple	322	11.8%	8.1%	11.8%	3.1%	7.8%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
First time mothers	First time mother	6,954	14.1%	7.1%	3.3%	1.7%	6.1%
	Not a first time mother	15,130	13.1%	3.6%	5.5%	1.7%	9.3%
	Not known	0	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
Ethnic group of mother	White	21,253	13.3%	4.7%	4.7%	1.7%	8.5%
	Non-white	809	17.9%	3.7%	6.1%	1.7%	3.5%
	Not stated / Blank	22	9.1%	4.5%	13.6%	0.0%	0.0%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	2,407	16.5%	4.4%	5.2%	2.0%	8.4%
	Antrim	2,888	17.1%	4.2%	4.0%	1.3%	5.9%
	Causeway	905	4.9%	2.3%	4.3%	1.5%	4.9%
	Craigavon	3,778	16.9%	4.3%	4.4%	1.4%	6.3%
	Daisy Hill	1,691	5.4%	2.7%	2.8%	1.6%	4.8%
	Downe	3	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Lagan Valley	111	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%	2.7%
	Mater	314	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	0.6%	5.4%
	Royal	4,736	14.0%	6.3%	7.3%	2.2%	12.2%
	SWAH	1,170	12.1%	4.4%	1.2%	1.1%	8.2%
	Ulster	4,054	12.3%	5.7%	4.8%	1.8%	9.8%
	Home	27	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
	Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	4,265	13.0%	5.7%	6.5%	1.9%
Northern		5,242	13.7%	4.3%	4.4%	1.5%	7.0%
South Eastern		3,821	12.1%	5.6%	5.3%	1.8%	10.1%
Southern		5,130	13.4%	3.9%	4.0%	1.5%	6.1%
Western		3,626	15.1%	4.3%	4.0%	1.7%	8.2%
<b>All mothers</b>		<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>

**Table 6.3 continued: Mothers resident in Northern Ireland, by maternal risk factor, 2019/20**

		% mothers by risk factor					
		Total mothers	Diabetes	Pregnancy induced hypertension	Anaemia	Antepartum haemorrhage (APH)	History of psychiatric illness
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,642	12.8%	4.9%	4.4%	1.5%	8.5%
	Ards and North Down	1,491	11.5%	5.9%	4.9%	1.8%	11.3%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	2,711	13.2%	4.1%	4.2%	1.3%	7.1%
	Belfast	4,136	13.1%	5.7%	6.8%	1.9%	11.5%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	1,449	14.6%	2.8%	4.4%	2.0%	7.1%
	Derry City and Strabane	1,868	14.8%	4.3%	5.2%	2.2%	8.2%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	1,379	14.5%	4.6%	2.5%	1.1%	7.8%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,694	12.8%	6.0%	4.9%	1.9%	8.9%
	Mid and East Antrim	1,416	14.8%	4.7%	4.0%	1.4%	7.6%
	Mid Ulster	2,030	13.5%	4.3%	4.2%	1.1%	4.6%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	2,268	13.1%	3.7%	4.2%	1.9%	6.0%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	4,879	14.1%	4.8%	6.5%	1.8%	12.5%
	2	4,754	13.7%	4.2%	4.8%	1.6%	8.3%
	3	4,438	12.9%	4.2%	4.5%	1.6%	7.7%
	4	4,308	14.6%	4.7%	4.3%	1.7%	6.4%
	Least deprived	3,705	11.5%	5.8%	3.4%	1.5%	5.6%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>

Source: NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Alcohol use - figures are too small and so have not been provided

## Diabetes and smoking

Table 6.4: **Mothers** resident in Northern Ireland, who are diabetic and who smoke, 2012/13 - 2019/20

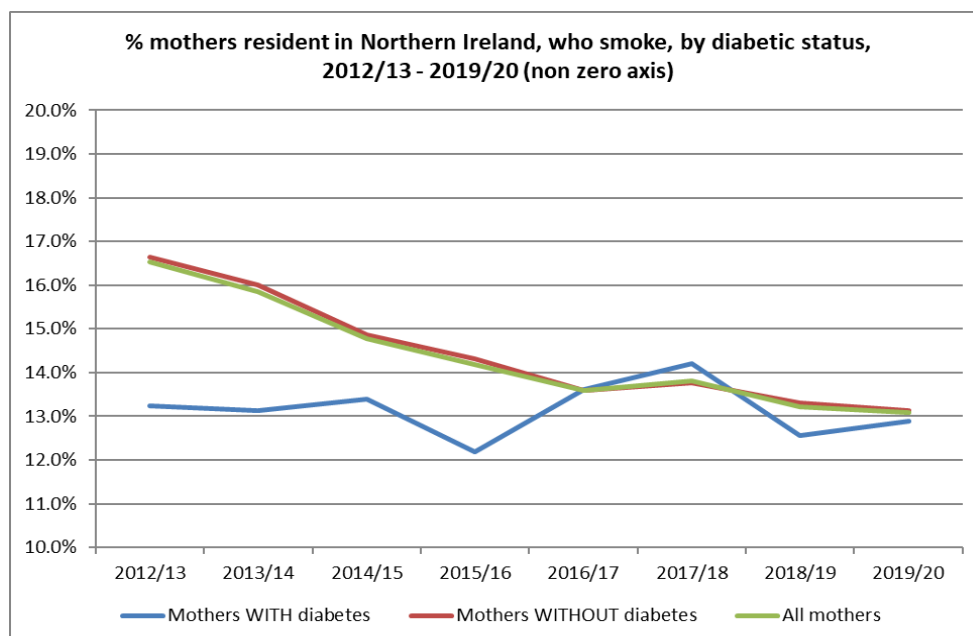
	Year of birth	Mothers giving birth	Mothers who smoke (at antenatal booking)	
		n	n	%
<b>Mothers WITH diabetes (any type)</b>	2012/13	899	119	13.2%
	2013/14	1,234	162	13.1%
	2014/15	1,352	181	13.4%
	2015/16	1,525	186	12.2%
	2016/17	1,837	250	13.6%
	2017/18	1,909	271	14.2%
	2018/19	2,421	304	12.6%
	2019/20	2,879	371	12.9%
<b>Mothers WITHOUT diabetes</b>	2012/13	23,637	3,936	16.7%
	2013/14	22,596	3,615	16.0%
	2014/15	22,615	3,359	14.9%
	2015/16	22,518	3,224	14.3%
	2016/17	21,867	2,974	13.6%
	2017/18	20,796	2,863	13.8%
	2018/19	19,216	2,558	13.3%
	2019/20	18,521	2,430	13.1%
<b>All mothers</b>	2012/13	24,536	4,055	16.5%
	2013/14	23,830	3,777	15.8%
	2014/15	23,967	3,540	14.8%
	2015/16	24,043	3,410	14.2%
	2016/17	23,704	3,224	13.6%
	2017/18	22,705	3,134	13.8%
	2018/19	21,637	2,862	13.2%
	2019/20	21,400	2,801	13.1%

Source: NIMATS

In September 2016, new screens were added to NIMATS to collect more detailed data on the mother's smoking habits. This data could not be used due to the large number of incomplete records. However, from 2018/19, CO levels, the proportion of mothers who smoked and the number of cigarettes smoked per day will be presented using this new data.

As a result of this change in source of smoking data, how the percentage of mothers who smoked is calculated will change from 2018/19 onwards and so the smoking information presented in this report is now shown as a valid percentage i.e. the % calculation is based on those records where smoking status was known and blank data has been removed from the denominator value.

Figure 6.2: **Mothers** resident in Northern Ireland, who are diabetic and who smoke, 2012/13 - 2019/20



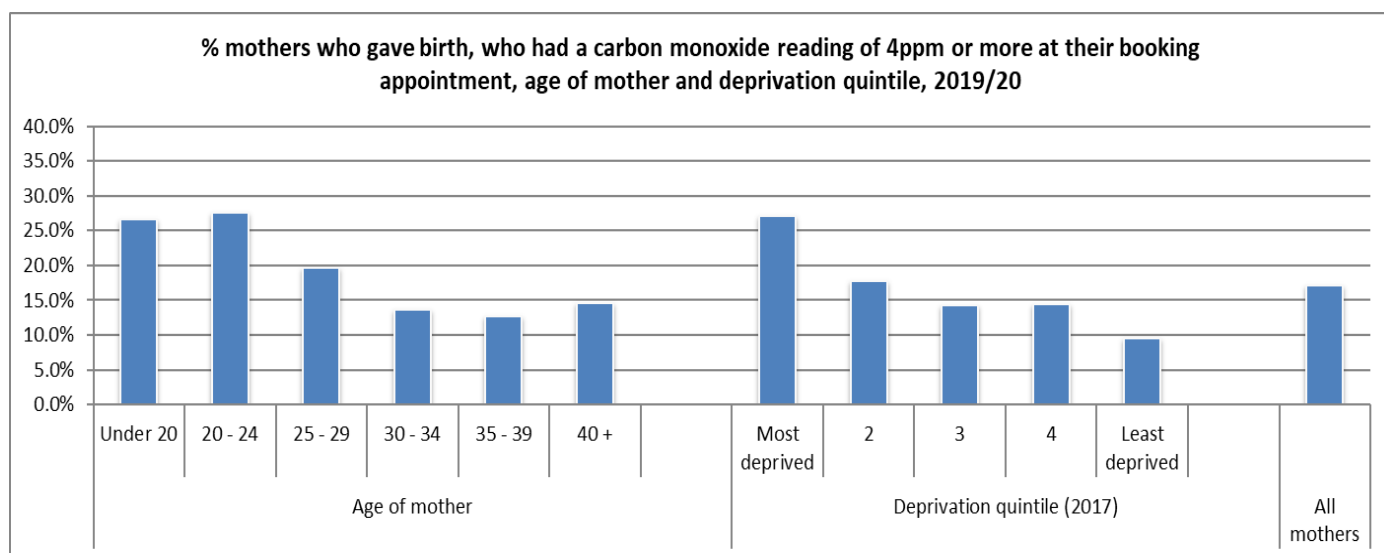
Source: NIMATS

## Carbon Monoxide Screening (Antenatal/At Delivery)

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a poisonous gas produced when tobacco products are burnt. Carbon monoxide is found in inhaled, exhaled and passive smoke; however, it can be produced also by e.g. car exhaust fumes or emitted from malfunctioning fossil/wood fuelled heating. Exposure to carbon monoxide is dangerous during pregnancy, as it deprives the baby of oxygen, slows its growth and increases the risk of e.g. miscarriage and still birth. All pregnant women in Northern Ireland are offered carbon monoxide breath testing at their antenatal booking appointment. Carbon monoxide levels will be higher in those women who smoke, or who have been exposed to unsafe levels of CO from another source. Following testing, women with a result of 4ppm (parts per million) or higher, and who smoke, are provided with information on support services, which are available in Northern Ireland to help her stop smoking. If the woman does not smoke and is not exposed to second hand smoke, advice is given to reduce exposure to environmental sources of CO e.g. to check for faulty home heating appliances etc.

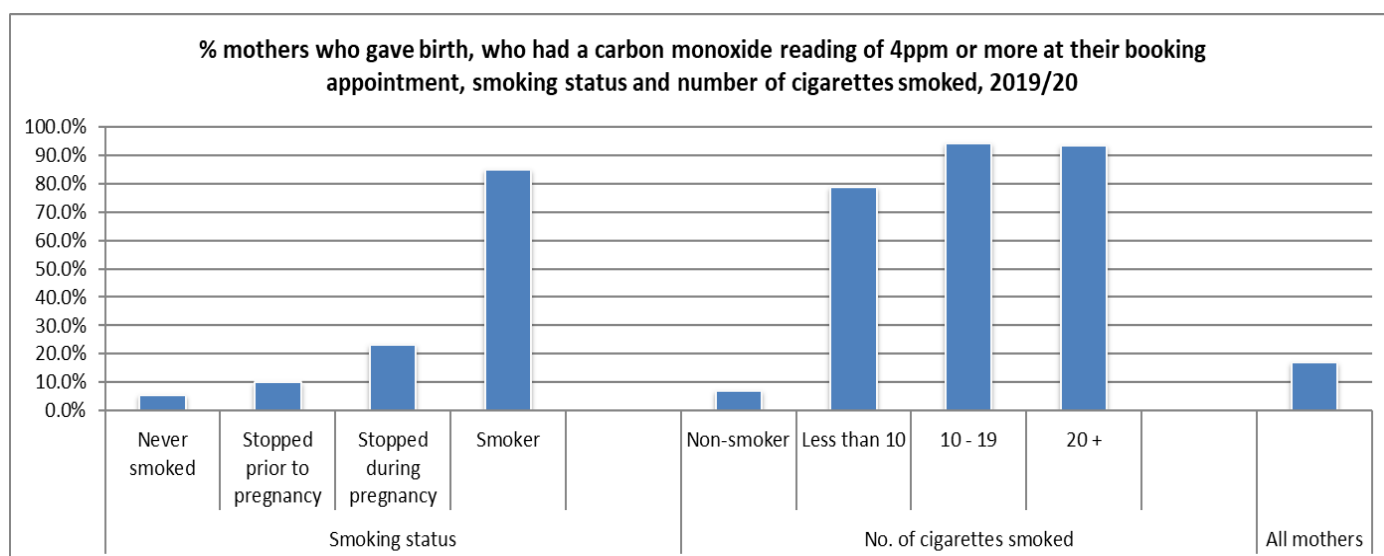
In October 2019, carbon monoxide monitoring was introduced for women at time of delivery. At this stage, the CO level is recorded for women who had a reading of 4 or more at time of booking, who did not have a reading taken at booking or who refused to have their CO level taken; therefore, not all women will have their CO levels recorded at time of delivery.

**Figure 6.3: % mothers who gave birth, who had a carbon monoxide reading of 4ppm or more at their booking appointment, age of mother and deprivation quintile, 2019/20**



Source: NIMATS

**Figure 6.4: % mothers who gave birth, who had a carbon monoxide reading of 4ppm or more at their booking appointment, smoking status and number of cigarettes smoked, 2019/20**



Source: NIMATS

**Table 6.5: Mothers resident in Northern Ireland, who gave birth, by carbon monoxide reading taken at their booking appointment, 2019/20**

		Exhaled carbon monoxide reading (ppm)						% 4ppm or more
		0-3	4-9	10 - 19	20+	Not known	Total	
Age Group of mother	Under 20	434	111	41	5	6	<b>597</b>	26.6%
	20 - 24	1,958	470	229	44	33	<b>2,734</b>	27.5%
	25 - 29	4,474	685	340	68	76	<b>5,643</b>	19.6%
	30 - 34	6,601	644	304	89	110	<b>7,748</b>	13.6%
	35 - 39	3,781	362	156	34	58	<b>4,391</b>	12.7%
	40 +	819	88	36	15	13	<b>971</b>	14.5%
	Not known	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	-
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>18,067</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>17.1%</b>
Smoking status of mother (at booking)	Never smoked	13,853	741	47	7	51	<b>14,699</b>	5.4%
	No - stopped prior to this pregnancy	2,408	228	34	<5	<10	<b>2,680</b>	<17.1%
	No - stopped during this pregnancy	935	226	54	<5	<5	<b>1,220</b>	>17.1%
	Smoker	417	1,165	971	242	6	<b>2,801</b>	85.1%
	Not known	454	0	0	0	230	<b>684</b>	-
		<b>All mothers</b>	<b>18,067</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>22,084</b>
Number of cigarettes smoked (per day) (recorded at booking)	Non-smoker (0 cigarettes)	17,650	1,195	135	13	60	<b>19,053</b>	7.1%
	Less than 10	348	803	408	79	2	<b>1,640</b>	78.8%
	10 - 19	58	323	497	111	4	<b>993</b>	94.1%
	20 +	11	39	66	52	0	<b>168</b>	93.5%
	Not known	0	0	0	0	230	<b>230</b>	-
		<b>All mothers</b>	<b>18,067</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>22,084</b>
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	3,355	514	290	64	42	<b>4,265</b>	20.6%
	Northern	3,985	804	309	80	64	<b>5,242</b>	23.0%
	South Eastern	3,219	344	162	30	66	<b>3,821</b>	14.3%
	Southern	4,414	377	187	46	106	<b>5,130</b>	12.1%
	Western	3,094	321	158	35	18	<b>3,626</b>	14.2%
		<b>All mothers</b>	<b>18,067</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>22,084</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	3,522	758	430	117	52	<b>4,879</b>	27.0%
	2	3,859	516	252	62	65	<b>4,754</b>	17.7%
	3	3,756	404	189	35	54	<b>4,438</b>	14.3%
	4	3,625	413	163	34	73	<b>4,308</b>	14.4%
	Least deprived	3,305	269	72	7	52	<b>3,705</b>	9.5%
		<b>All mothers</b>	<b>18,067</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>22,084</b>

Source: NIMATS NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

ppm: particles per million

In September 2016, new screens were added to NIMATS to collect more detailed data on the mother's smoking habits. This data could not be used due to the large number of incomplete records. However, from 2018/19, CO levels, the proportion of mothers who smoked and the number of cigarettes smoked per day will be presented using this new data.

The percentage of mothers with a CO level of 4ppm or more is a valid percentage i.e. the % calculation is based on those records where CO level was known and blank data has been removed from the denominator value.

Disclosure controls have been applied to this table. As a result, for some smoking status groups, it is not possible to show the exact percentage values in the final column and so a comparison to the NI value has been provided.

- Using carbon monoxide levels of 4ppm or more, results in a higher proportion of women in all Trust areas being identified as a smoker, than those declaring themselves as smokers in Table 6.2. There is a substantial difference in the Northern Trust area. [Page 31, 37]

# Section 7: Maternal BMI

## Key Points

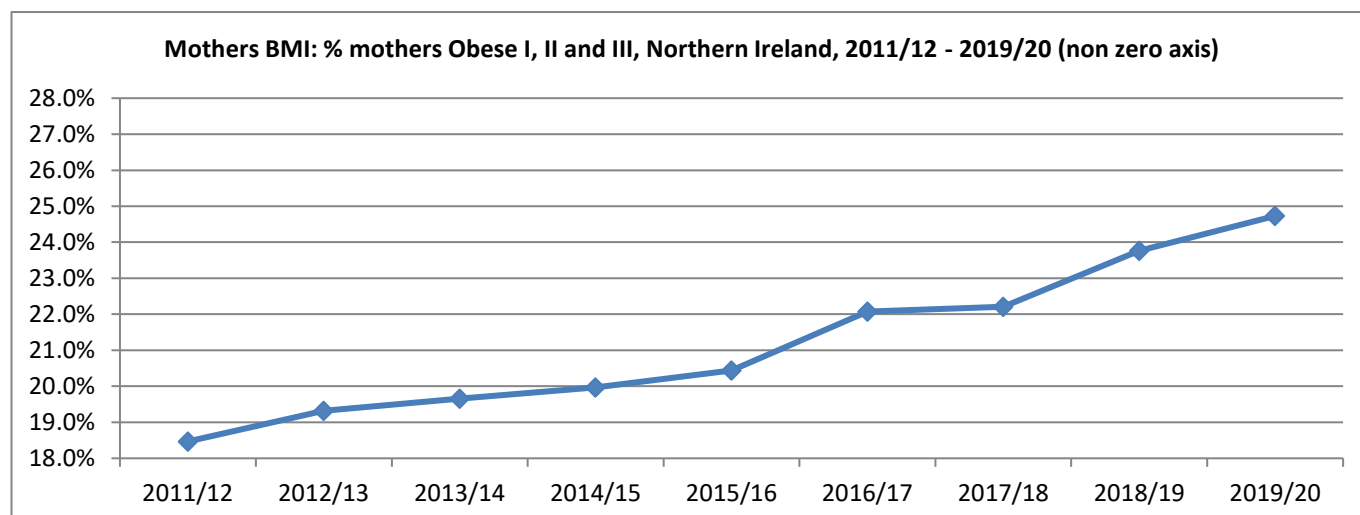
- Almost a quarter (24.7%) of mothers giving birth during 2019/20 were measured as obese at time of booking appointment (BMI = 30.00 or more). This proportion has increased year on year since 2011/12. [Page 38]
- In 2019/20, over half (55.2%) of mothers at the time of booking, were considered pre-obese or obese (BMI = 25.00 or more). Again this figure has increased continually since 2011/12 (47.8%). [Page 38]
- Levels of obesity in mothers, in general, increased with age e.g. in 2019/20, 37.5% of mothers aged less than twenty years were considered pre-obese/obese, compared to 63.9% of mothers aged 40 and over. [Page 39]
- Levels of obesity decreased as level of deprivation decreased (NIMDM 2017). In 2019/20, 58.1% of mothers from the most deprived areas were classified as pre-obese/obese, compared to 49.8% from the least deprived areas (all mothers = 55.2%). [Page 40]

**Table 7.1: Body Mass Index, at time of booking, of mothers resident in Northern Ireland who gave birth, 2011/12 - 2019/20**

Year of birth		Mothers by BMI at booking							Total	Total: Obese I, II and III
		Underweight (<18.50)	Normal (18.50 - 24.99)	Pre-obese (25.00 - 29.99)	Obese I (30.00 - 34.99)	Obese II (35.00 - 39.99)	Obese III (≥40.00)	Not known		
2011/12	n	487	11,540	6,753	2,733	1,032	489	947	<b>23,981</b>	<b>4,254</b>
	%	2.1%	50.1%	29.3%	11.9%	4.5%	2.1%	-	-	<b>18.5%</b>
2012/13	n	509	11,805	7,037	2,971	1,115	547	552	<b>24,536</b>	<b>4,633</b>
	%	2.1%	49.2%	29.3%	12.4%	4.6%	2.3%	-	-	<b>19.3%</b>
2013/14	n	470	11,430	6,950	2,923	1,174	515	368	<b>23,830</b>	<b>4,612</b>
	%	2.0%	48.7%	29.6%	12.5%	5.0%	2.2%	-	-	<b>19.7%</b>
2014/15	n	472	11,512	6,952	2,933	1,215	576	307	<b>23,967</b>	<b>4,724</b>
	%	2.0%	48.7%	29.4%	12.4%	5.1%	2.4%	-	-	<b>20.0%</b>
2015/16	n	472	11,216	7,178	2,970	1,271	605	331	<b>24,043</b>	<b>4,846</b>
	%	2.0%	47.3%	30.3%	12.5%	5.4%	2.6%	-	-	<b>20.4%</b>
2016/17	n	456	10,704	7,043	3,148	1,332	676	345	<b>23,704</b>	<b>5,156</b>
	%	2.0%	45.8%	30.2%	13.5%	5.7%	2.9%	-	-	<b>22.1%</b>
2017/18	n	435	10,213	6,776	3,028	1,351	595	307	<b>22,705</b>	<b>4,974</b>
	%	1.9%	45.6%	30.3%	13.5%	6.0%	2.7%	-	-	<b>22.2%</b>
2018/19	n	359	9,953	6,808	3,254	1,408	675	125	<b>22,582</b>	<b>5,337</b>
	%	1.6%	44.3%	30.3%	14.5%	6.3%	3.0%	-	-	<b>23.8%</b>
2019/20	n	382	9,463	6,682	3,345	1,416	669	127	<b>22,084</b>	<b>5,430</b>
	%	1.7%	43.1%	30.4%	15.2%	6.4%	3.0%	-	-	<b>24.7%</b>

Source: NIMATS

**Figure 7.1: % mothers Obese I, II and III, Northern Ireland, 2011/12 – 2019/20**



Source: NIMATS

**Table 7.2: Body Mass Index, at time of booking, of mothers resident in Northern Ireland who gave birth, 2019/20**

		Mothers by BMI at booking							Total	% obese I, II and III
		Under-weight (<18.50)	Normal (18.50 - 24.99)	Pre-obese (25.00 - 29.99)	Obese I (30.00 - 34.99)	Obese II (35.00 - 39.99)	Obese III (≥40.00)	Not known		
Age Group of mother	Under 20	<50	327	143	58	15	5	<10	<b>597</b>	13.2%
	20 - 24	104	1,213	736	409	181	73	18	<b>2,734</b>	24.4%
	25 - 29	104	2,338	1,635	902	429	198	37	<b>5,643</b>	27.3%
	30 - 34	93	3,378	2,404	1,155	469	212	37	<b>7,748</b>	23.8%
	35 - 39	36	1,862	1,395	658	268	149	23	<b>4,391</b>	24.6%
	40 +	<5	345	369	163	54	32	<5	<b>971</b>	25.7%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>24.7%</b>
Multiple births	Single	379	9,337	6,583	3,296	1,389	653	125	<b>21,762</b>	24.7%
	Multiple	3	126	99	49	27	16	2	<b>322</b>	28.8%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>24.7%</b>
Ethnic group of mother	White	359	9,098	6,423	3,220	1,377	657	119	<b>21,253</b>	24.9%
	Non-white	22	358	248	123	38	12	8	<b>809</b>	21.6%
	Not stated / Blank	1	7	11	2	1	0	0	<b>22</b>	13.6%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>24.7%</b>
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	41	970	757	364	189	84	2	<b>2,407</b>	26.5%
	Antrim	43	1,190	862	483	198	108	4	<b>2,888</b>	27.4%
	Causeway	24	438	281	109	42	<5	<10	<b>905</b>	<24.7%
	Craigavon	58	1,597	1,131	580	270	125	17	<b>3,778</b>	25.9%
	Daisy Hill	23	725	580	244	94	23	2	<b>1,691</b>	21.4%
	Down / Lagan Valley	<5	71	31	<10	0	0	<5	<b>114</b>	<24.7%
	Mater	7	162	117	27	0	0	1	<b>314</b>	8.6%
	Royal	88	1,989	1,404	742	305	185	23	<b>4,736</b>	26.1%
	SWAH	22	534	337	169	81	<30	<5	<b>1,170</b>	<24.7%
	Ulster	73	1,774	1,175	615	237	116	64	<b>4,054</b>	24.3%
	Home	<5	13	7	<10	0	0	<5	<b>27</b>	<24.7%
<b>All mothers</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	77	1,918	1,236	635	247	134	18	<b>4,265</b>	23.9%
	Northern	90	2,226	1,614	810	326	160	16	<b>5,242</b>	24.8%
	South Eastern	71	1,622	1,134	586	226	120	62	<b>3,821</b>	24.8%
	Southern	82	2,164	1,603	775	338	146	22	<b>5,130</b>	24.6%
	Western	62	1,533	1,095	539	279	109	9	<b>3,626</b>	25.6%
	<b>All mothers</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>22,084</b>	<b>24.7%</b>

**Table 7.2 continued: Body Mass Index, at time of booking, of mothers resident in Northern Ireland who gave birth, 2019/20**

		Mothers by BMI at booking							Total	% obese I, II and III
		Under-weight (<18.50)	Normal (18.50 - 24.99)	Pre-obese (25.00 - 29.99)	Obese I (30.00 - 34.99)	Obese II (35.00 - 39.99)	Obese III (≥40.00)	Not known		
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	30	691	495	265	105	51	5	<b>1,642</b>	25.7%
	Ards and North Down	32	631	434	241	99	47	7	<b>1,491</b>	26.1%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	47	1,134	825	426	176	87	16	<b>2,711</b>	25.6%
	Belfast	80	1,845	1,195	612	254	132	18	<b>4,136</b>	24.2%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	35	637	430	200	95	47	5	<b>1,449</b>	23.7%
	Derry City and Strabane	36	763	568	291	147	58	5	<b>1,868</b>	26.6%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	23	620	398	196	105	34	3	<b>1,379</b>	24.3%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	26	750	534	242	70	50	22	<b>1,694</b>	21.7%
	Mid and East Antrim	17	582	441	238	85	50	3	<b>1,416</b>	26.4%
	Mid Ulster	27	891	654	278	130	45	5	<b>2,030</b>	22.4%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	29	919	708	356	150	68	38	<b>2,268</b>	25.7%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>22,084</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	100	1,936	1,450	790	391	193	19	<b>4,879</b>	28.3%
	2	75	1,954	1,445	775	336	152	17	<b>4,754</b>	26.7%
	3	78	1,911	1,311	670	304	134	30	<b>4,438</b>	25.1%
	4	72	1,874	1,346	624	238	122	32	<b>4,308</b>	23.0%
	Least deprived	57	1,788	1,130	486	147	68	29	<b>3,705</b>	19.1%
		<b>All mothers</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>22,084</b>

Source: NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

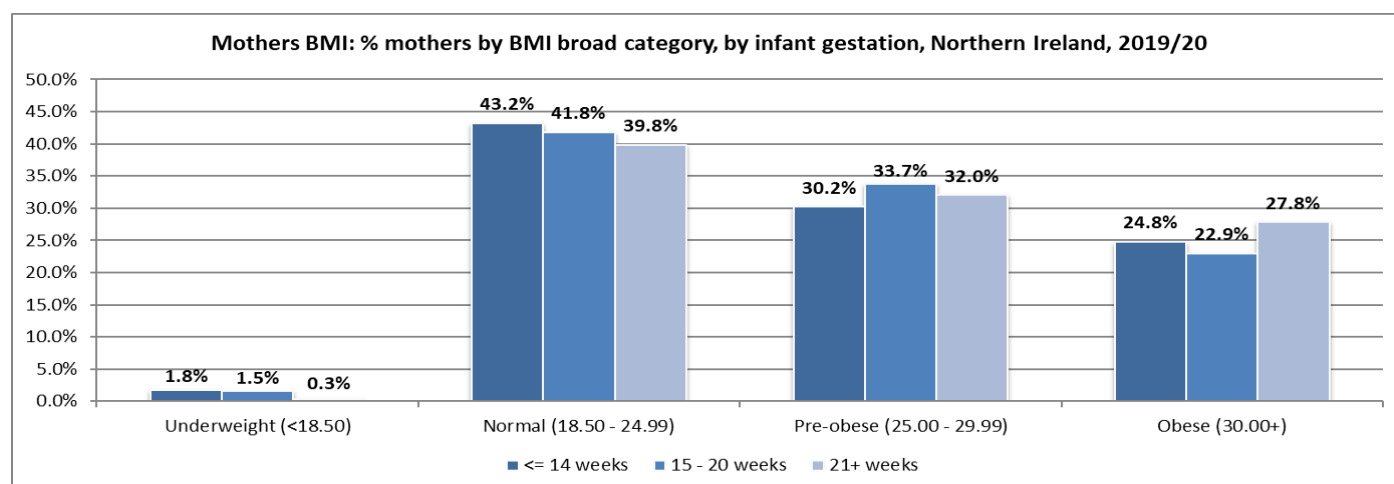
<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Due to small numbers, it is not possible to show data by individual ethnic group

Disclosure controls have been applied to this table. As a result, for some places of birth, it is not possible to show the exact percentage values in the final column and so a comparison to the NI value has been provided. There were 3 births recorded in Downe Hospital during 2020/21 – disclosure controls have been applied by combining data for Downe and Lagan Valley Hospitals.



**Figure 7.2: % mothers by BMI category, by infant gestation, Northern Ireland, 2019/20**



The data from Table 5.2 [Page 34] shows that younger women are more likely to attend for their antenatal booking appointment later in their pregnancy. Women under 20 years tend to be less overweight/obese and this can confuse the picture.

Table 7.3 below looks at women who attend antenatal booking, in under 15 weeks only, across a range of risk factors and outcomes by maternal weight at booking.

**Table 7.3: Body Mass Index, at time of booking, of mothers resident in Northern Ireland, who booked at ≤14 weeks gestation, by various risk factors/outcomes, 2015/16 - 2019/20**

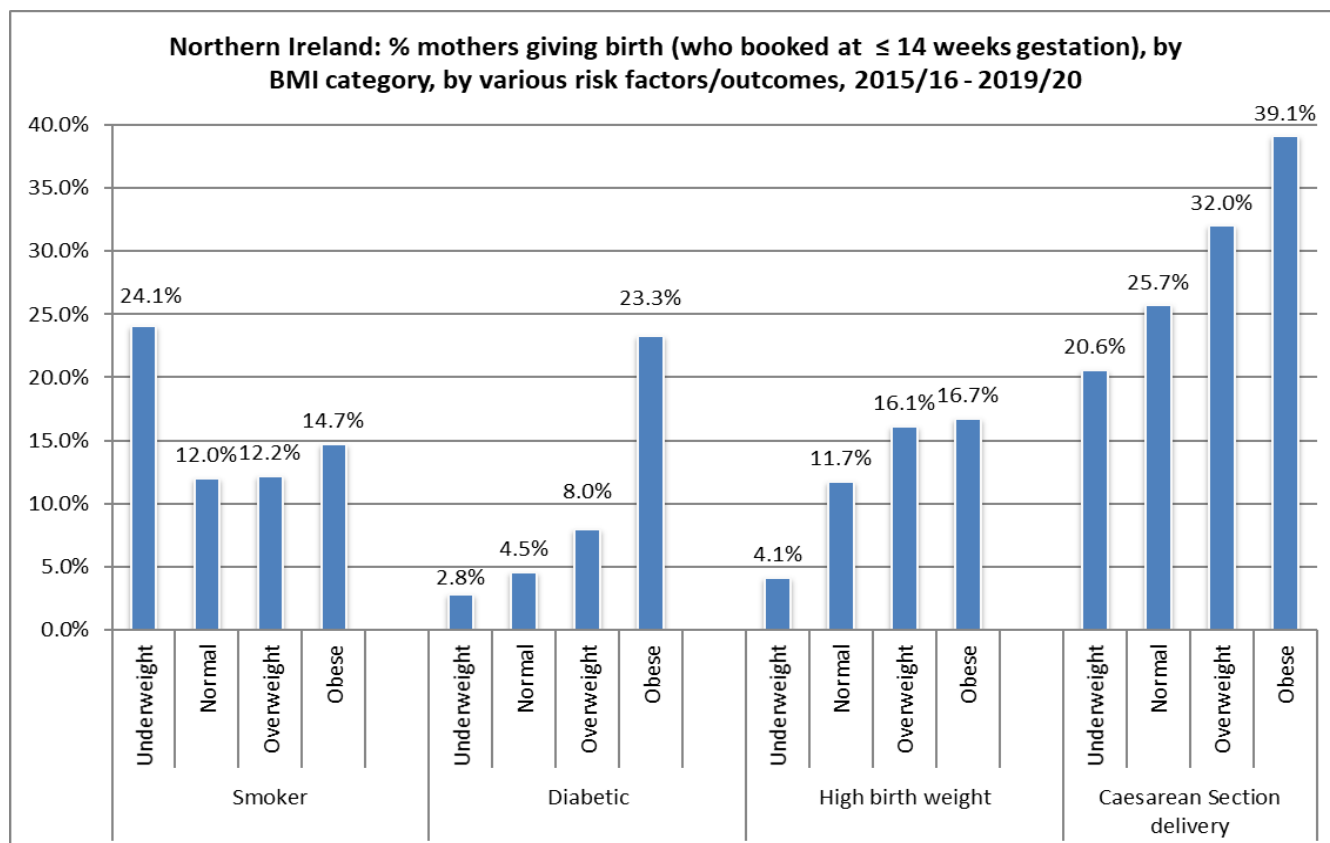
Risk factor/outcome (blanks/not knowns removed except diabetes)		No. of mothers	Mother's BMI at booking (% of BMI category)					TOTAL
			Underweight (<18.50)	Normal (18.50 - 24.99)	Overweight (25.00 - 29.99)	Obese (≥30.00)	Not known	
Birth weight	Low birth weight (<2,500g)	6,330	12.5%	5.6%	4.8%	5.1%	12.3%	5.5%
	2500 - 3999g	92,580	83.4%	82.7%	79.0%	78.2%	73.8%	80.5%
	High birth weight (> 4000g)	16,128	4.1%	11.7%	16.1%	16.7%	13.9%	14.0%
	<b>Total mothers</b>	<b>115,038</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delivery method	Elective Caesarean	18,205	9.7%	13.3%	16.3%	20.8%	10.9%	15.8%
	Emergency Caesarean	16,918	10.9%	12.4%	15.7%	18.3%	15.1%	14.7%
	Normal	66,345	64.5%	60.5%	56.6%	52.2%	65.6%	57.6%
	Other	13,661	14.8%	13.8%	11.3%	8.7%	8.5%	11.9%
	<b>Total mothers</b>	<b>115,129</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gestation at delivery (completed weeks)	<28 weeks	490	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	3.2%	0.4%
	28 - 31 weeks	743	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	1.9%	0.6%
	32 - 36 weeks	6,786	9.6%	5.6%	5.7%	6.3%	9.7%	5.9%
	37 - 38 weeks	25,042	24.1%	20.1%	20.5%	26.4%	22.5%	21.8%
	39+ weeks	82,068	64.9%	73.3%	72.8%	66.2%	62.6%	71.3%
	<b>Total mothers</b>	<b>115,129</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Breastfeeding (live)	Total	42,848	35.0%	43.8%	36.9%	26.3%	39.0%	37.6%
	Partial	11,970	8.3%	9.8%	10.9%	11.5%	10.3%	10.5%
	Not at all	58,807	56.5%	46.1%	52.0%	62.0%	49.8%	51.7%
	Other	230	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.9%	0.2%
	<b>Total mothers</b>	<b>113,855</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smoker (recorded at booking)	Yes	13,692	24.1%	12.0%	12.2%	14.7%	11.0%	12.9%
	No	92,774	75.9%	88.0%	87.8%	85.3%	89.0%	87.1%
	<b>Total mothers</b>	<b>106,466</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes	Yes	10,421	2.8%	4.5%	8.0%	23.3%	9.4%	9.8%
	Not known	96,255	97.2%	95.5%	92.0%	76.7%	90.6%	90.2%
	<b>Total mothers</b>	<b>106,676</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: NIMATS

Data above refers to mothers giving birth between 2015/16 and 2019/20

The percentage of mothers is shown as a valid percentage (except for diabetes) i.e. the % calculation is based on those records where data has been completed - blanks or unknowns have been removed from the denominator value

**Figure 7.3: % mothers giving birth (who booked at ≤ 14 weeks gestation), by BMI category, by various risk factors/outcomes, Northern Ireland, 2015/16 - 2019/20**



# Section 8: Method of Delivery

## Key Points

- In 2019/20, 32.9% of infants were delivered by Caesarian section (2018/19=31.2%, 2017/18=31.0%, 2016/17=30.5%). [Page 43]
- In 2019/20, the proportion of infants born by Caesarian increased with age of mother, from 19.7% of those aged less than 20 years to 52.3% of those aged over 40 years. Whilst mothers under 30 years of age had a higher percentage of births by emergency Caesarian section (16.2%) than by elective Caesarian section (10.4%), the opposite is seen when the mother is over 30 years of age where 21.5% of births are by elective Caesarian section and 15.7% are by emergency Caesarian section. [Page 44]
- In 2019/20, of those hospitals providing Caesarean Sections, the proportion of infants born by this method, ranged from 27.6% in South West Acute Hospital to 37.5% in Daisy Hill Hospital. (All infants = 32.9%). The proportion of infants born by Caesarian has increased across all hospitals except South West Acute on the previous year 2018/19. [Page 45]

**Table 8.1: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by method of delivery, 2010/11 - 2019/20**

Year of birth		Infants born by method of delivery						Total	Infants born by Caesarean Section
		Elective C/S	Emergency C/S	C/S Other	Normal	Other	Not known		
2010/11	n	3,614	3,518	16	14,318	3,313	880	<b>25,659</b>	<b>7,148</b>
	%	14.6%	14.2%	0.1%	57.8%	13.4%	-	-	<b>28.8%</b>
2011/12	n	3,614	3,509	0	14,291	3,744	151	<b>25,309</b>	<b>7,123</b>
	%	14.4%	13.9%	0.0%	56.8%	14.9%	-	-	<b>28.3%</b>
2012/13	n	3,785	3,610	0	13,902	3,574	157	<b>25,028</b>	<b>7,395</b>
	%	15.2%	14.5%	0.0%	55.9%	14.4%	-	-	<b>29.7%</b>
2013/14	n	3,475	3,484	0	13,778	3,393	147	<b>24,277</b>	<b>6,959</b>
	%	14.4%	14.4%	0.0%	57.1%	14.1%	-	-	<b>28.8%</b>
2014/15	n	3,473	3,550	0	13,754	3,525	98	<b>24,400</b>	<b>7,023</b>
	%	14.3%	14.6%	0.0%	56.6%	14.5%	-	-	<b>28.9%</b>
2015/16	n	3,742	3,492	0	13,832	3,262	108	<b>24,436</b>	<b>7,234</b>
	%	15.4%	14.4%	0.0%	56.9%	13.4%	-	-	<b>29.7%</b>
2016/17	n	3,832	3,480	0	13,527	3,130	110	<b>24,079</b>	<b>7,312</b>
	%	16.0%	14.5%	0.0%	56.4%	13.1%	-	-	<b>30.5%</b>
2017/18	n	3,677	3,458	0	13,144	2,766	0	<b>23,045</b>	<b>7,135</b>
	%	16.0%	15.0%	0.0%	57.0%	12.0%	-	-	<b>31.0%</b>
2018/19	n	3,701	3,454	0	13,014	2,788	0	<b>22,957</b>	<b>7,155</b>
	%	16.1%	15.0%	0.0%	56.7%	12.1%	-	-	<b>31.2%</b>
2019/20	n	3,808	3,562	0	12,430	2,610	0	<b>22,410</b>	<b>7,370</b>
	%	17.0%	15.9%	0.0%	55.5%	11.6%	-	-	<b>32.9%</b>

Source: Child Health System (2010/11 - 2016/17), NIMATS (2017/18 onwards)

Following a change in the interface between NIMATS and CHS during 2017/18, fields containing information on method of delivery, which had usually transferred from NIMATS to CHS are not now available on CHS. As a result, the data must be sourced from NIMATS. The data from both sources were analysed and the impact of changing the source of the data was considered minimal.

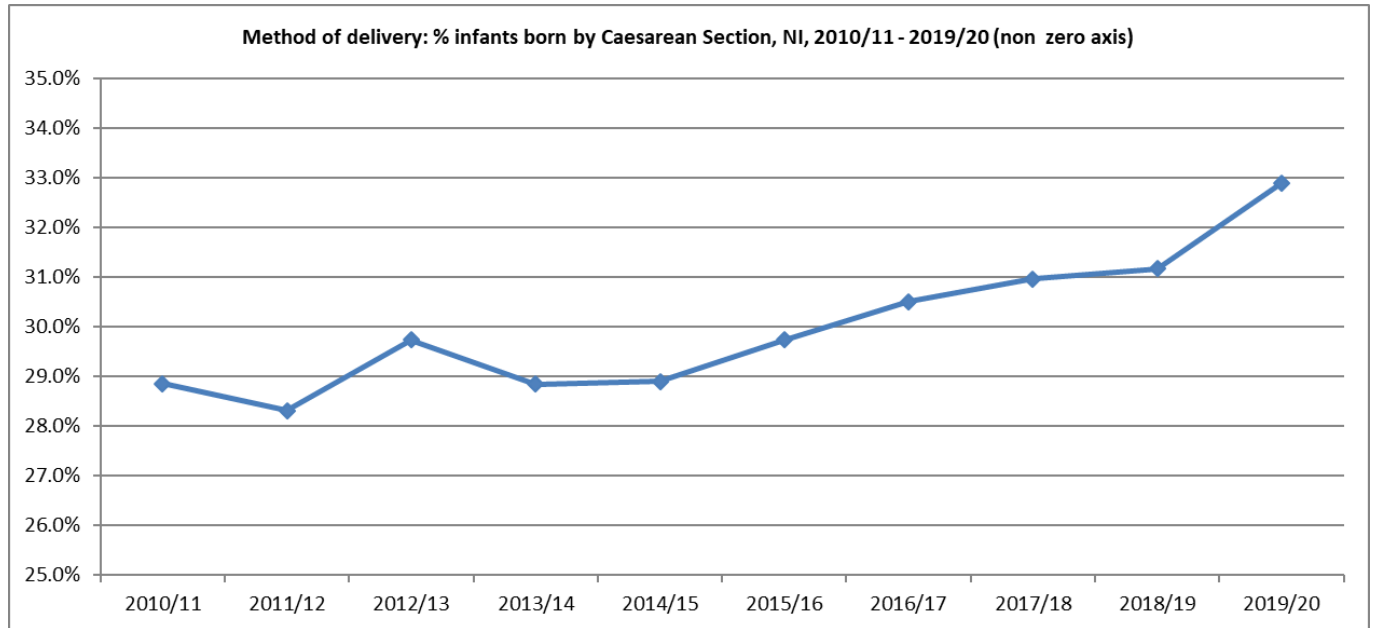
Method of delivery – categories used (CHS)

- Normal: normal vertex
- Elective Caesarean: elective, planned or scheduled Caesarean
- Emergency Caesarean: crash, emergency or urgent Caesarean
- Other: assisted breech, breech delivery, breech extraction, forceps (low), forceps (other), other cephalic, spontaneous breech or vacuum

Method of delivery – categories used (NIMATS)

- Normal: normal face to pubis or normal occiput anterior
- Elective Caesarean
- Emergency Caesarean
- Other: assisted breech, Barnes-Neville forceps, breech extraction, Haig-Ferguson forceps, Kielland's forceps, spontaneous breech, vacuum extraction or Wrigley's forceps

**Figure 8.1: % infants born by Caesarean Section, Northern Ireland, 2010/11 – 2019/20**



**Table 8.2: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by method of delivery, 2019/20**

		Infants born by method of delivery						% infants born by Caesarean Section
		Elective C/S	Emergency C/S	Normal	Other	Not known	Total	
Age Group of mother	Under 20	19	99	394	88	0	600	19.7%
	20 - 24	202	455	1,735	369	0	2,761	23.8%
	25 - 29	719	910	3,340	733	0	5,702	28.6%
	30 - 34	1,455	1,220	4,303	888	0	7,866	34.0%
	35 - 39	1,083	686	2,275	439	0	4,483	39.5%
	40 +	330	192	383	93	0	998	52.3%
	Not known	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>32.9%</b>
Multiple births	Single	3,547	3,363	12,340	2,512	0	21,762	31.8%
	Multiple	261	199	90	98	0	648	71.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>32.9%</b>
First time mothers	First time mother	546	1,766	3,140	1,594	0	7,046	32.8%
	Not a first time mother	3,262	1,796	9,290	1,016	0	15,364	32.9%
	Not known	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>32.9%</b>
Ethnic group of mother	White	3,671	3,427	11,955	2,517	0	21,570	32.9%
	Asian	36	39	120	28	0	223	33.6%
	Black	19	31	99	15	0	164	30.5%
	Mixed	27	13	61	9	0	110	36.4%
	Other	47	47	188	38	0	320	29.4%
	Not stated / Blank	8	5	7	3	0	23	56.5%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>32.9%</b>
Ethnic group of infant	White	3,632	3,383	11,803	2,496	0	21,314	32.9%
	Asian	22	30	92	24	0	168	31.0%
	Black	19	26	81	10	0	136	33.1%
	Mixed	85	66	232	40	0	423	35.7%
	Other	50	54	217	39	0	360	28.9%
	Not stated / Blank	0	3	5	1	0	9	33.3%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>32.9%</b>

**Table 8.2 continued: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by method of delivery, 2019/20**

		Infants born by method of delivery						% infants born by Caesarean Section
		Elective C/S	Emergency C/S	Normal	Other	Not known	Total	
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	447	449	1,239	318	0	<b>2,453</b>	36.5%
	Antrim	569	490	1,622	263	0	<b>2,944</b>	36.0%
	Causeway	139	141	538	88	0	<b>906</b>	30.9%
	Craigavon	710	586	2,076	452	0	<b>3,824</b>	33.9%
	Daisy Hill	334	307	909	160	0	<b>1,710</b>	37.5%
	Downe / Lagan Valley	0	0	114	0	0	<b>114</b>	0.0%
	Mater	0	0	314	0	0	<b>314</b>	0.0%
	Royal	703	781	2,669	671	0	<b>4,824</b>	30.8%
	SWAH	183	143	666	189	0	<b>1,181</b>	27.6%
	Ulster	723	665	2,256	469	0	<b>4,113</b>	33.7%
	Home	0	0	27	0	0	<b>27</b>	0.0%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	588	714	2,503	534	0	<b>4,339</b>	30.0%
	Northern	933	822	3,032	530	0	<b>5,317</b>	33.0%
	South Eastern	664	598	2,164	460	0	<b>3,886</b>	32.5%
	Southern	981	839	2,797	574	0	<b>5,191</b>	35.1%
	Western	642	589	1,934	512	0	<b>3,677</b>	33.5%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	262	254	974	176	0	<b>1,666</b>	31.0%
	Ards and North Down	288	241	824	162	0	<b>1,515</b>	34.9%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	506	423	1,505	311	0	<b>2,745</b>	33.8%
	Belfast	539	682	2,458	525	0	<b>4,204</b>	29.0%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	268	232	822	144	0	<b>1,466</b>	34.1%
	Derry City and Strabane	337	332	952	274	0	<b>1,895</b>	35.3%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	237	191	768	203	0	<b>1,399</b>	30.6%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	270	279	953	222	0	<b>1,724</b>	31.8%
	Mid and East Antrim	257	227	817	135	0	<b>1,436</b>	33.7%
	Mid Ulster	370	301	1,164	223	0	<b>2,058</b>	32.6%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	474	400	1,193	235	0	<b>2,302</b>	38.0%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	740	773	2,845	596	0	<b>4,954</b>	30.5%
	2	815	748	2,730	528	0	<b>4,821</b>	32.4%
	3	804	718	2,464	514	0	<b>4,500</b>	33.8%
	4	786	720	2,370	492	0	<b>4,368</b>	34.5%
	Least deprived	663	603	2,021	480	0	<b>3,767</b>	33.6%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>3,808</b>	<b>3,562</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>

Source: NIMATS

Method of delivery – categories used

- Normal: normal face to pubis or normal occiput anterior
- Elective Caesarean
- Emergency Caesarean
- Other: assisted breech, Barnes-Neville forceps, breech extraction, Kielland's forceps, spontaneous breech, vacuum extraction or Wrigley's forceps

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

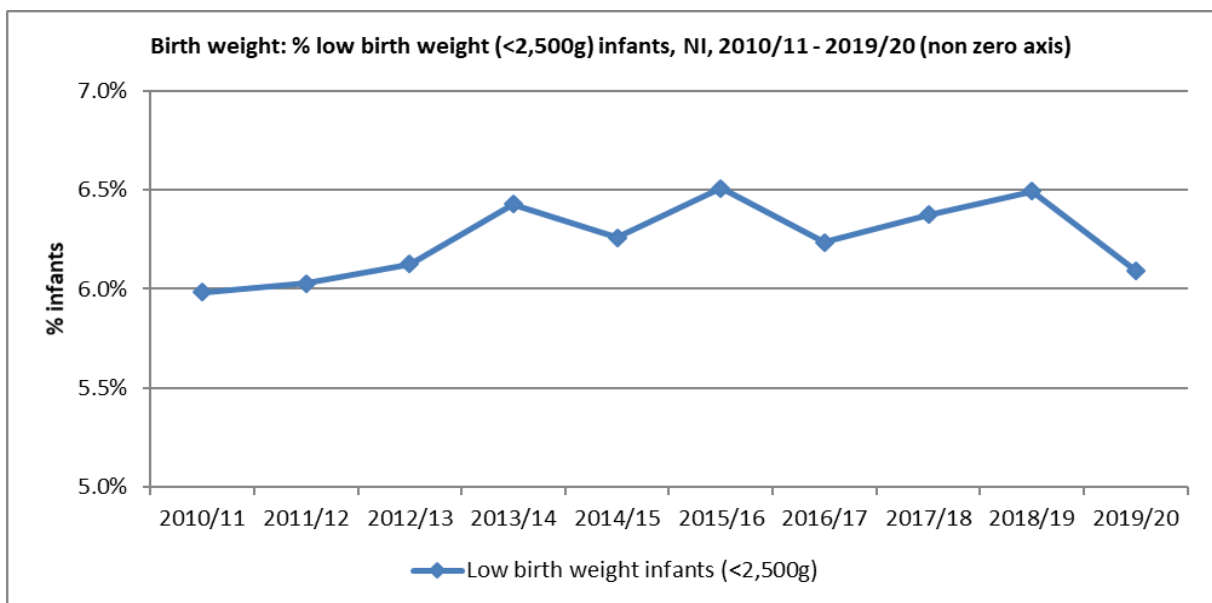
Disclosure controls have been applied to the data. There were 3 births recorded in Downe Hospital during 2020/21 – disclosure controls have been applied by combining data for Downe and Lagan Valley Hospitals.

# Section 9: Infant Birth Weight

## Key Points

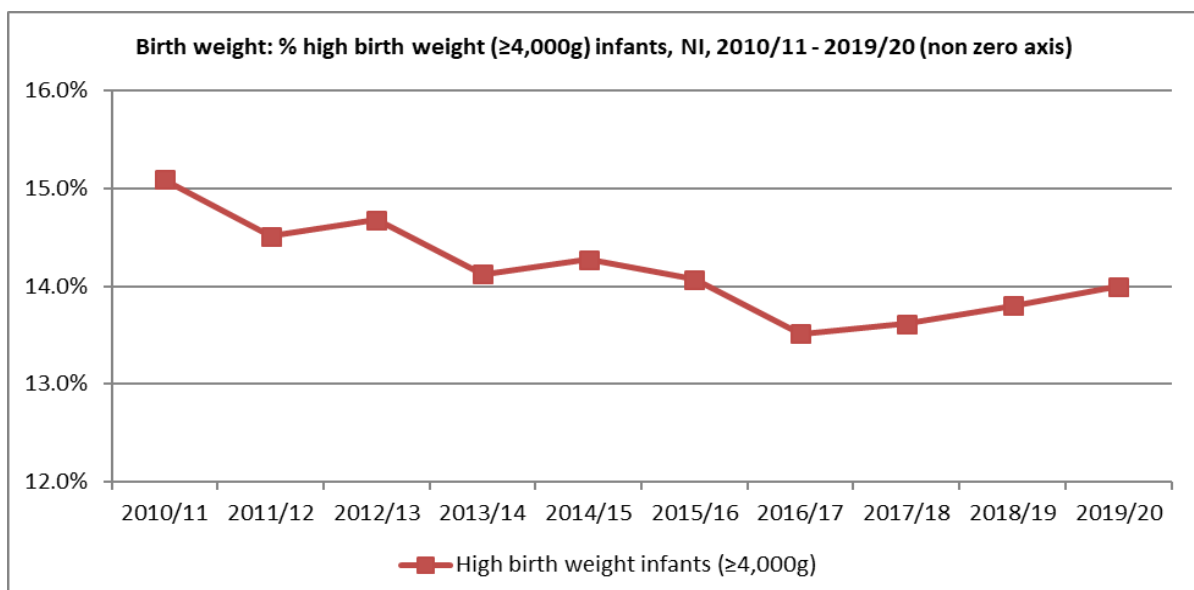
- In 2019/20, 6.1% of all births were measured as low birth weight i.e. less than 2,500g (5.9% of live and 68.6% of still births). 14.0% of live infants were born with a higher birth weight of 4,000g+ and, of these, 1.8% with a birth weight of 4,500g+. [Page 48, 47]
- A higher proportion (14.3%) of mothers in 2019/20 who were of a white ethnic group had infants with a higher birth weight ( $\geq 4,000\text{g}$ ) than those of a non-white ethnic group (7.2%). [Page 48]
- The proportion of low birth weight infants born to mothers residing in the most deprived areas (NIMDM 2017) in 2019/20 was higher at 7.9% than to mothers from least deprived areas (5.4%). [Page 49]

**Figure 9.1: Percentage low birth weight infants, Northern Ireland, 2010/11 – 2019/20**



Source: Child Health System

**Figure 9.2: Percentage high birth weight infants, Northern Ireland, 2010/11 – 2019/20**



Source: Child Health System

**Table 9.1: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by birth weight, 2010/11 - 2019/20**

Year of birth		Infants born by birth weight							Low birth weight infants (<2,500g)	High birth weight infants (≥4,000g)	High birth weight infants (≥4,500g)
		LIVE BIRTHS									
		< 1,500g	1,500 - 2,499g	2,500 - 3,999g	4,000 - 4,499g	4,500+g	Not known	Total			
2010/11	n	251	1,220	20,190	3,245	621	29	<b>25,556</b>	1,471	3,866	621
	%	1.0%	4.8%	79.1%	12.7%	2.4%	-	-	5.76%	15.14%	2.43%
2011/12	n	247	1,218	20,062	3,075	590	28	<b>25,220</b>	1,465	3,665	590
	%	1.0%	4.8%	79.6%	12.2%	2.3%	-	-	5.82%	14.55%	2.34%
2012/13	n	229	1,225	19,767	3,118	548	24	<b>24,911</b>	1,454	3,666	548
	%	0.9%	4.9%	79.4%	12.5%	2.2%	-	-	5.84%	14.73%	2.20%
2013/14	n	243	1,241	19,238	2,942	480	25	<b>24,169</b>	1,484	3,422	480
	%	1.0%	5.1%	79.7%	12.2%	2.0%	-	-	6.15%	14.17%	1.99%
2014/15	n	238	1,221	19,341	2,997	477	35	<b>24,309</b>	1,459	3,474	477
	%	1.0%	5.0%	79.7%	12.3%	2.0%	-	-	6.01%	14.31%	1.97%
2015/16	n	206	1,327	19,333	2,923	504	55	<b>24,348</b>	1,533	3,427	504
	%	0.8%	5.5%	79.6%	12.0%	2.1%	-	-	6.31%	14.11%	2.07%
2016/17	n	239	1,208	19,261	2,764	484	21	<b>23,977</b>	1,447	3,248	484
	%	1.0%	5.0%	80.4%	11.5%	2.0%	-	-	6.04%	13.56%	2.02%
2017/18	n	208	1,187	18,361	2,711	416	20	<b>22,903</b>	1,395	3,127	416
	%	0.9%	5.2%	80.2%	11.8%	1.8%	-	-	6.10%	13.67%	1.82%
2018/19	n	221	1,221	18,226	2,753	404	14	<b>22,839</b>	1,442	3,157	404
	%	1.0%	5.3%	79.9%	12.1%	1.8%	-	-	6.32%	13.83%	1.77%
2019/20	n	193	1,121	17,839	2,735	391	12	<b>22,291</b>	1,314	3,126	391
	%	0.9%	5.0%	80.1%	12.3%	1.8%	-	-	5.90%	14.03%	1.76%

Year of birth		Infants born by birth weight					Low birth weight infants (<2,500g)
		STILL BIRTHS					
		< 1,500g	1,500 - 2,499g	2,500+g	Not known	Total	
2010/11	n	38	24	38	3	<b>103</b>	<b>62</b>
	%	38.0%	24.0%	38.0%	-	-	<b>62.00%</b>
2011/12	n	34	25	29	1	<b>89</b>	<b>59</b>
	%	38.6%	28.4%	33.0%	-	-	<b>67.05%</b>
2012/13	n	53	25	39	0	<b>117</b>	<b>78</b>
	%	45.3%	21.4%	33.3%	-	-	<b>66.67%</b>
2013/14	n	50	25	32	1	<b>108</b>	<b>75</b>
	%	46.7%	23.4%	29.9%	-	-	<b>70.09%</b>
2014/15	n	43	23	24	1	<b>91</b>	<b>66</b>
	%	47.8%	25.6%	26.7%	-	-	<b>73.33%</b>
2015/16	n	33	20	29	6	<b>88</b>	<b>53</b>
	%	40.2%	24.4%	35.4%	-	-	<b>64.63%</b>
2016/17	n	43	10	43	6	<b>102</b>	<b>53</b>
	%	44.8%	10.4%	44.8%	-	-	<b>55.21%</b>
2017/18	n	46	24	31	0	<b>101</b>	<b>70</b>
	%	45.5%	23.8%	30.7%	-	-	<b>69.31%</b>
2018/19	n	28	17	30	1	<b>76</b>	<b>45</b>
	%	37.3%	22.7%	40.0%	-	-	<b>60.00%</b>
2019/20	n	35	13	22	1	<b>71</b>	<b>48</b>
	%	50.0%	18.6%	31.4%	-	-	<b>68.57%</b>

Source: Child Health System

The number of infants with a birth weight above 4,000g was too small to show separately

**Table 9.1 continued: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by birth weight, 2010/11 - 2019/20**

Year of birth	Infants born by birth weight							Low birth weight infants (<2,500g)	High birth weight infants (≥4,000g)	High birth weight infants (≥4,500g)	
	ALL BIRTHS										
	< 1,500g	1,500 - 2,499g	2,500 - 3,999g	4,000 - 4,499g	4,500+ g	Not known	Total				
2010/11	n	289	1,244	20,227	3,246	621	32	<b>25,659</b>	1,533	3,867	621
	%	1.1%	4.9%	78.9%	12.7%	2.4%	-	-	5.98%	15.09%	2.42%
2011/12	n	281	1,243	20,087	3,077	592	29	<b>25,309</b>	1,524	3,669	592
	%	1.1%	4.9%	79.5%	12.2%	2.3%	-	-	6.03%	14.51%	2.34%
2012/13	n	282	1,250	19,801	3,123	548	24	<b>25,028</b>	1,532	3,671	548
	%	1.1%	5.0%	79.2%	12.5%	2.2%	-	-	6.13%	14.68%	2.19%
2013/14	n	293	1,266	19,267	2,944	481	26	<b>24,277</b>	1,559	3,425	481
	%	1.2%	5.2%	79.4%	12.1%	2.0%	-	-	6.43%	14.12%	1.98%
2014/15	n	281	1,244	19,362	2,999	478	36	<b>24,400</b>	1,525	3,477	478
	%	1.2%	5.1%	79.5%	12.3%	2.0%	-	-	6.26%	14.27%	1.96%
2015/16	n	239	1,347	19,360	2,925	504	61	<b>24,436</b>	1,586	3,429	504
	%	1.0%	5.5%	79.4%	12.0%	2.1%	-	-	6.51%	14.07%	2.07%
2016/17	n	282	1,218	19,302	2,765	485	27	<b>24,079</b>	1,500	3,250	485
	%	1.2%	5.1%	80.3%	11.5%	2.0%	-	-	6.24%	13.51%	2.02%
2017/18	n	254	1,211	18,389	2,713	417	20	<b>23,004</b>	1,465	3,130	417
	%	1.1%	5.3%	80.0%	11.8%	1.8%	-	-	6.37%	13.62%	1.81%
2018/19	n	249	1,238	18,252	2,757	404	15	<b>22,915</b>	1,487	3,161	404
	%	1.1%	5.4%	79.7%	12.0%	1.8%	-	-	6.49%	13.80%	1.76%
2019/20	n	228	1,134	17,858	2,737	392	13	<b>22,362</b>	1,362	3,129	392
	%	1.0%	5.1%	79.9%	12.2%	1.8%	-	-	6.09%	14.00%	1.75%

Source: Child Health System

**Table 9.2: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by birth weight, 2019/20**

		Infants born by birth weight						% low birth weight infants (<2,500g)	% high birth weight infants (≥4,000g)
		< 1,500g	1,500 - 2,499g	2,500 - 3,999g	4,000 +g	Not known	Total		
Age Group of mother	Under 20	15	39	501	49	0	<b>604</b>	8.94%	8.11%
	20 - 24	25	174	2,249	310	1	<b>2,759</b>	7.22%	11.24%
	25 - 29	52	255	4,611	784	3	<b>5,705</b>	5.38%	13.75%
	30 - 34	65	348	6,245	1,185	5	<b>7,848</b>	5.27%	15.11%
	35 - 39	59	242	3,461	686	2	<b>4,450</b>	6.77%	15.42%
	40 +	9	75	790	115	1	<b>990</b>	8.49%	11.63%
	Not known	3	1	1	0	1	<b>6</b>	80.00%	0.00%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>17,858</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>6.09%</b>	<b>14.00%</b>
Multiple births	Single	176	853	17,541	3,128	12	<b>21,710</b>	4.74%	14.42%
	Multiple	52	281	317	1	1	<b>652</b>	51.15%	0.15%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>17,858</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>6.09%</b>	<b>14.00%</b>
Ethnic group of mother (NIMATS)	White	214	1,090	17,185	3,077	4	<b>21,570</b>	6.05%	14.27%
	Non-white	9	47	701	59	1	<b>817</b>	6.86%	7.23%
	Not stated / Blank	0	2	18	3	0	<b>23</b>	8.70%	13.04%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>17,904</b>	<b>3,139</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,410</b>	<b>6.08%</b>	<b>14.01%</b>
Ethnic group of infant (CHS)	White	209	1,070	16,922	3,030	9	<b>21,240</b>	6.02%	14.27%
	Non-white	15	59	909	99	2	<b>1,084</b>	6.84%	9.15%
	Not stated / Blank	4	5	27	0	2	<b>38</b>	25.00%	0.00%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>17,858</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>6.09%</b>	<b>14.00%</b>



**Table 9.2 continued: Births to Northern Ireland residents, by birth weight, 2019/20**

		Infants born by birth weight						% low birth weight infants (<2,500g)	% high birth weight infants (≥4,000g)
		< 1,500g	1,500 - 2,499g	2,500 - 3,999g	4,000 +g	Not known	Total		
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	25	170	1,917	300	0	<b>2,412</b>	8.08%	12.44%
	Antrim	20	170	2,340	414	1	<b>2,945</b>	6.45%	14.06%
	Causeway	0	18	750	137	0	<b>905</b>	1.99%	15.14%
	Craigavon	35	192	3,082	514	4	<b>3,827</b>	5.94%	13.44%
	Daisy Hill	<5	<80	1,312	324	0	<b>1,712</b>	<6.09%	18.93%
	Downe	0	0	<5	<5	0	<b>5</b>	0.00%	>14.00%
	Lagan Valley	0	<5	91	<20	1	<b>111</b>	<6.09%	>14.00%
	Mater	0	0	245	63	0	<b>308</b>	0.00%	20.45%
	Royal	95	261	3,896	575	2	<b>4,829</b>	7.38%	11.91%
	SWAH	<5	<40	933	192	0	<b>1,161</b>	<6.09%	16.54%
	Ulster	39	216	3,268	590	3	<b>4,116</b>	6.20%	14.34%
	Home/Other	6	<5	<30	0	2	<b>31</b>	>6.09%	0.00%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>17,858</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>6.09%</b>
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	62	247	3,502	513	4	<b>4,328</b>	7.15%	11.86%
	Northern	36	240	4,264	787	2	<b>5,329</b>	5.18%	14.77%
	South Eastern	51	210	3,068	561	1	<b>3,891</b>	6.71%	14.42%
	Southern	41	243	4,136	782	5	<b>5,207</b>	5.46%	15.03%
	Western	38	194	2,888	486	1	<b>3,607</b>	6.43%	13.48%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>17,858</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>6.09%</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	21	71	1,332	246	2	<b>1,672</b>	5.51%	14.73%
	Ards and North Down	21	98	1,186	216	0	<b>1,521</b>	7.82%	14.20%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	26	131	2,220	374	4	<b>2,755</b>	5.71%	13.60%
	Belfast	66	235	3,387	492	4	<b>4,184</b>	7.20%	11.77%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	<5	<70	1,196	205	0	<b>1,471</b>	<6.09%	13.94%
	Derry City and Strabane	20	114	1,487	228	0	<b>1,849</b>	7.25%	12.33%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	<20	<60	1,099	205	1	<b>1,371</b>	<6.09%	14.96%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	19	80	1,398	238	0	<b>1,735</b>	5.71%	13.72%
	Mid and East Antrim	8	90	1,149	193	0	<b>1,440</b>	6.81%	13.40%
	Mid Ulster	13	81	1,638	330	1	<b>2,063</b>	4.56%	16.00%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	15	117	1,766	402	1	<b>2,301</b>	5.74%	17.48%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>17,858</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>6.09%</b>	<b>14.00%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	66	317	3,957	515	3	<b>4,858</b>	7.89%	10.61%
	2	47	261	3,763	727	2	<b>4,800</b>	6.42%	15.15%
	3	45	205	3,629	649	5	<b>4,533</b>	5.52%	14.33%
	4	28	189	3,497	672	1	<b>4,387</b>	4.95%	15.32%
	Least deprived	42	162	3,012	566	2	<b>3,784</b>	5.39%	14.97%
		<b>All infants</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>17,858</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22,362</b>	<b>6.09%</b>

Source: Child Health System and NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

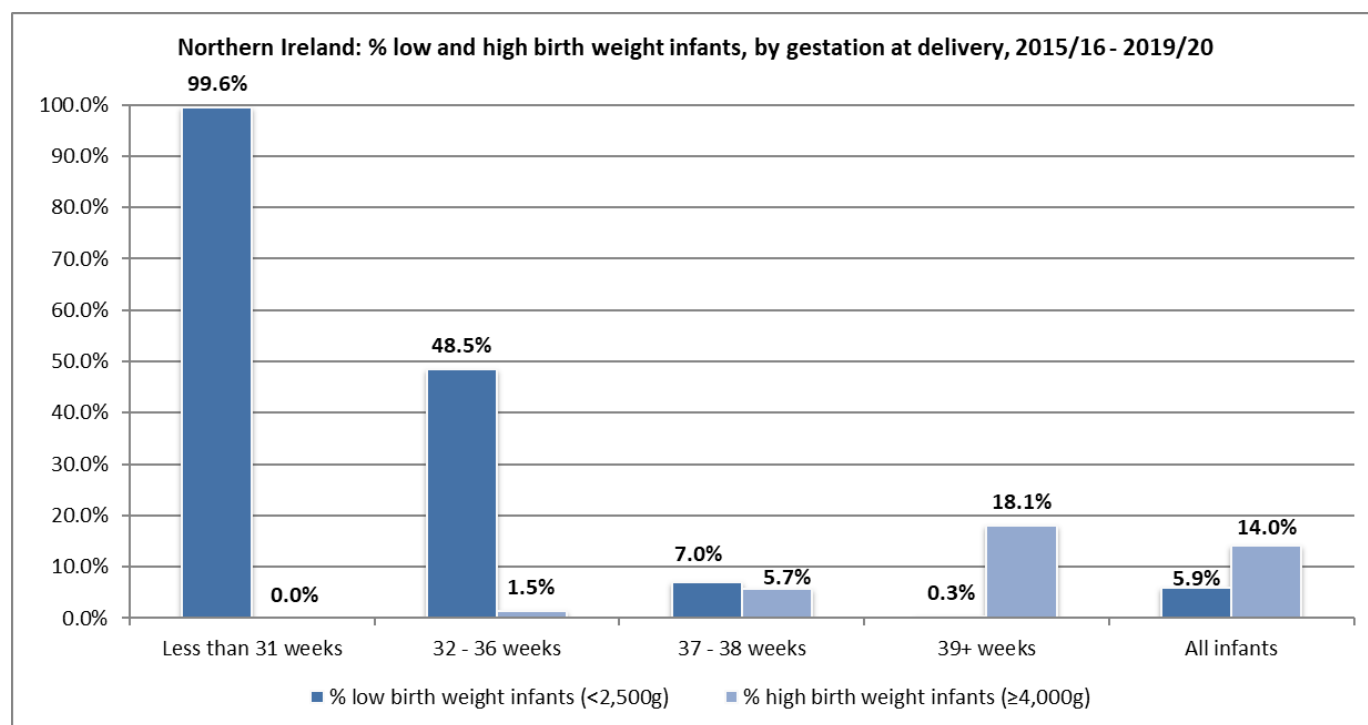
Due to small numbers, it is not possible to show data by individual ethnic group

Disclosure controls have been applied to this table

For reasons of disclosure control and small numbers, birthweights over 4,000g have been grouped

Ethnic group of mother is not available from CHS, therefore data from NIMATS has been provided. However, data by ethnic group will differ between the two systems

**Figure 9.3: Percentage low and high birth weight infants, gestation at delivery, Northern Ireland, 2015/16 – 2019/20**



Source: NIMATS

# Section 10: Breastfeeding

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## Key Points

- **Please note that recording of breastfeeding data may not be complete. In any year, there will be some records where the breastfeeding status is not known. As a result, percentage breastfeeding is calculated as a valid percentage. The calculation is based on those records where feeding status was known i.e. blank data has been removed from the denominator value.**
- Breastfeeding data on the Child Health System is recorded as either 'Total', 'Partial' or 'Not at all'. Total – where the child receives breast milk only, with no other type of milk, liquids or food given. Partial – where the child receives breast milk, as well as formula milk and other liquids or food. Not at all - where the child does not receive any breast milk at all, but rather other feeding methods are used.

## Breastfeeding at discharge

In 2019/20:

- 50.1% of live infants were breastfed (total/partial feeding) at discharge (feeding status known). *[Page 52]*.
- Only 24.2% of infants born to mothers under 20 were breastfed at discharge, compared to 58.4% of infants to mothers aged 40 and over. *[Page 53]*.
- Breastfeeding rates were slightly higher for infants born to first time mothers at 52.5%. Mothers who have previously given birth = 48.6%. *[Page 53]*.
- Breastfeeding rates were much higher in infants born to 'non-white' mothers. However the number of births for some ethnic groupings was small and caution is advised. *[Page 53]*.
- Breastfeeding rates varied by Health Trust of residence of mother, ranging from 44.4% of infants born to mothers from Western Trust, to 52.4% in South Eastern. *[Page 53]*.
- The proportion breastfeeding was markedly lower in more deprived areas (NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017). In 2019/20, 36.0% of mothers from most deprived areas were breastfed at discharge, compared to 67.2% of mothers from the least deprived areas. It should however be noted that breastfeeding rates tend to increase with age of mother, and more deprived areas have a higher proportion of younger mothers. *[Page 54]*

## Breastfeeding duration (infants born during 2018/19)

- Of mothers who delivered in 2018/19, the proportion breastfeeding gradually decreased as the child reached 12 months old – 49.3% of infants in Northern Ireland were breastfed at discharge, falling to only 15.5% of infants at 12 months old. *[Page 55]*
- At all stages where breastfeeding was recorded, the rate was higher in those infants born to mothers who lived in less deprived areas (NIMDM 2017), when compared to mothers from more deprived areas. In 2018/19, prevalence of breastfeeding at 12 months old was higher at 24.3% in the least deprived areas, than in the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland (9.6%). *[Page 56]*

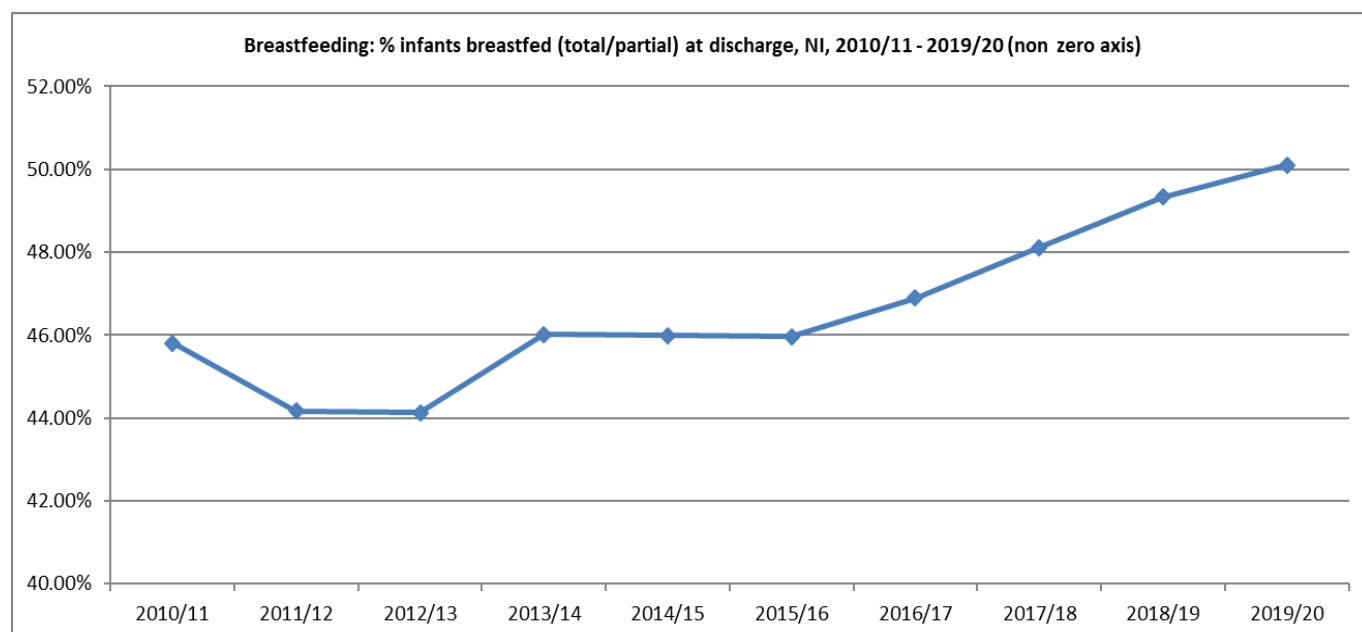
**Table 10.1: Breastfeeding status (at discharge) of live infants born to Northern Ireland residents, 2010/11 - 2019/20**

Year of birth		Infant breastfeeding status at discharge				Total	% infants breastfed (partial/total - feeding status known)
		Total	Partial	Not at all	Not known		
2010/11	n	9,578	1,897	13,573	508	<b>25,556</b>	<b>11,475</b>
	%	38.2%	7.6%	54.2%	-	-	<b>45.81%</b>
2011/12	n	9,369	1,610	13,879	362	<b>25,220</b>	<b>10,979</b>
	%	37.7%	6.5%	55.8%	-	-	<b>44.17%</b>
2012/13	n	9,011	1,777	13,658	465	<b>24,911</b>	<b>10,788</b>
	%	36.9%	7.3%	55.9%	-	-	<b>44.13%</b>
2013/14	n	9,148	1,838	12,886	297	<b>24,169</b>	<b>10,986</b>
	%	38.3%	7.7%	54.0%	-	-	<b>46.02%</b>
2014/15	n	9,235	1,762	12,918	394	<b>24,309</b>	<b>10,997</b>
	%	38.6%	7.4%	54.0%	-	-	<b>45.98%</b>
2015/16	n	9,157	1,891	12,988	312	<b>24,348</b>	<b>11,048</b>
	%	38.1%	7.9%	54.0%	-	-	<b>45.96%</b>
2016/17	n	8,655	2,439	12,562	321	<b>23,977</b>	<b>11,094</b>
	%	36.6%	10.3%	53.1%	-	-	<b>46.90%</b>
2017/18	n	8,343	2,507	11,704	349	<b>22,903</b>	<b>10,850</b>
	%	37.0%	11.1%	51.9%	-	-	<b>48.11%</b>
2018/19	n	8,471	2,613	11,383	372	<b>22,839</b>	<b>11,084</b>
	%	37.7%	11.6%	50.7%	-	-	<b>49.33%</b>
2019/20	n	8,254	2,747	10,953	337	<b>22,291</b>	<b>11,001</b>
	%	37.6%	12.5%	49.9%	-	-	<b>50.11%</b>

Source: Child Health System

Percentage breastfeeding is calculated as a valid percentage. The calculation is based on those records where feeding status was known i.e. blank data has been removed from the denominator value.

**Figure 10.1: % infants' breastfed (total/partial) at discharge, Northern Ireland, 2010/11 – 2019/20**



Source: Child Health System

**Table 10.2: Breastfeeding status (at discharge) of live infants born to Northern Ireland residents, 2019/20**

		Infant breastfeeding status at discharge				Total	% infants breastfed (partial/total - feeding status known)
		Total	Partial	Not at all	Other / Not known		
Age Group of mother	Under 20	106	37	449	11	<b>603</b>	24.16%
	20 - 24	634	246	1,839	32	<b>2,751</b>	32.36%
	25 - 29	1,870	682	3,054	79	<b>5,685</b>	45.52%
	30 - 34	3,303	981	3,423	117	<b>7,824</b>	55.59%
	35 - 39	1,918	655	1,780	83	<b>4,436</b>	59.11%
	40 +	423	145	405	13	<b>986</b>	58.38%
	Not known	0	1	3	2	<b>6</b>	25.00%
	<b>All ages</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>50.11%</b>
Multiple births	Single	8,171	2,594	10,583	295	<b>21,643</b>	50.43%
	Multiple	83	153	370	42	<b>648</b>	38.94%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>50.11%</b>
First time mothers	First time mother	3,193	1,304	4,074	122	<b>8,693</b>	52.47%
	Not a first time mother	5,046	1,439	6,860	205	<b>13,550</b>	48.59%
	Not known	15	4	19	10	<b>48</b>	50.00%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>50.11%</b>
Ethnic group of mother (NIMATS)	White	7,746	2,536	10,792	175	<b>21,249</b>	48.79%
	Asian	80	62	24	1	<b>167</b>	85.54%
	Black	68	50	15	2	<b>135</b>	88.72%
	Mixed	232	72	112	5	<b>421</b>	73.08%
	Other	176	94	79	9	<b>358</b>	77.36%
	Not stated / Blank	4	3	2	0	<b>9</b>	77.78%
	<b>All ethnic groups</b>	<b>8,306</b>	<b>2,817</b>	<b>11,024</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>22,339</b>	<b>50.22%</b>
Ethnic group of infant (CHS)	White	7,694	2,466	10,710	305	<b>21,175</b>	48.68%
	Asian	78	63	22	2	<b>165</b>	86.50%
	Black	69	49	13	3	<b>134</b>	90.08%
	Mixed	230	70	110	10	<b>420</b>	73.17%
	Other	177	92	81	9	<b>359</b>	76.86%
	Not stated / Blank	6	7	17	8	<b>38</b>	43.33%
	<b>All ethnic groups</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>50.11%</b>
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	683	282	1,392	42	<b>2,399</b>	40.94%
	Antrim	1,068	400	1,443	26	<b>2,937</b>	50.43%
	Causeway	390	<60	458	<5	<b>904</b>	<50.11%
	Craigavon	1,452	504	1,793	70	<b>3,819</b>	52.17%
	Daisy Hill	629	211	846	23	<b>1,709</b>	49.82%
	Downe	<5	0	<5	<5	<b>5</b>	>50.11%
	Lagan Valley	56	<10	45	<5	<b>111</b>	>50.11%
	Mater	155	<30	127	<5	<b>308</b>	>50.11%
	Royal	1,556	662	2,495	93	<b>4,806</b>	47.06%
	SWAH	417	174	557	12	<b>1,160</b>	51.48%
	Ulster	1,843	426	1,790	43	<b>4,102</b>	55.90%
	Home/Other	<5	<5	<10	18	<b>31</b>	>50.11%
	<b>All places of birth</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>50.11%</b>
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	1,585	551	2,110	62	<b>4,308</b>	50.31%
	Northern	2,044	625	2,593	53	<b>5,315</b>	50.72%
	South Eastern	1,580	417	1,818	63	<b>3,878</b>	52.35%
	Southern	1,941	690	2,468	99	<b>5,198</b>	51.60%
	Western	1,104	464	1,964	60	<b>3,592</b>	44.39%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>50.11%</b>

**Table 10.2 continued: Breastfeeding status (at discharge) of live infants born to Northern Ireland residents, 2019/20**

		Infant breastfeeding status at discharge				Total	% infants breastfed (partial/total - feeding status known)
		Total	Partial	Not at all	Other / Not known		
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	662	208	777	17	<b>1,664</b>	52.82%
	Ards and North Down	656	144	696	20	<b>1,516</b>	53.48%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	1,042	343	1,321	42	<b>2,748</b>	51.18%
	Belfast	1,425	513	2,164	62	<b>4,164</b>	47.25%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	547	134	773	15	<b>1,469</b>	46.84%
	Derry City and Strabane	505	210	1,092	32	<b>1,839</b>	39.57%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	485	209	655	18	<b>1,367</b>	51.45%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	791	231	675	32	<b>1,729</b>	60.22%
	Mid and East Antrim	551	210	658	18	<b>1,437</b>	53.63%
	Mid Ulster	756	260	1,010	35	<b>2,061</b>	50.15%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	834	285	1,132	46	<b>2,297</b>	49.71%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>50.11%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	1,174	537	3,047	76	<b>4,834</b>	35.96%
	2	1,612	575	2,525	78	<b>4,790</b>	46.41%
	3	1,631	538	2,280	73	<b>4,522</b>	48.75%
	4	1,855	580	1,879	63	<b>4,377</b>	56.44%
	Least deprived	1,982	517	1,222	47	<b>3,768</b>	67.16%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>10,953</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>50.11%</b>

Source: Child Health System and NIMATS

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Disclosure controls have been applied to this table. As a result, for some places of birth, it is not possible to show the exact percentage values in the final column and so a comparison to the NI value has been provided.

Percentage breastfeeding is calculated as a valid percentage. The calculation is based on those records where feeding status was known i.e. blank data has been removed from the denominator value.

**Table 10.3: Prevalence of breastfeeding of live infants born to Northern Ireland residents, at various stages during first year of life, 2018/19**

		% infants breastfed (total/partial) by time period (feeding status known)					
		Discharge	Primary visit (10-14 days old)	6 weeks	3 months	6 months	12 months
Age Group of mother	Under 20	28.1%	23.3%	14.6%	10.8%	8.5%	5.0%
	20 - 24	32.0%	25.2%	18.1%	14.7%	10.5%	6.1%
	25 - 29	44.4%	37.5%	29.9%	25.2%	19.9%	13.0%
	30 - 34	55.1%	47.9%	40.1%	35.4%	29.4%	17.6%
	35 - 39	58.1%	51.4%	43.6%	39.1%	32.1%	21.2%
	40 +	59.2%	50.1%	44.9%	38.3%	31.3%	21.5%
	Not known	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>
Multiple births	Single	49.5%	42.7%	35.2%	30.7%	25.0%	15.7%
	Multiple	44.4%	38.2%	25.5%	18.4%	13.2%	8.3%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>
First time mothers	First time mother	53.2%	45.0%	35.4%	30.0%	24.2%	14.8%
	Not a first-time mother	46.9%	41.0%	34.5%	30.5%	25.0%	15.9%
	Not known	68.4%	50.0%	41.7%	26.1%	20.0%	8.3%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>
Ethnic group of infant	White	48.0%	41.0%	33.4%	29.1%	23.6%	14.8%
	Asian	75.4%	81.8%	76.4%	65.2%	60.9%	49.0%
	Black	83.3%	86.4%	80.9%	73.2%	63.9%	38.8%
	Mixed	66.7%	60.2%	51.0%	44.3%	36.6%	25.2%
	Other	79.6%	77.5%	66.3%	55.2%	43.7%	29.9%
	Not stated / Blank	46.9%	39.3%	35.5%	37.5%	25.0%	17.6%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>
Place of birth	Altnagelvin	40.8%	33.1%	24.2%	19.7%	15.4%	9.0%
	Antrim	46.8%	40.0%	30.6%	26.5%	21.7%	14.2%
	Causeway	49.6%	42.0%	34.8%	30.8%	25.6%	16.3%
	Craigavon	52.2%	44.1%	40.8%	34.9%	24.6%	14.8%
	Daisy Hill	48.2%	39.9%	31.3%	27.6%	22.2%	12.1%
	Downe	80.0%	75.9%	60.0%	59.4%	60.0%	37.9%
	Lagan Valley	54.3%	48.7%	40.0%	29.9%	24.2%	20.0%
	Mater	61.9%	49.4%	43.8%	42.5%	42.2%	30.2%
	Royal	46.3%	41.9%	33.5%	29.8%	25.3%	16.9%
	SWAH	48.3%	41.1%	32.6%	27.3%	24.4%	12.0%
	Ulster	56.5%	49.7%	41.9%	37.0%	32.7%	21.0%
	Home/Other	85.7%	58.8%	72.2%	55.6%	50.0%	70.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>

**Table 10.3 continued: Prevalence of breastfeeding of live infants born to Northern Ireland residents, at various stages during first year of life, 2018/19**

		% infants breastfed (total/partial) by time period (feeding status known)					
		Discharge	Primary visit (10-14 days old)	6 weeks	3 months	6 months	12 months
Trust of residence of mother	Belfast	49.6%	45.6%	39.1%	37.3%	33.3%	24.8%
	Northern	48.6%	41.9%	32.9%	28.7%	23.6%	15.8%
	South Eastern	53.3%	46.1%	36.7%	30.4%	25.4%	15.7%
	Southern	51.0%	42.7%	38.4%	33.2%	23.9%	13.5%
	Western	43.4%	36.0%	26.8%	22.1%	18.5%	10.0%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	50.0%	43.1%	34.0%	29.2%	24.8%	17.7%
	Ards and North Down	55.5%	46.2%	38.6%	33.2%	27.8%	16.8%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	51.0%	43.0%	39.2%	33.5%	24.3%	14.0%
	Belfast	46.5%	42.6%	36.2%	34.1%	30.9%	22.4%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	46.3%	37.5%	29.8%	26.1%	21.1%	13.1%
	Derry City and Strabane	38.4%	32.0%	23.0%	18.8%	14.1%	8.6%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	49.9%	42.7%	33.0%	27.2%	24.9%	12.4%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	59.6%	53.2%	43.0%	36.1%	31.1%	20.5%
	Mid and East Antrim	48.9%	44.2%	34.4%	30.4%	24.8%	17.2%
	Mid Ulster	51.0%	42.2%	38.3%	32.7%	22.9%	13.1%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	49.2%	41.6%	32.1%	27.7%	21.8%	13.4%
<b>All infants</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of mother	Most deprived	35.1%	30.3%	22.8%	19.2%	15.0%	9.6%
	2	46.4%	39.3%	32.3%	27.3%	21.8%	13.2%
	3	48.9%	41.4%	33.4%	29.2%	22.7%	14.4%
	4	55.6%	47.7%	40.0%	34.5%	28.3%	18.2%
	Least deprived	65.7%	58.2%	49.8%	44.4%	38.3%	24.3%
	<b>All infants</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>

Source: Child Health System

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Note that for some ethnic groups, hospitals and age groups the number of infants will be very small

Percentage breastfeeding is calculated as a valid percentage. The calculation is based on those records where feeding status was known i.e. blank data has been removed from the denominator value.



**Table 10.4: Prevalence of breastfeeding of live infants born to Northern Ireland residents, at various stages during first year of life, by Sure Start area, 2018/19**

Sure Start area	% infants breastfed (total/partial) by time period (where feeding status is known)					
	Discharge	Primary visit (10-14 days old)	6 weeks	3 months	6 months	12 months
Abbey	44.0%	36.6%	27.8%	24.6%	19.9%	15.4%
Antrim	33.8%	23.5%	16.4%	10.4%	8.8%	5.0%
Ards	42.6%	36.8%	28.4%	23.8%	18.8%	12.9%
ArKe	42.1%	35.2%	42.5%	30.6%	14.8%	5.5%
Ballymena	40.4%	36.1%	28.5%	23.9%	18.3%	13.1%
Bangor	47.8%	41.5%	35.7%	27.8%	26.1%	15.3%
Beechmount	41.4%	36.7%	26.5%	21.7%	25.9%	19.4%
Blossom	51.4%	44.5%	37.8%	32.1%	24.2%	14.2%
Cherish	45.8%	34.5%	30.3%	22.9%	21.3%	9.8%
Clan Mor	34.0%	27.5%	19.2%	17.0%	11.4%	10.9%
Clogher Valley	58.0%	44.4%	50.5%	48.4%	29.7%	18.9%
Coleraine	35.0%	29.6%	23.0%	17.3%	13.2%	11.1%
Colin	30.9%	23.5%	14.7%	11.1%	10.8%	4.2%
Dalriada	44.9%	36.0%	29.3%	26.4%	20.8%	16.7%
Downpatrick	42.4%	39.8%	29.3%	25.1%	19.6%	14.9%
Dungannon	60.0%	52.6%	61.9%	48.1%	27.3%	15.2%
Dungiven	46.0%	33.7%	27.4%	21.8%	18.5%	11.3%
East Belfast	40.6%	39.7%	29.1%	27.8%	23.7%	21.4%
Edenballymore	33.0%	28.6%	19.9%	15.9%	12.3%	6.3%
Glenbrook	28.8%	25.6%	26.1%	25.6%	23.1%	23.3%
Gold	43.7%	37.2%	28.7%	25.3%	21.1%	14.0%
Horizon	35.1%	32.5%	20.5%	18.1%	14.7%	8.2%
Kilkeel	45.3%	42.2%	32.3%	23.8%	19.0%	12.2%
LAST	40.2%	39.0%	24.8%	21.2%	18.2%	9.5%
Lisburn	40.2%	28.9%	19.8%	12.5%	12.6%	6.4%
Little Hands	33.0%	27.6%	21.3%	18.0%	15.3%	10.4%
Newry City	48.0%	39.4%	32.0%	28.8%	19.8%	9.2%
Outer West Belfast	38.2%	36.9%	25.3%	20.6%	15.6%	10.4%
Rainbow	38.3%	32.4%	27.4%	19.4%	12.5%	5.1%
Saol Ur	22.8%	17.1%	12.5%	12.6%	9.3%	7.1%
Shankill	30.2%	27.4%	20.5%	16.0%	13.9%	10.3%
Shantallow	29.3%	21.4%	15.6%	12.0%	8.7%	5.6%
Smile	34.1%	32.2%	37.4%	35.2%	31.5%	20.0%
South Armagh	45.0%	36.8%	28.6%	25.4%	19.0%	14.3%
South Belfast	50.4%	50.7%	40.0%	37.5%	34.8%	25.8%
Splash	35.3%	25.9%	19.1%	17.2%	13.5%	7.6%
Star	32.8%	35.6%	32.2%	24.1%	20.0%	10.3%
Strabane	36.7%	32.1%	21.3%	16.9%	12.2%	7.7%
Waterside	44.7%	38.5%	23.8%	22.4%	17.7%	11.7%
<b>Children living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>40.4%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>27.6%</b>	<b>23.4%</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>12.0%</b>
<b>Children not living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>55.0%</b>	<b>47.2%</b>	<b>39.4%</b>	<b>34.5%</b>	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>17.6%</b>
<b>All children</b>	<b>49.3%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>

Source: Child Health System

Note that some percentages above are based on small numbers

Percentage breastfeeding is calculated as a valid percentage. The calculation is based on those records where feeding status was known i.e. blank data has been removed from the denominator value.

# Section 11: Childhood Immunisations

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## Vaccination Coverage

The COVER (Cover of Vaccination Evaluated Rapidly) programme monitors immunisation coverage data for children in the United Kingdom who reach their first, second or fifth birthday during each evaluation year.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) states that there is an expectation that a target of 95% coverage should be reached for all routine childhood immunisation in the UK by the age of five years.<sup>1</sup>

However over the last few years, immunisation coverage in Northern Ireland has been falling and coverage for some immunisations is now below the expected 95% target.

### Northern Ireland

Detailed coverage data for Northern Ireland can be found at the link below:

Public Health Agency, Health Protection Department

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/annual-immunisation-and-vaccine-preventable-diseases-reports>

### Rest of United Kingdom

Detailed coverage data for the rest of the UK can be found at the links below:

NHS Digital

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/nhs-immunisation-statistics>

UK Health Security Agency

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/vaccine-uptake>

Public Health Scotland/ISD Scotland

<https://beta.isdscotland.org/topics/child-health/immunisation/>

Public Health Wales

<https://phw.nhs.wales/>

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organisation "Health 21" - *The health for all policy framework for the WHO European Region* [http://www.euro.who.int/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/98398/wa540qa199heeng.pdf](http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/98398/wa540qa199heeng.pdf)

# Section 12: Childhood BMI

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## Classification of Growth Measurements in Northern Ireland

In this report, in the past, growth measurements have been classified using the International Obesity Task Force Classification (IOTF) only. However, from 2017/18 onwards a further classification will be provided - the British 1990 (UK90) growth reference. In other countries of the UK, the British 1990 growth reference (UK90) is recommended for population monitoring and clinical assessment in children aged 4 years and over.

### International Obesity Task Force (IOTF)

The IOTF thresholds are derived from BMI data from six large, nationally representative, cross-sectional surveys from Brazil, Great Britain, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, Singapore, and the United States. These samples include 192,727 children aged 0 to 25 years. Each data set has over 10,000 subjects, with age ranges covering at least the period from 6 to 18 years. Age and sex specific cut-off points are extrapolated from the adult BMI cut-offs of 25kg/m<sup>2</sup> and 30kg/m<sup>2</sup> for overweight and obesity respectively. Three grades of thinness are defined from equivalent adult BMIs of 16, 17 and 18.5.

### British 1990 Growth Reference (UK90)

The UK90 BMI reference provides centile curves for BMI for British children from birth to 23 years. They are based on a sample of 32,222 measurements from 12 distinct surveys collected between 1978 and 1994. The sample was rebased to 1990 levels and the data were then used to express BMI as a centile based on the BMI distribution, adjusted for skewness, age and sex using Cole's LMS method ('*Growth monitoring with the British 1990 growth reference*'. *Cole Arch Dis Child*.1997; 76: 47-49.)

The BMI classification of each child is derived by calculating the child's BMI centile and assigning the BMI classification based on the following thresholds:

- Underweight is defined as a BMI centile less than or equal to the 2nd centile
- Healthy weight is defined as a BMI centile greater than the 2nd centile but less than the 85th centile
- Overweight is defined as a BMI centile greater than or equal to the 85th centile but less than the 95th centile (i.e. overweight but not obese)
- Obese is defined as a BMI centile greater than or equal to the 95th centile.

### Further information on classifications:

National Obesity Observatory (PHE), "A simple guide to classifying body mass index in children", June 2011

<https://khub.net/documents/31798783/32039025/A+simple+guide+to+classifying+body+mass+index+in+children/ced23256-6f8d-43c7-9f44-222e2beebf97?version=1.0>

**In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, schools closed during the 2019/20 school year and therefore all measurements may not have been carried out. Consequently, data for 2019/20 does not have sufficient coverage and therefore has not been provided in this report. The tables continue to show data for 2018/19 school year.**

## International Obesity Task Force Classification

### Key Points

#### Primary 1

- Of those children measured in Primary 1 in 2018/19, 21.8% were considered overweight or obese, a slight increase on the previous year (20.5%) [Page 60].
- In 2018/19, a higher proportion of girls were overweight/obese (25.5%) compared to boys (18.3%) [Page 61].
- The proportion of children overweight/obese by Council area ranges from 17.8% (Ards and North Down LGD) to 26.4% (Antrim and Newtownabbey LGD) [Page 61].
- 24.7% of children living in the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland (NIMDM 2017) were measured as overweight/obese, compared to 18.3% of children from the least deprived areas [Page 61].

#### Year 8 (2018/19 excludes WHSCT)

- In 2018/19, just over 27% of children in Year 8 were measured as overweight/obese, a decrease on the previous year [Page 63].
- At this age, there is little difference in the proportion overweight/obese between the two genders (27.5% male, 26.8% female) [Page 64].

## PRIMARY 1 (IOTF)

**Table 12.1: BMI levels in Primary 1 children across Northern Ireland (IOTF), 2008/09 - 2018/19**

BMI category	% Primary 1 children										
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
<b>Number of children</b>	<b>18,514</b>	<b>19,749</b>	<b>19,469</b>	<b>21,223</b>	<b>21,934</b>	<b>23,048</b>	<b>21,780</b>	<b>23,778</b>	<b>24,042</b>	<b>23,314</b>	<b>22,848</b>
Thinness grade 1 to 3	2.98%	3.21%	2.72%	3.46%	3.53%	3.38%	3.86%	3.58%	4.48%	4.51%	4.12%
Normal	75.62%	75.50%	75.15%	75.75%	75.04%	75.26%	75.23%	74.88%	74.86%	74.95%	74.06%
Overweight	16.84%	16.57%	17.12%	15.83%	16.59%	16.57%	15.82%	16.19%	15.69%	15.48%	16.29%
Obese	4.56%	4.72%	5.01%	4.96%	4.85%	4.80%	5.08%	5.35%	4.97%	5.06%	5.53%
<b>% children overweight/obese</b>	<b>21.40%</b>	<b>21.29%</b>	<b>22.13%</b>	<b>20.79%</b>	<b>21.44%</b>	<b>21.37%</b>	<b>20.90%</b>	<b>21.54%</b>	<b>20.66%</b>	<b>20.54%</b>	<b>21.82%</b>

Source: Child Health System

Year refers to school year

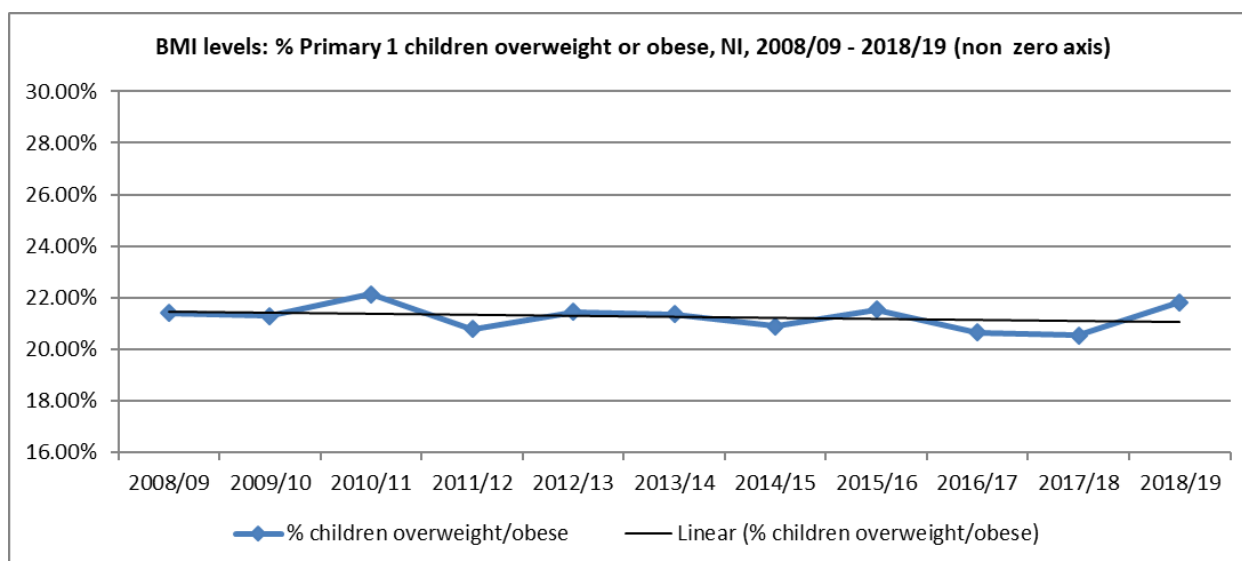
Children measured are typically between 4½ and 5½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using International Obesity TaskForce measures

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

Following a data validation exercise, data for 2008/09 to 2016/17 has been revised

**Figure 12.1: % Primary 1 children overweight or obese, Northern Ireland (IOTF), 2008/09 – 2018/19**



**Table 12.2: BMI levels in Primary 1 children across Northern Ireland (IOTF), 2018/19**

		No. of children by BMI category					% children overweight or obese
		Thinness grade 1 to 3	Normal	Overweight	Obese	Total	
Gender	Male	558	8,988	1,620	523	<b>11,689</b>	18.33%
	Female	383	7,933	2,103	740	<b>11,159</b>	25.48%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>16,921</b>	<b>3,723</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>21.82%</b>
Trust of residence of child	Belfast	213	3,109	663	221	<b>4,206</b>	21.02%
	Northern	213	4,088	1,002	361	<b>5,664</b>	24.06%
	South Eastern	144	3,291	656	220	<b>4,311</b>	20.32%
	Southern	241	3,796	807	246	<b>5,090</b>	20.69%
	Western	126	2,608	586	213	<b>3,533</b>	22.62%
	Not known	4	29	9	2	<b>44</b>	25.00%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>16,921</b>	<b>3,723</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>21.82%</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	67	1,172	325	119	<b>1,683</b>	26.38%
	Ards and North Down	77	1,385	250	67	<b>1,779</b>	17.82%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	133	1,949	387	123	<b>2,592</b>	19.68%
	Belfast	200	3,004	669	230	<b>4,103</b>	21.91%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	62	1,200	277	109	<b>1,648</b>	23.42%
	Derry City and Strabane	47	1,198	315	121	<b>1,681</b>	25.94%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	70	1,135	199	68	<b>1,472</b>	18.14%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	52	1,326	260	87	<b>1,725</b>	20.12%
	Mid and East Antrim	58	1,100	276	101	<b>1,535</b>	24.56%
	Mid Ulster	74	1,570	335	100	<b>2,079</b>	20.92%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	97	1,853	421	136	<b>2,507</b>	22.22%
	Not known	4	29	9	2	<b>44</b>	25.00%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>16,921</b>	<b>3,723</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>21.82%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of child	Most deprived	201	3,268	834	302	<b>4,605</b>	24.67%
	2	209	3,628	840	291	<b>4,968</b>	22.77%
	3	181	3,602	761	261	<b>4,805</b>	21.27%
	4	178	3,412	739	243	<b>4,572</b>	21.48%
	Least deprived	168	2,982	540	164	<b>3,854</b>	18.27%
	Not known	4	29	9	2	<b>44</b>	25.00%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>16,921</b>	<b>3,723</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>21.82%</b>

Source: Child Health System

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 4½ and 5½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using International Obesity TaskForce measures

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

**Table 12.3: BMI levels in Primary 1 children across Northern Ireland, by Sure Start area (IOTF), 2018/19**

Sure Start area	Total children	% children by BMI category				% children overweight or obese
		Thinness grade 1 to 3	Normal	Overweight	Obese	
Abbey	257	5.1%	71.6%	16.3%	7.0%	23.3%
Antrim	<100	4.1%	58.1%	25.7%	12.2%	37.8%
Ards	270	5.9%	71.1%	17.4%	5.6%	23.0%
ArKe	162	4.9%	74.7%	12.3%	8.0%	20.4%
Ballymena	188	4.8%	64.4%	22.9%	8.0%	30.9%
Bangor	114	1.8%	81.6%	12.3%	4.4%	16.7%
Beechmount	<100	1.3%	69.3%	20.0%	9.3%	29.3%
Blossom	187	10.7%	65.8%	15.0%	8.6%	23.5%
Cherish	240	7.1%	76.3%	13.3%	3.3%	16.7%
Clan Mor	<100	3.4%	69.0%	25.3%	2.3%	27.6%
Clogher Valley	161	4.3%	74.5%	18.0%	3.1%	21.1%
Coleraine	186	7.0%	70.4%	14.0%	8.6%	22.6%
Colin	315	2.5%	72.1%	18.1%	7.3%	25.4%
Dalriada	197	2.5%	76.6%	16.2%	4.6%	20.8%
Downpatrick	308	1.9%	76.3%	16.2%	5.5%	21.8%
Dungannon	343	7.3%	72.9%	14.3%	5.5%	19.8%
Dungiven	204	3.4%	69.6%	22.5%	4.4%	27.0%
East Belfast	422	4.5%	71.3%	16.4%	7.8%	24.2%
Edenballymore	136	2.2%	72.1%	18.4%	7.4%	25.7%
Glenbrook	273	7.7%	72.5%	15.8%	4.0%	19.8%
Gold	266	3.4%	75.2%	16.9%	4.5%	21.4%
Horizon	182	3.3%	73.6%	16.5%	6.6%	23.1%
Kilkeel	<100	11.6%	72.1%	16.3%	0.0%	16.3%
LAST	249	4.4%	73.9%	16.5%	5.2%	21.7%
Lisburn	111	2.7%	65.8%	25.2%	6.3%	31.5%
Little Hands	168	2.4%	71.4%	20.8%	5.4%	26.2%
Newry City	286	2.8%	68.5%	21.3%	7.3%	28.7%
Outer West Belfast	284	6.0%	70.4%	18.3%	5.3%	23.6%
Rainbow	127	2.4%	70.1%	18.9%	8.7%	27.6%
Saol Ur	239	2.1%	74.5%	16.3%	7.1%	23.4%
Shankill	368	5.4%	69.0%	17.4%	8.2%	25.5%
Shantallow	219	4.6%	70.8%	17.8%	6.8%	24.7%
Smile	219	5.9%	71.7%	15.5%	6.8%	22.4%
South Armagh	432	1.9%	73.6%	19.9%	4.6%	24.5%
South Belfast	323	4.6%	69.7%	20.4%	5.3%	25.7%
Splash	271	2.6%	74.5%	18.1%	4.8%	22.9%
Star	<100	12.2%	73.2%	14.6%	0.0%	14.6%
Strabane	279	3.6%	64.2%	21.9%	10.4%	32.3%
Waterside	215	3.7%	74.4%	14.0%	7.9%	21.9%
<b>Children living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>8,521</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>71.7%</b>	<b>17.7%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>23.9%</b>
<b>Children not living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>14,283</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>75.5%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>20.6%</b>
<b>Children - address not known</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>65.9%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>
<b>All children</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>74.1%</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>

Source: Child Health System

Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 4½ and 5½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using International Obesity TaskForce measures

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

Note that some percentages above are based on small numbers

Disclosure controls have been applied to the data

## YEAR 8 (IOTF)

PLEASE NOTE THAT IN 2018/19, CHILDREN IN WESTERN TRUST DID NOT HAVE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS TAKEN AT YEAR 8. THEREFORE YEAR 8 DATA FOR 2018/19 IN THIS REPORT IS BASED ON FOUR OUT OF FIVE HEALTH TRUSTS ONLY. IN YEAR 8, APPROXIMATELY 3,000 CHILDREN WOULD HAVE BEEN MEASURED IN THE WESTERN TRUST AREA, WHILE ONLY 124 CHILDREN WERE MEASURED.

Coverage at Year 8 has never been complete, ranging from 15,000 – 18,000 children which would equate to 65 - 70%. Comparison with previous years' data including and excluding Western Trust has shown that the Northern Ireland figure is not materially affected.

Table 12.4: BMI levels in Year 8 children across Northern Ireland (IOTF), 2010/11 - 2018/19

BMI category	% Year 8 children								
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19*
<b>Number of children</b>	<b>17,873</b>	<b>17,836</b>	<b>16,618</b>	<b>14,789</b>	<b>15,490</b>	<b>17,832</b>	<b>18,108</b>	<b>18,465</b>	<b>16,367</b>
Thinness grade 1 to 3	6.13%	6.21%	5.87%	6.04%	6.95%	6.21%	6.86%	6.64%	7.15%
Normal	65.97%	66.12%	66.77%	65.72%	66.66%	66.45%	65.92%	65.50%	65.69%
Overweight	21.88%	21.96%	21.59%	22.14%	20.97%	21.93%	21.67%	21.83%	21.20%
Obese	6.03%	5.71%	5.78%	6.10%	5.42%	5.42%	5.55%	6.03%	5.96%
<b>% children overweight/obese</b>	<b>27.91%</b>	<b>27.67%</b>	<b>27.37%</b>	<b>28.24%</b>	<b>26.39%</b>	<b>27.35%</b>	<b>27.22%</b>	<b>27.86%</b>	<b>27.16%</b>

Source: Child Health System

\* NOTE THAT IN 2018/19, CHILDREN IN WESTERN TRUST DID NOT HAVE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS TAKEN.

THEREFORE 2018/19 DATA IS BASED ON FOUR OUT OF FIVE HEALTH TRUSTS ONLY. A SMALL NUMBER OF CHILDREN WERE MEASURED WHO WERE RESIDENT IN WHSCT AREA (124) AND THESE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE DATA ABOVE

Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 11½ and 12½ years of age

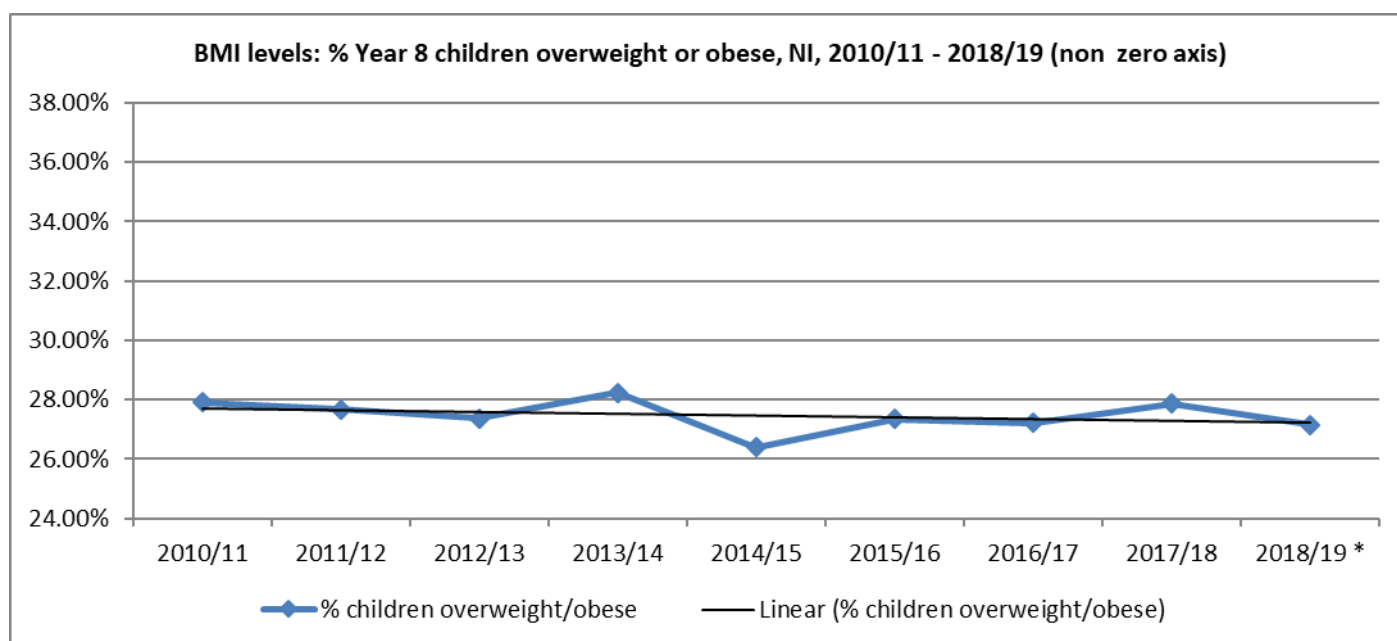
Figures above are categorised using International Obesity TaskForce measures

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

Due to lower coverage in previous years, figures are only available for Year 8 from 2010/11

Following a data validation exercise, data for 2010/11 to 2016/17 has been revised

Figure 12.2: % Year 8 children overweight or obese, Northern Ireland (IOTF), 2010/11 – 2018/19



**Table 12.5: BMI levels in Year 8 children across Northern Ireland (IOTF), 2018/19**

		No. of children by BMI category *					% children overweight or obese
		Thinness grade 1 to 3	Normal	Overweight	Obese	Total	
Gender	Male	530	5,405	1,714	537	<b>8,186</b>	27.50%
	Female	641	5,346	1,755	439	<b>8,181</b>	26.82%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>1,171</b>	<b>10,751</b>	<b>3,469</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>16,367</b>	<b>27.16%</b>
Trust of residence of child	Belfast	199	2,075	709	210	<b>3,193</b>	28.78%
	Northern	359	3,448	1,151	335	<b>5,293</b>	28.07%
	South Eastern	276	2,344	731	176	<b>3,527</b>	25.72%
	Southern	326	2,762	853	243	<b>4,184</b>	26.20%
	Western						
	Not known	2	30	9	5	<b>46</b>	30.43%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>1,162</b>	<b>10,659</b>	<b>3,453</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>16,243</b>	<b>27.22%</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	106	1,064	352	98	<b>1,620</b>	27.78%
	Ards and North Down	132	1,086	312	63	<b>1,593</b>	23.54%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	192	1,508	466	146	<b>2,312</b>	26.47%
	Belfast	194	2,001	722	215	<b>3,132</b>	29.92%
	Causeway Coast and Glens						
	Derry City and Strabane						
	Fermanagh and Omagh						
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	96	896	268	64	<b>1,324</b>	25.08%
	Mid and East Antrim	103	931	343	103	<b>1,480</b>	30.14%
	Mid Ulster	112	1,109	358	98	<b>1,677</b>	27.19%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	146	1,281	377	108	<b>1,912</b>	25.37%
	Not known	2	30	9	5	<b>46</b>	30.43%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>1,083</b>	<b>9,906</b>	<b>3,207</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>15,096</b>	<b>27.21%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of child	Most deprived	138	1,600	651	233	<b>2,622</b>	33.71%
	2	229	1,847	645	191	<b>2,912</b>	28.71%
	3	242	2,236	728	209	<b>3,415</b>	27.44%
	4	282	2,647	822	204	<b>3,955</b>	25.94%
	Least deprived	278	2,391	614	134	<b>3,417</b>	21.89%
	Not known	2	30	9	5	<b>46</b>	30.43%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>1,171</b>	<b>10,751</b>	<b>3,469</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>16,367</b>	<b>27.16%</b>

Source: Child Health System

\* NOTE THAT IN 2018/19, CHILDREN IN WESTERN TRUST DID NOT HAVE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS TAKEN. THEREFORE 2018/19 DATA IS BASED ON FOUR OUT OF FIVE HEALTH TRUSTS ONLY. A SMALL NUMBER OF CHILDREN WERE MEASURED WHO WERE RESIDENT IN WHSCT AREA (124) AND THESE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE DATA ABOVE BY GENDER AND DEPRIVATION QUINTILE, HOWEVER THEY HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM TRUST AND COUNCIL LEVEL DATA. DATA HAS NOT BEEN SHOWN FOR 3 COUNCILS ABOVE AND THIS REMOVED APPROXIMATELY 1,200 CHILDREN WHO WERE RESIDENT IN THESE COUNCIL AREAS, BUT NOT RESIDENT IN WHSCT AREA.

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 11½ and 12½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using International Obesity TaskForce measures

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete



**Table 12.6: BMI levels in Year 8 children across Northern Ireland, by Sure Start area (IOTF), 2018/19**

Sure Start area	Total children	% children by BMI category *				% children overweight or obese
		Thinness grade 1 to 3	Normal	Overweight	Obese	
Abbey	234	6.0%	60.3%	25.6%	8.1%	33.8%
Antrim	<100	3.9%	49.0%	35.3%	11.8%	47.1%
Ards	232	10.8%	60.8%	21.6%	6.9%	28.4%
ArKe	103	9.7%	60.2%	22.3%	7.8%	30.1%
Ballymena	169	5.9%	56.8%	26.6%	10.7%	37.3%
Bangor	<100	4.1%	64.9%	24.3%	6.8%	31.1%
Beechmount	<100	3.8%	61.5%	23.1%	11.5%	34.6%
Blossom	167	7.2%	61.7%	20.4%	10.8%	31.1%
Cherish						
Clan Mor	<100	0.0%	59.7%	29.0%	11.3%	40.3%
Clogher Valley	109	2.8%	63.3%	27.5%	6.4%	33.9%
Coleraine	127	3.9%	57.5%	29.9%	8.7%	38.6%
Colin	266	4.1%	60.2%	27.8%	7.9%	35.7%
Dalriada	142	7.7%	66.2%	19.7%	6.3%	26.1%
Downpatrick	229	7.9%	59.8%	24.0%	8.3%	32.3%
Dungannon	229	7.9%	65.9%	20.5%	5.7%	26.2%
Dungiven						
East Belfast	280	6.1%	62.1%	25.4%	6.4%	31.8%
Edenballymore						
Glenbrook	209	5.7%	59.8%	25.4%	9.1%	34.4%
Gold	166	7.8%	59.6%	27.1%	5.4%	32.5%
Horizon	112	6.3%	54.5%	25.9%	13.4%	39.3%
Kilkeel	<100	15.6%	53.1%	15.6%	15.6%	31.3%
LAST						
Lisburn	<100	14.7%	61.8%	13.2%	10.3%	23.5%
Little Hands						
Newry City	169	8.9%	63.3%	21.3%	6.5%	27.8%
Outer West Belfast	236	4.7%	64.4%	25.0%	5.9%	30.9%
Rainbow						
Saol Ur	165	3.0%	61.8%	25.5%	9.7%	35.2%
Shankill	340	4.7%	62.9%	23.2%	9.1%	32.4%
Shantallow						
Smile	160	5.6%	55.6%	27.5%	11.3%	38.8%
South Armagh	338	5.9%	68.6%	20.1%	5.3%	25.4%
South Belfast	240	6.3%	64.2%	22.5%	7.1%	29.6%
Splash	229	7.0%	62.9%	25.3%	4.8%	30.1%
Star	<100	9.6%	65.4%	19.2%	5.8%	25.0%
Strabane						
Waterside						
<b>Children living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>5,098</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>61.8%</b>	<b>24.0%</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>31.9%</b>
<b>Children not living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>11,223</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>67.4%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>25.1%</b>
<b>Children - address not known</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>65.2%</b>	<b>19.6%</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>30.4%</b>
<b>All children</b>	<b>16,367</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>65.7%</b>	<b>21.2%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>27.2%</b>

Source: Child Health System

\* NOTE THAT IN 2018/19, CHILDREN IN WESTERN TRUST DID NOT HAVE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS TAKEN. THEREFORE 2018/19 DATA IS BASED ON FOUR OUT OF FIVE HEALTH TRUSTS ONLY. DATA HAS NOT BEEN SHOWN FOR A NUMBER OF SURESTART AREAS AND THIS REMOVED APPROXIMATELY 1,200 CHILDREN WHO WERE RESIDENT IN THESE AREAS, BUT NOT RESIDENT IN WHSCT AREA.

Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 11½ and 12½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using International Obesity TaskForce measures

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

Note that some percentages above are based on small numbers

Disclosure controls have been applied to the data

## British 1990 Growth Reference (UK90) Classification

### Key Points

#### Primary 1

- Based on the UK90 classification, in 2018/19, 26.1% of children in Northern Ireland measured in Primary 1 were considered overweight or obese. This compares to 22.6% in England and 22.4% in Scotland (Wales figure for 2018/19 was not available, equivalent figure for 2017/18 = 26.4%) *[Page 67]*.
- Of those children measured in Primary 1 across NI in 2018/19, 11.6% were considered obese. This figure has fluctuated only slightly over the last ten years *[Page 68]*.
- There was little difference between the genders in those children measured during 2018/19 (males = 26.6%, females = 25.5%) *[Page 69]*.
- Based on this classification, over a quarter (28.6%) of children in NHSCT were considered overweight/obese. SEHSCT had the lowest proportion at 24.6% *[Page 69]*.
- The proportion of children overweight/obese by Council area ranged from 22.3% (Fermanagh and Omagh LGD) to 30.2% (Antrim and Newtownabbey LGD) *[Page 69]*.
- Levels of overweight/obesity decreased as deprivation level decreased. 29% of children living in the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland (NIMDM 2017) were measured as overweight/obese, compared to 22.4% of children from the least deprived areas *[Page 69]*.

#### Year 8 (2018/19 excludes WHSCT)

- In 2018/19, more than 1 in 3 children in Year 8 were measured as overweight/obese (35.2%), a slight decrease on the previous year (35.6%) *[Page 71]*.
- At this age, more males than females were considered overweight/obese (38.3% male, 32.1% female) *[Page 72]*.

## PRIMARY 1 (UK90)

Table 12.7: Levels of obesity in Primary 1/Reception aged children, by UK country (UK90), 2012/13 - 2019/20

Country	Year measured (school year)	Number measured (with a valid height and weight)	% children in each BMI category (UK90)				
			Underweight	Healthy	Overweight	Obese	Overweight and obese
Northern Ireland	2012/13	21,934	0.5%	73.7%	15.0%	10.8%	25.8%
	2013/14	23,048	0.5%	73.5%	15.4%	10.7%	26.1%
	2014/15	21,780	0.6%	74.2%	14.3%	10.8%	25.1%
	2015/16	23,778	0.5%	73.5%	14.7%	11.2%	25.9%
	2016/17	24,042	0.7%	74.1%	14.5%	10.7%	25.2%
	2017/18	23,314	0.8%	74.6%	14.0%	10.7%	24.6%
	2018/19	22,848	0.7%	73.2%	14.5%	11.6%	26.1%
	2019/20	Not available due to impact of COVID-19 pandemic on data collection					
England	2012/13	587,678	0.9%	76.9%	13.0%	9.3%	22.2%
	2013/14	587,336	0.9%	76.5%	13.1%	9.5%	22.5%
	2014/15	610,636	1.0%	77.2%	12.8%	9.1%	21.9%
	2015/16	625,326	1.0%	76.9%	12.8%	9.3%	22.1%
	2016/17	629,359	1.0%	76.4%	13.0%	9.6%	22.6%
	2017/18	610,435	1.0%	76.6%	12.8%	9.5%	22.4%
	2018/19	597,812	1.0%	76.5%	12.9%	9.7%	22.6%
	2019/20	399,470	0.9%	76.1%	13.1%	9.9%	23.0%
Scotland	2012/13	54,413	1.2%	77.5%	12.0%	9.4%	21.3%
	2013/14	55,027	1.0%	76.3%	12.4%	10.2%	22.6%
	2014/15	54,976	1.1%	77.1%	12.0%	9.8%	21.8%
	2015/16	53,721	1.2%	76.7%	12.2%	10.0%	22.1%
	2016/17	52,531	1.0%	76.1%	12.4%	10.5%	22.9%
	2017/18	52,923	1.1%	76.4%	12.3%	10.2%	22.5%
	2018/19	45,066	1.0%	76.6%	12.2%	10.3%	22.4%
	2019/20	25,228	1.0%	76.3%	12.3%	10.3%	22.7%
Wales	2012/13	29,259	0.6%	73.2%	14.9%	11.3%	26.2%
	2013/14	30,693	0.8%	72.7%	14.6%	11.8%	26.4%
	2014/15	32,859	0.9%	72.9%	14.6%	11.6%	26.1%
	2015/16	33,337	1.0%	72.9%	14.5%	11.7%	26.2%
	2016/17	33,159	0.8%	72.1%	14.7%	12.4%	27.1%
	2017/18	32,166	0.8%	72.8%	14.3%	12.0%	26.4%
	2018/19	31,756	0.7%	72.4%	14.4%	12.6%	26.9%
	2019/20	Not available due to impact of COVID-19 pandemic on data collection					

**Source:**

Northern Ireland: Child Health System (Health Trusts)

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, schools closed during the 2019/20 school year and therefore all measurements may not have been carried out. Consequently, data for 2019/20 does not have sufficient coverage and therefore has not been provided.

England: National Child Measurement Programme, NHS Digital/Public Health England <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/national-child-measurement-programme>

In March 2020, schools in England were closed to the majority of children in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. With schools closed and school nursing teams being deployed to support the pandemic response, NCMP measurements could not take place. Therefore as a result, data for 2019/20 is based on partial collection of data for some Local Authorities.

Scotland: Information Services Division, National Services Scotland (NHS Scotland) <https://beta.isdscotland.org/topics/child-health/child-weight-and-growth/>

In 2019/20 coverage fell to 44% due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, data should be interpreted with a degree of caution.

Wales: Child Measurement Programme for Wales, Public Health Wales <https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/child-measurement-programme/> Data for 2019/20 is not available due to impact of COVID-19 pandemic on data collection.

**Table 12.8: BMI levels in Primary 1 children across Northern Ireland (UK90), 2008/09 - 2018/19**

BMI category	% Primary 1 children										
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
<b>Number of children</b>	<b>18,514</b>	<b>19,749</b>	<b>19,469</b>	<b>21,223</b>	<b>21,934</b>	<b>23,048</b>	<b>21,780</b>	<b>23,778</b>	<b>24,042</b>	<b>23,314</b>	<b>22,848</b>
Underweight	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%	0.8%	0.7%
Healthy	73.6%	73.8%	72.8%	74.2%	73.7%	73.5%	74.2%	73.5%	74.1%	74.6%	73.2%
Overweight	15.2%	15.1%	15.4%	14.5%	15.0%	15.4%	14.3%	14.7%	14.5%	14.0%	14.5%
Obese	10.8%	10.7%	11.5%	10.7%	10.8%	10.7%	10.8%	11.2%	10.7%	10.7%	11.6%
<b>% children overweight/obese</b>	<b>25.95%</b>	<b>25.77%</b>	<b>26.86%</b>	<b>25.27%</b>	<b>25.77%</b>	<b>26.07%</b>	<b>25.15%</b>	<b>25.94%</b>	<b>25.19%</b>	<b>24.64%</b>	<b>26.09%</b>

Source: Child Health System

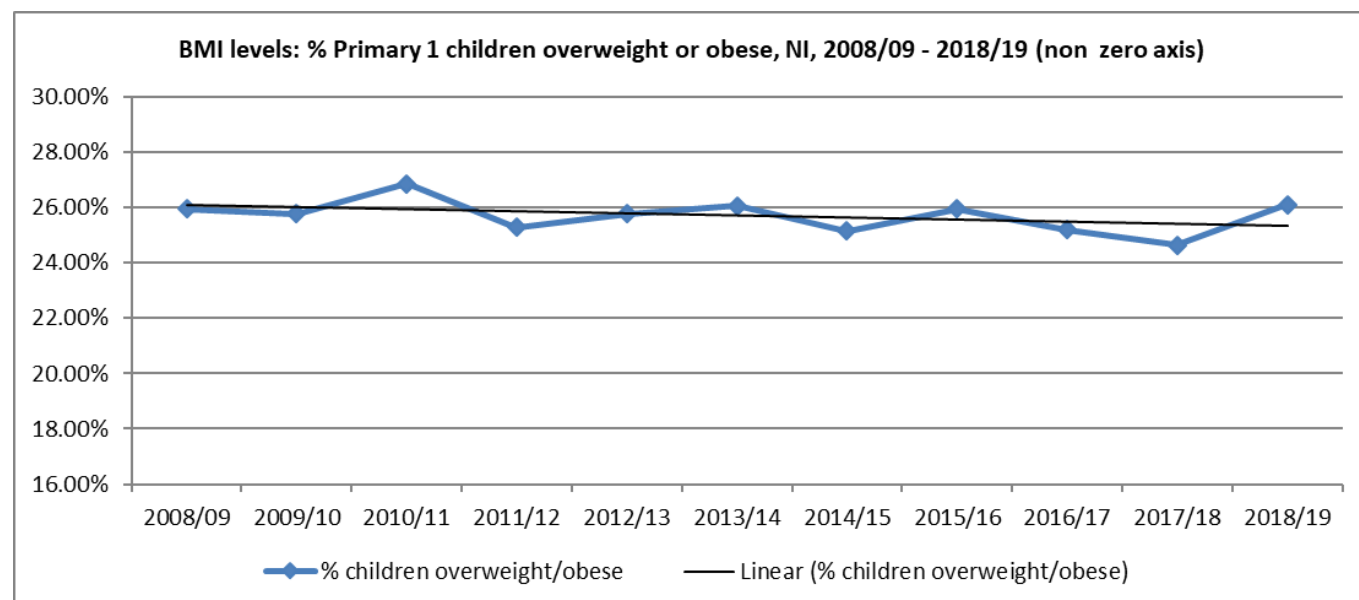
Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 4½ and 5½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using British 1990 (UK90) Growth Reference thresholds

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

**Figure 12.3: % Primary 1 children overweight or obese, Northern Ireland (UK90), 2008/09 – 2018/19**



**Table 12.9: BMI levels in Primary 1 children across Northern Ireland (UK90), 2018/19**

		No. of children by BMI category					% children overweight or obese
		Underweight	Healthy	Overweight	Obese	Total	
Gender	Male	117	8,462	1,698	1,412	<b>11,689</b>	26.61%
	Female	47	8,262	1,608	1,242	<b>11,159</b>	25.54%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>16,724</b>	<b>3,306</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>26.09%</b>
Trust of residence of child	Belfast	43	3,107	584	472	<b>4,206</b>	25.11%
	Northern	36	4,006	877	745	<b>5,664</b>	28.64%
	South Eastern	17	3,232	604	458	<b>4,311</b>	24.63%
	Southern	49	3,770	729	542	<b>5,090</b>	24.97%
	Western	18	2,577	504	434	<b>3,533</b>	26.55%
	Not known	1	32	8	3	<b>44</b>	25.00%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>16,724</b>	<b>3,306</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>26.09%</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	18	1,157	255	253	<b>1,683</b>	30.18%
	Ards and North Down	9	1,367	261	142	<b>1,779</b>	22.65%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	29	1,948	353	262	<b>2,592</b>	23.73%
	Belfast	40	2,999	583	481	<b>4,103</b>	25.93%
	Causeway Coast and Glens	11	1,168	262	207	<b>1,648</b>	28.46%
	Derry City and Strabane	8	1,175	261	237	<b>1,681</b>	29.63%
	Fermanagh and Omagh	8	1,136	183	145	<b>1,472</b>	22.28%
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	9	1,295	234	187	<b>1,725</b>	24.41%
	Mid and East Antrim	7	1,085	232	211	<b>1,535</b>	28.86%
	Mid Ulster	10	1,520	335	214	<b>2,079</b>	26.41%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	14	1,842	339	312	<b>2,507</b>	25.97%
	Not known	1	32	8	3	<b>44</b>	25.00%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>16,724</b>	<b>3,306</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>26.09%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of child	Most deprived	40	3,232	722	611	<b>4,605</b>	28.95%
	2	36	3,572	748	612	<b>4,968</b>	27.38%
	3	33	3,564	668	540	<b>4,805</b>	25.14%
	4	24	3,363	663	522	<b>4,572</b>	25.92%
	Least deprived	30	2,961	497	366	<b>3,854</b>	22.39%
	Not known	1	32	8	3	<b>44</b>	25.00%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>16,724</b>	<b>3,306</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>26.09%</b>

Source: Child Health System

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 4½ and 5½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using British 1990 (UK90) Growth Reference thresholds

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

**Table 12.10: BMI levels in Primary 1 children across Northern Ireland, by Sure Start area (UK90), 2018/19**

Sure Start area	Total children	% children by BMI category				% children overweight or obese
		Underweight	Healthy	Overweight	Obese	
Abbey	257	1.2%	72.4%	12.5%	14.0%	26.5%
Antrim	<100	0.0%	59.5%	17.6%	23.0%	40.5%
Ards	270	0.7%	72.6%	15.2%	11.5%	26.7%
ArKe	162	1.2%	74.7%	9.9%	14.2%	24.1%
Ballymena	188	1.1%	64.9%	15.4%	18.6%	34.0%
Bangor	114	0.0%	76.3%	14.9%	8.8%	23.7%
Beechmount	<100	0.0%	66.7%	10.7%	22.7%	33.3%
Blossom	187	1.1%	73.8%	10.2%	15.0%	25.1%
Cherish	240	1.3%	79.6%	10.8%	8.3%	19.2%
Clan Mor	<100	2.3%	65.5%	20.7%	11.5%	32.2%
Clogher Valley	161	0.0%	73.9%	19.9%	6.2%	26.1%
Coleraine	186	1.6%	68.8%	17.2%	12.4%	29.6%
Colin	315	0.3%	71.1%	14.3%	14.3%	28.6%
Dalriada	197	0.5%	74.1%	14.7%	10.7%	25.4%
Downpatrick	308	0.0%	73.1%	15.3%	11.7%	26.9%
Dungannon	343	1.7%	73.2%	14.3%	10.8%	25.1%
Dungiven	204	1.0%	68.1%	16.7%	14.2%	30.9%
East Belfast	422	0.7%	71.1%	15.4%	12.8%	28.2%
Edenballymore	136	0.0%	69.9%	15.4%	14.7%	30.1%
Glenbrook	273	2.2%	75.8%	12.1%	9.9%	22.0%
Gold	266	0.0%	71.4%	16.2%	12.4%	28.6%
Horizon	182	0.5%	67.6%	16.5%	15.4%	31.9%
Kilkeel	<100	2.3%	76.7%	11.6%	9.3%	20.9%
LAST	249	0.4%	73.9%	14.1%	11.6%	25.7%
Lisburn	111	0.9%	63.1%	17.1%	18.9%	36.0%
Little Hands	168	0.6%	67.9%	19.6%	11.9%	31.5%
Newry City	286	0.3%	68.5%	16.8%	14.3%	31.1%
Outer West Belfast	284	0.7%	72.2%	14.1%	13.0%	27.1%
Rainbow	127	0.0%	71.7%	11.8%	16.5%	28.3%
Saol Ur	239	0.4%	72.0%	15.5%	12.1%	27.6%
Shankill	368	1.9%	67.7%	15.2%	15.2%	30.4%
Shantallow	219	0.9%	71.2%	15.1%	12.8%	27.9%
Smile	219	0.0%	75.8%	14.2%	10.0%	24.2%
South Armagh	432	0.0%	68.8%	18.1%	13.2%	31.3%
South Belfast	323	0.3%	68.4%	18.6%	12.7%	31.3%
Splash	271	0.4%	73.1%	15.9%	10.7%	26.6%
Star	<100	2.4%	78.0%	17.1%	2.4%	19.5%
Strabane	279	0.4%	62.0%	20.1%	17.6%	37.6%
Waterside	215	0.5%	74.0%	12.1%	13.5%	25.6%
<b>Children living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>8,521</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>71.1%</b>	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>28.2%</b>
<b>Children not living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>14,283</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>74.5%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>24.8%</b>
<b>Children - address not known</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>72.7%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>
<b>All children</b>	<b>22,848</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>73.2%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>26.1%</b>

Source: Child Health System

Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 4½ and 5½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using British 1990 (UK90) Growth Reference thresholds

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

Note that some percentages above are based on small numbers

Disclosure controls have been applied to the data

## **YEAR 8 (UK90)**

PLEASE NOTE THAT IN 2018/19, CHILDREN IN WESTERN TRUST DID NOT HAVE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS TAKEN AT YEAR 8. THEREFORE YEAR 8 DATA FOR 2018/19 IN THIS REPORT IS BASED ON FOUR OUT OF FIVE HEALTH TRUSTS ONLY. IN YEAR 8, APPROXIMATELY 3,000 CHILDREN WOULD HAVE BEEN MEASURED IN THE WESTERN TRUST AREA, WHILE ONLY 124 CHILDREN WERE MEASURED.

Coverage at Year 8 has never been complete, ranging from 15,000 – 18,000 children which would equate to 65 - 70%. Comparison with previous years' data including and excluding Western Trust has shown that the Northern Ireland figure is not materially affected.

**Table 12.11: BMI levels in Year 8 children across Northern Ireland (UK90), 2010/11 - 2018/19**

BMI category	% Year 8 children								
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19 *
Number of children	17,873	17,836	16,618	14,789	15,490	17,832	18,108	18,465	16,367
Underweight	1.1%	1.3%	1.3%	1.1%	1.5%	1.2%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%
Healthy	63.2%	62.8%	63.3%	62.9%	64.2%	63.6%	63.4%	62.9%	63.4%
Overweight	15.2%	15.7%	15.4%	15.0%	15.5%	15.3%	14.9%	15.2%	15.2%
Obese	20.6%	20.3%	20.1%	20.9%	18.8%	19.9%	20.2%	20.5%	20.0%
<b>% children overweight/obese</b>	<b>35.72%</b>	<b>35.97%</b>	<b>35.46%</b>	<b>35.93%</b>	<b>34.32%</b>	<b>35.16%</b>	<b>35.05%</b>	<b>35.64%</b>	<b>35.20%</b>

Source: Child Health System

\* NOTE THAT IN 2018/19, CHILDREN IN WESTERN TRUST DID NOT HAVE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS TAKEN. THEREFORE 2018/19 DATA IS BASED ON FOUR OUT OF FIVE HEALTH TRUSTS ONLY. A SMALL NUMBER OF CHILDREN WERE MEASURED WHO WERE RESIDENT IN WHSCT AREA (124) AND THESE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE DATA ABOVE  
Year refers to school year

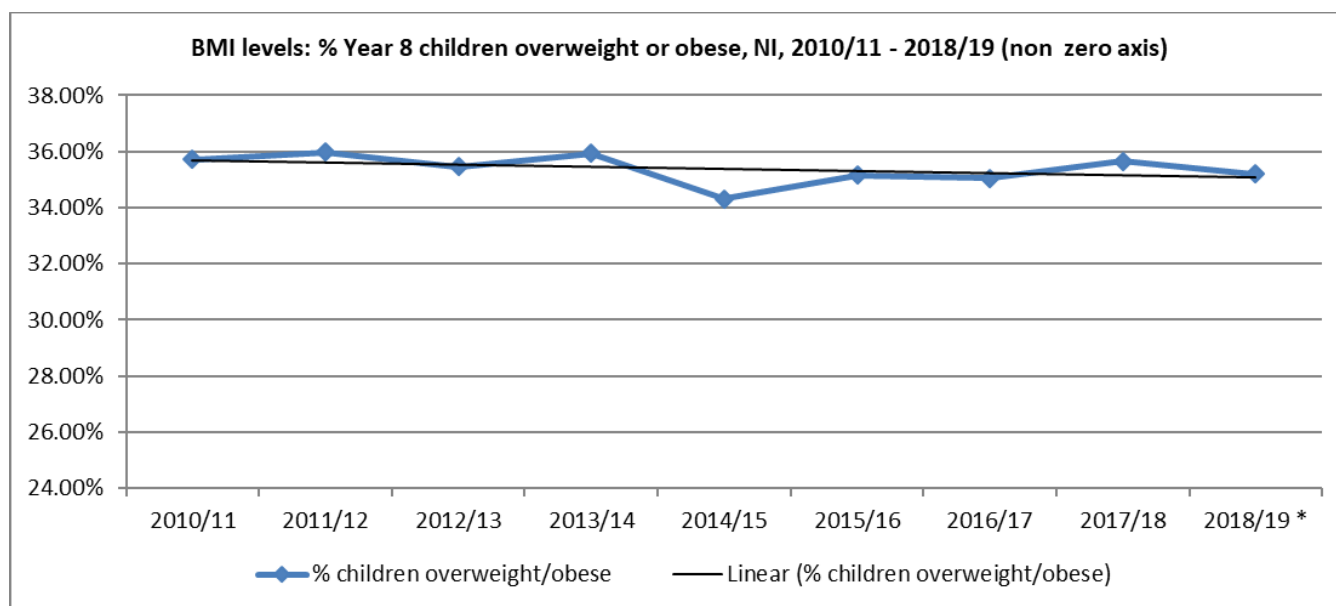
Children measured are typically between 11½ and 12½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using British 1990 (UK90) Growth Reference thresholds

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete

Due to lower coverage in previous years, figures are only available for Year 8 from 2010/11

**Figure 12.4: % Year 8 children overweight or obese, Northern Ireland (UK90), 2010/11 – 2018/19**



**Table 12.12: BMI levels in Year 8 children across Northern Ireland (UK90), 2018/19**

		No. of children by BMI category *					% children overweight or obese
		Underweight	Healthy	Overweight	Obese	Total	
Gender	Male	101	4953	1273	1859	<b>8,186</b>	38.26%
	Female	137	5416	1215	1413	<b>8,181</b>	32.12%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>10,369</b>	<b>2,488</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>16,367</b>	<b>35.19%</b>
Trust of residence of child	Belfast	42	1974	481	696	<b>3,193</b>	36.86%
	Northern	74	3299	848	1072	<b>5,293</b>	36.27%
	South Eastern	51	2279	532	665	<b>3,527</b>	33.94%
	Southern	70	2697	609	808	<b>4,184</b>	33.87%
	Western						
	Not known	0	30	3	13	<b>46</b>	34.78%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>10,369</b>	<b>2,488</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>16,367</b>	<b>35.19%</b>
Council area (2014)	Antrim and Newtownabbey	23	1031	238	328	<b>1,620</b>	34.94%
	Ards and North Down	21	1068	236	268	<b>1,593</b>	31.64%
	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	41	1501	323	447	<b>2,312</b>	33.30%
	Belfast	44	1894	482	712	<b>3,132</b>	38.12%
	Causeway Coast and Glens						
	Derry City and Strabane						
	Fermanagh and Omagh						
	Lisburn and Castlereagh	21	867	198	238	<b>1,324</b>	32.93%
	Mid and East Antrim	21	893	247	319	<b>1,480</b>	38.24%
	Mid Ulster	23	1043	272	339	<b>1,677</b>	36.43%
	Newry, Mourne and Down	28	1237	279	368	<b>1,912</b>	33.84%
	Not known	0	30	3	13	<b>46</b>	34.78%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>10,369</b>	<b>2,488</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>16,367</b>	<b>35.19%</b>
Deprivation 2017 quintile (SOA) based on residence of child	Most deprived	27	1500	399	696	<b>2,622</b>	41.76%
	2	50	1787	464	611	<b>2,912</b>	36.92%
	3	48	2153	512	702	<b>3,415</b>	35.55%
	4	56	2569	591	739	<b>3,955</b>	33.63%
	Least deprived	57	2330	519	511	<b>3,417</b>	30.14%
	Not known	0	30	3	13	<b>46</b>	34.78%
	<b>All persons</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>10,369</b>	<b>2,488</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>16,367</b>	<b>35.19%</b>

Source: Child Health System

\* NOTE THAT IN 2018/19, CHILDREN IN WESTERN TRUST DID NOT HAVE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS TAKEN. THEREFORE 2018/19 DATA IS BASED ON FOUR OUT OF FIVE HEALTH TRUSTS ONLY. A SMALL NUMBER OF CHILDREN WERE MEASURED WHO WERE RESIDENT IN WHSCT AREA (124) AND THESE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE DATA ABOVE BY GENDER AND DEPRIVATION QUINTILE, HOWEVER THEY HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM TRUST AND COUNCIL LEVEL DATA. DATA HAS NOT BEEN SHOWN FOR 3 COUNCILS ABOVE AND THIS REMOVED APPROXIMATELY 1,200 CHILDREN WHO WERE RESIDENT IN THESE COUNCIL AREAS, BUT NOT RESIDENT IN WHSCT AREA.

NI Statistics and Research Agency, NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/news/nisra-releases-updated-deprivation-measures-northern-ireland>

Year refers to school year

Children measured are typically between 11½ and 12½ years of age

Figures above are categorised using British 1990 (UK90) Growth Reference thresholds

Note that in any year all children may not be measured and so coverage may not be complete



**Table 12.13: BMI levels in Year 8 children across Northern Ireland, by Sure Start area (UK90), 2018/19**

Sure Start area	Total children	% children by BMI category *				% children overweight or obese
		Underweight	Healthy	Overweight	Obese	
Abbey	234	2.1%	57.7%	16.2%	23.9%	40.2%
Antrim	<100	0.0%	43.1%	21.6%	35.3%	56.9%
Ards	232	1.3%	62.1%	15.9%	20.7%	36.6%
ArKe	103	1.0%	64.1%	12.6%	22.3%	35.0%
Ballymena	169	1.8%	56.2%	16.0%	26.0%	42.0%
Bangor	<100	0.0%	64.9%	14.9%	20.3%	35.1%
Beechmount	<100	1.9%	55.8%	7.7%	34.6%	42.3%
Blossom	167	0.6%	61.7%	12.0%	25.7%	37.7%
Cherish						
Clan Mor	<100	0.0%	51.6%	19.4%	29.0%	48.4%
Clogher Valley	109	2.8%	54.1%	15.6%	27.5%	43.1%
Coleraine	127	0.0%	54.3%	15.7%	29.9%	45.7%
Colin	266	1.5%	54.5%	17.7%	26.3%	44.0%
Dalriada	142	1.4%	62.0%	18.3%	18.3%	36.6%
Downpatrick	229	0.9%	54.6%	17.9%	26.6%	44.5%
Dungannon	229	0.0%	64.6%	17.0%	18.3%	35.4%
Dungiven						
East Belfast	280	1.8%	58.6%	13.6%	26.1%	39.6%
Edenballymore						
Glenbrook	209	1.9%	58.9%	11.0%	28.2%	39.2%
Gold	166	2.4%	53.6%	20.5%	23.5%	44.0%
Horizon	112	0.9%	54.5%	13.4%	31.3%	44.6%
Kilkeel	<100	6.3%	53.1%	15.6%	25.0%	40.6%
LAST						
Lisburn	<100	5.9%	61.8%	13.2%	19.1%	32.4%
Little Hands						
Newry City	169	1.8%	66.3%	9.5%	22.5%	32.0%
Outer West Belfast	236	0.8%	56.8%	20.8%	21.6%	42.4%
Rainbow						
Saol Ur	165	0.6%	57.6%	13.9%	27.9%	41.8%
Shankill	340	0.6%	56.8%	16.2%	26.5%	42.6%
Shantallow						
Smile	160	1.3%	55.6%	11.9%	31.3%	43.1%
South Armagh	338	1.8%	64.8%	13.6%	19.8%	33.4%
South Belfast	240	1.3%	58.8%	16.3%	23.8%	40.0%
Splash	229	2.6%	60.7%	14.0%	22.7%	36.7%
Star	<100	3.8%	67.3%	11.5%	17.3%	28.8%
Strabane						
Waterside						
<b>Children living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>5,098</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>58.9%</b>	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>24.4%</b>	<b>39.7%</b>
<b>Children not living in Sure Start areas</b>	<b>11,223</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>65.4%</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>33.2%</b>
<b>Children - address not known</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>65.2%</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>34.8%</b>
<b>All children</b>	<b>16,367</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>63.4%</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>35.2%</b>

Source: Child Health System

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