



# Constituency Profile

## Belfast North

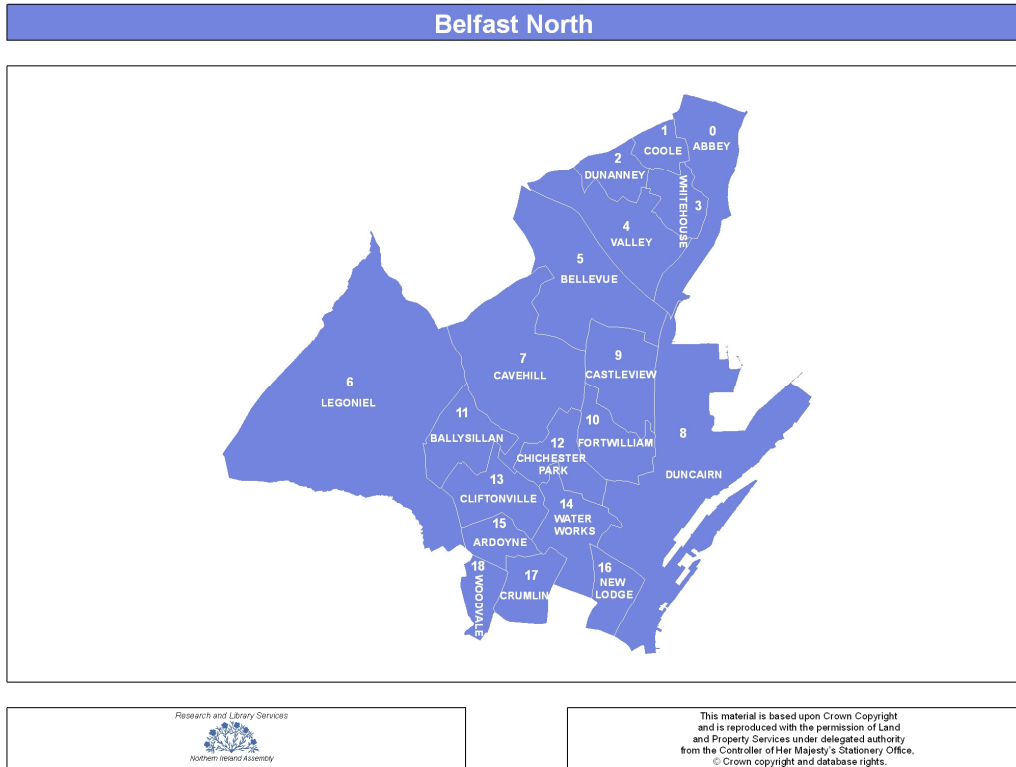
## September 2010

Using the latest data available through the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS) [www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk](http://www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk), this report provides an up-to-date statistical profile of the Constituency of Belfast North. It includes information on the demographics of people living in Belfast North as well as key indicators of Health, Education, the Economy, Employment, Housing, Crime and Poverty. For each indicator, this profile presents:

- The most up-to-date information available for Belfast North;
- How this compares with Northern Ireland as a whole;
- The ranking of the Constituency; and
- Information on the lowest and highest ranking wards where available.



This report presents a statistical profile of the Constituency of Belfast North which comprises of the 19 wards shown below.



<b>0</b>	<b>Abbey</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Fortwilliam</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Coole</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Ballysillan</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Dunanney</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Chichester Park</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Whitehouse</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Cliftonville</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Valley</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Water Works</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Bellvue</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Ardoyne</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Legoniel</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>New Lodge</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Cavehill</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Crumlin</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Duncairn</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Woodvale</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Castlevue</b>		

## **BELFAST NORTH: KEY FACTS**

### **Demographics**

- An estimated 83,493 people live in Belfast North, the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest population in 2008.
- Just over half (51.9%) of people living in Belfast North are of Protestant community background while 44.9% are of Catholic community background.
- Belfast North has a slightly higher proportion of people aged 60 and over compared to the Northern Ireland average (21.6% vs. 19.2%).

### **Health**

- Life expectancy in Belfast North is 72.6 years for males and 79.1 years for females, the second lowest Constituency in both cases.

Compared to Northern Ireland as a whole, Belfast North has a higher:

- Death rate due to cancer, respiratory disease, circulatory disease and suicide and undetermined intent.
- Rate of diagnosis of new cancers, the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate.
- Hospital admission ratio due to self harm, the Constituency with the highest rate
- Proportion of people estimated to be on prescribed mood and anxiety disorder drugs, the Constituency with the highest proportion.
- Proportion of people in receipt of at least one disability-related benefit, the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate.
- Rate of births to teenage mothers, the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate
- Prevalence of coronary heart disease, hypertension, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, obesity and diabetes mellitus for those attending GPs in Belfast North.

Compared to Northern Ireland as a whole, Belfast North has a lower:

- Prevalence of hypothyroid and chronic kidney disease for those attending GPs in Belfast North.

### **Education**

- A higher proportion of post-primary pupils have a Statement of Special Educational Need compared to all Northern Ireland pupils, the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of pupils with a SEN.
- A lower proportion of Belfast North school leavers achieving at least at least two A-levels and five GCSEs at grades A\*-C or compared to all Northern Ireland school leavers.

### **The Economy**

- Belfast North received £7.6 million from Invest NI in 2008/09.

- A lower proportion 'Invest NI Start a Business' participants from Belfast North were offered financial assistance compared to the Northern Ireland figure.

### **Employment**

- 46,845 employee jobs are located in Belfast North. A higher proportion of Belfast North employee jobs were in services and a lower proportion were in manufacturing compared to the Northern Ireland average.
- In 2009, Belfast North was the Constituency with the 6<sup>th</sup> highest number of redundancies with a total of 272 redundancies in the area.

### **Housing**

- There are 38,290 properties in Belfast North. Belfast North has a higher proportion of terraced, semi-detached and apartment properties compared to Northern Ireland. It also has a much lower proportion of detached properties when compared with Northern Ireland as a whole.
- A lower proportion of planning applications were approved in Belfast North when compared to the proportion of Northern Ireland approvals (89.7% vs. 94.2%).

### **Crime**

Compared to the Northern Ireland rates, Belfast North has:

- A much higher overall crime rate, the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate.
- Higher rates of burglary, theft, criminal damage and violent crime.
- Northern Ireland is also ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in terms of anti-social behaviour incidents per 100,000 people.

### **Poverty**

- Belfast North has the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of people (59%) living in the most deprived Super Output Areas in Northern Ireland.
- A higher proportion of people living in Belfast North are claiming benefits such as Income Support and Housing Benefit.

### **2010 Westminster Election Results**

- 65,504 people eligible to vote, 56.5% turnout – similar to the Northern Ireland turnout of 56.7%.
- Democratic Unionist Party candidate Nigel Dodds won the Belfast North seat.

### **2007 Assembly Election Results**

- 49,372 people were eligible to vote, the turnout at 59.1% turnout was lower than Northern Ireland turnout of 62.3%.
- The DUP and Sinn Féin won 2 seats each. The SDLP and UUP won 1 each.

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## 1. DEMOGRAPHICS

This section presents information on the population size, community background and age profile of those living in Belfast North.

### Population Size

As at June 2008, an estimated 83,493 people live in Belfast North, representing 4.7% of the Northern Ireland population (*Source: Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA), Mid-Year Estimates*).

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest population.

### Community Background

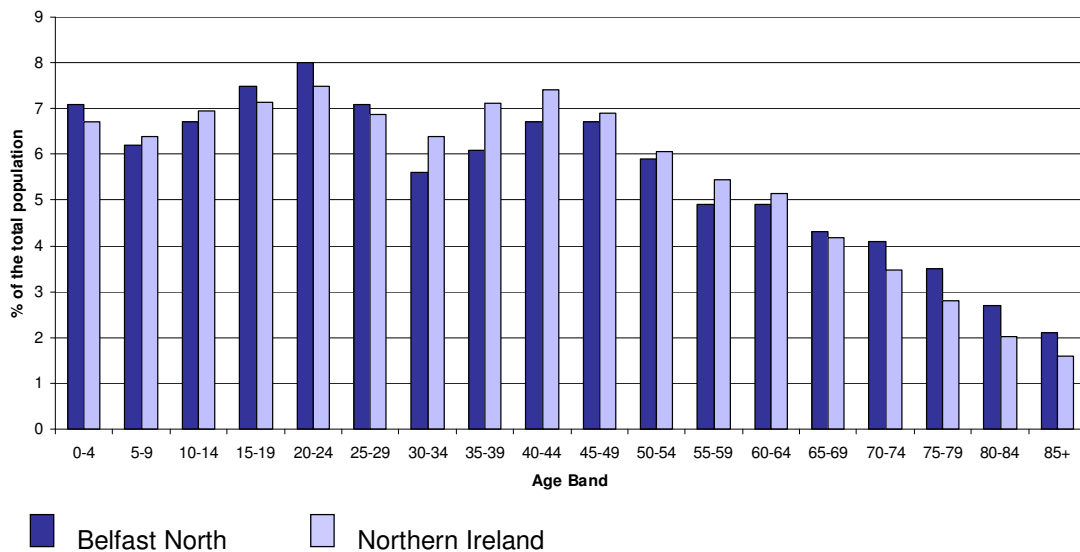
Just over half (51.9%) of people living in Belfast North are of Protestant community background. A lower proportion (44.9%) of people living in Belfast North are of Catholic community background than of Protestant background. The remainder stated they were of other or no community background (*Source: Census 2001*).

### Age profile of Belfast North

There is little difference in the proportion of people aged under 16 in Belfast North when compared to all of Northern Ireland (21.4% vs. 21.5%) while Belfast North has a slightly higher proportion aged 60 and over (21.6% vs. 19.2%).

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 9<sup>th</sup> lowest proportion of people aged under 16 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest proportion of people aged 60 and over.

**Chart 1: Age Profile of the population in 5 year age bands, June 2008**



*Source: NISRA (Mid-Year Estimates)*

## 2. HEALTH

This section presents information on a wide range of key indicators of health. These are:

- Life Expectancy of males and females (page 8);
- Standardised Death Rates due to Cancer, Respiratory Disease, Circulatory Disease (page 10);
- Deaths due to Suicide and Undetermined Intent (page 13);
- Cancer Diagnoses (page 14);
- Hospital Admissions due to Self Harm (page 15);
- Mood and Anxiety Disorder Prescriptions (page 16);
- Disability-related Benefit Recipients (page 17);
- Births to teenage mothers (page 18) and
- The prevalence of disease as reported through the Quality Outcomes Framework (page 20):
  - Coronary Heart Disease
  - Heart Failure
  - Stroke
  - Hypertension
  - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
  - Hypothyroid
  - Cancer
  - Mental Health
  - Asthma
  - Dementia
  - Atrial Fibrillation
  - Obesity
  - Diabetes Mellitus
  - Epilepsy
  - Chronic Kidney Disease
  - Learning Disabilities

## Life Expectancy of males

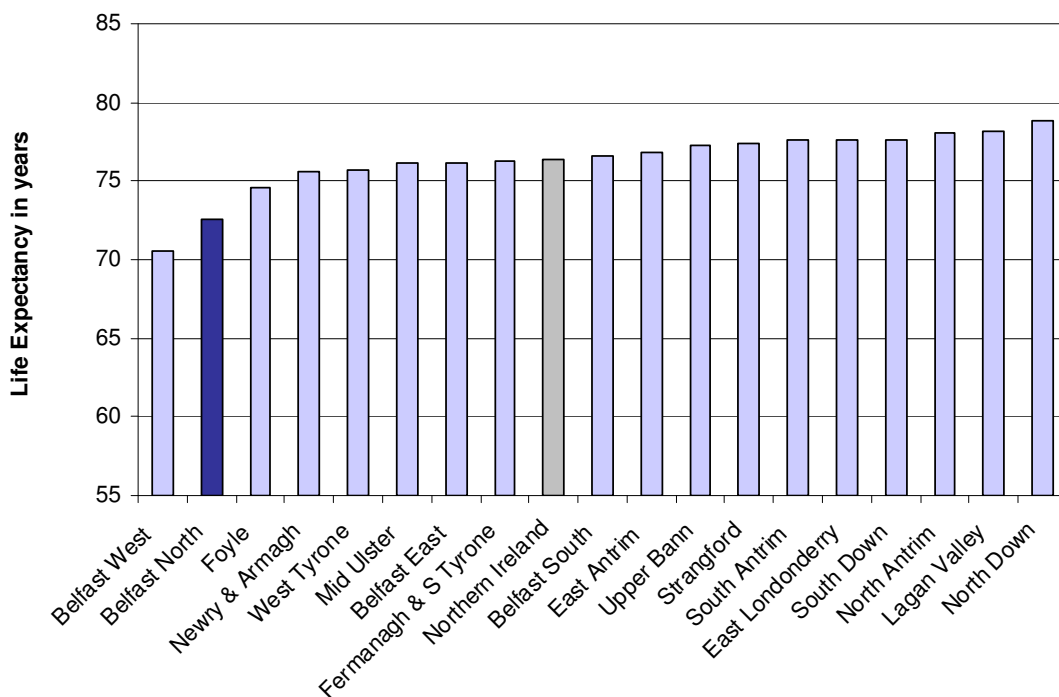
The life expectancy<sup>1</sup> of males living in Belfast North is estimated to be 72.6 years.

There life expectancy of males living in Belfast North is lower than that of all Northern Ireland males of 76.4 years.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest male life expectancy.

The life expectancy of males is lowest in the wards of Castleview, Chichester Park, Crumlin, Duncairn, Water Works, Woodvale, Coole, Dunanney, Valley, Whitehouse, Cliftonville, Legoniell, Ardoyne, and New Lodge where it is less than 75 years. Life expectancy of males is highest in Ballysillan, Cavehill, Fortwilliam and Abbey where it is greater than the Northern Ireland average but less than 85 years.<sup>2</sup>

**Chart 2: Life expectancy of males, 2006-2008**



Source: NISRA, Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS) (Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS))

<sup>1</sup> Calculated using the no. of deaths (General Register Office) and mid-year estimates (NISRA).

<sup>2</sup> Ward level data is presented using ranges as the small number of deaths at various age groups does not support robust calculation of an exact life expectancy value at this geographic level.

### Life Expectancy of Females

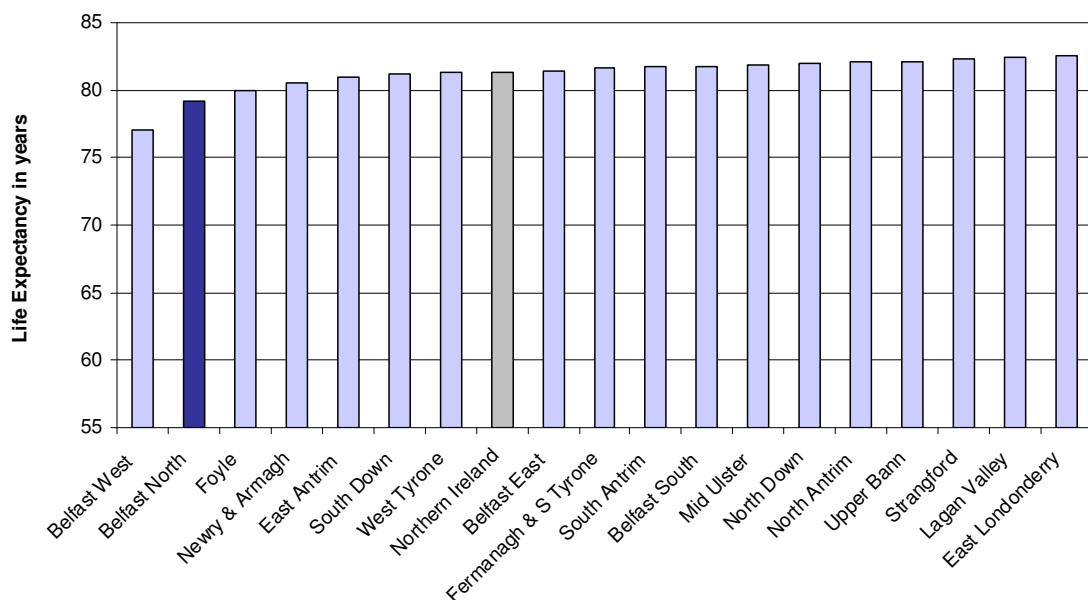
The life expectancy<sup>3</sup> of females living in Belfast North is estimated to be 79.1 years.

The life expectancy of females living in Belfast North is slightly lower than that of all Northern Ireland females of 81.3 years.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest female life expectancy.

The life expectancy of females is lowest in the wards of Ardoyne and New Lodge where it is less than 75 years and highest in the wards of Ballysillan, Cavehill, Cliftonville and Legoniel where it is greater than the Northern Ireland average but less than 85 years.<sup>4</sup>

**Chart 3: Life expectancy of females, 2006-2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (DHSSPS)

<sup>3</sup> Calculated using the no. of deaths (General Register Office) and mid-year estimates (NISRA).

<sup>4</sup> Ward level data is presented using ranges as the small number of deaths at various age groups does not support robust calculation of an exact life expectancy value at this geographic level.

## Standardised Death Rates

The standardised death rates<sup>5</sup> due to three main causes are presented here. These are death rates due to cancer, respiratory disease and circulatory disease. Standardisation allows for comparison between Constituencies having taken characteristics of the populations into account i.e. age and sex profiles.

### *Standardised Death Rates due to Cancer*

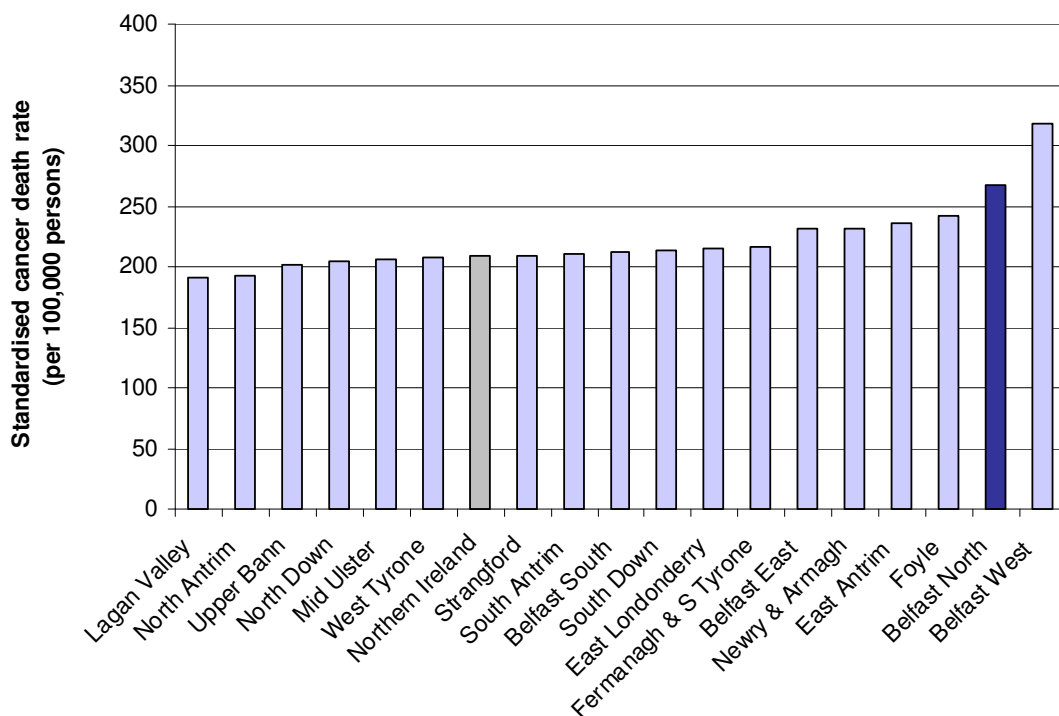
The standardised death rate due to cancer in Belfast North is 267 per 100,000 persons.

The death rate due to cancer in Belfast North is much higher than the Northern Ireland rate of 208 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest death rate due to cancer.

Information on death rates due to cancer is not available at ward level.

**Chart 4: Standardised death rates due to Cancer per 100,000 persons by Constituency, 2004-2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (General Register Office (GRO))

<sup>5</sup> Rates are based on the number of deaths provided by the General Register Office and 2004 - 2008 Mid-Year Estimates provided by NISRA.

### *Standardised Death Rates due to Respiratory Disease*

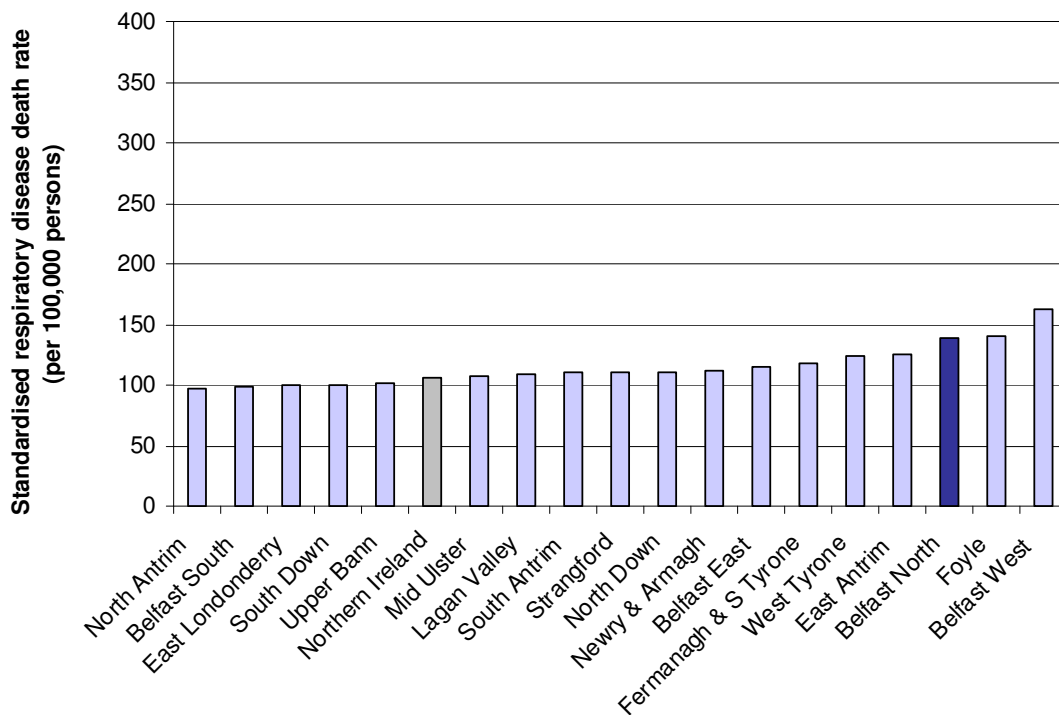
The standardised death rate due to respiratory disease in Belfast North is 139 per 100,000 persons.

The death rate due to respiratory disease in Belfast North is much higher than the Northern Ireland rate of 106 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest death rate due to respiratory disease.

Information on death rates due to respiratory is not available at ward level.

**Chart 5: Standardised Death rates due to Respiratory Disease per 100,000 persons by Constituency, 2004-2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

### *Standardised Death Rates due to Circulatory Disease*

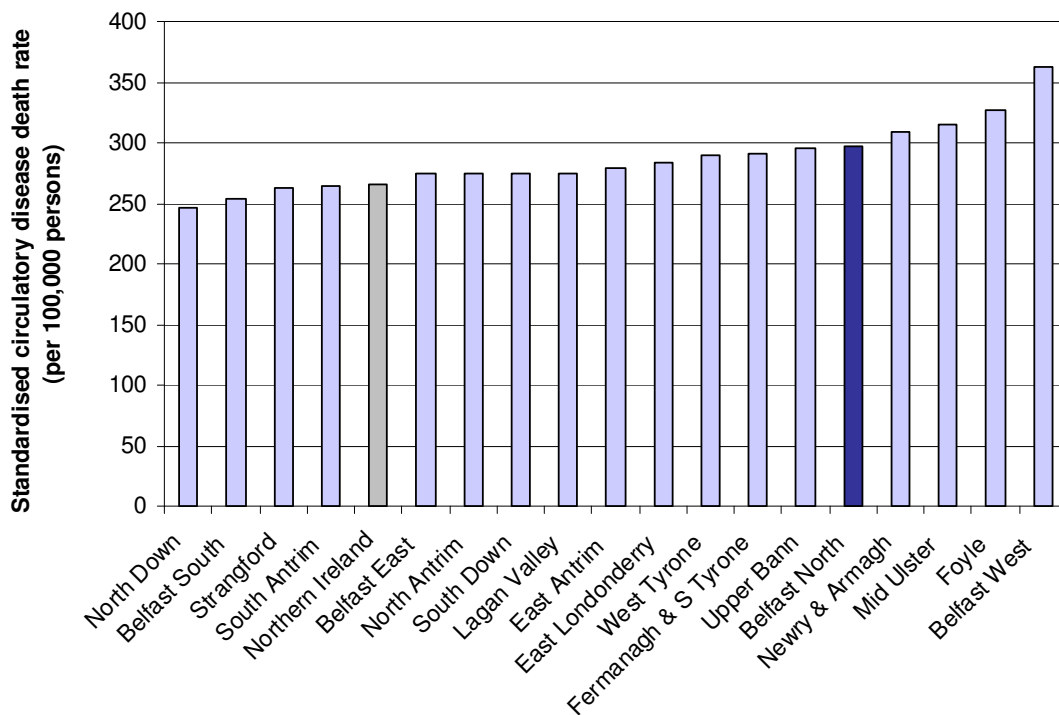
The standardised death rate due to circulatory disease in Belfast North is 297 per 100,000 persons.

The death rate due to circulatory disease is higher in Belfast North than the Northern Ireland rate of 266 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 5<sup>th</sup> highest death rate due to circulatory disease.

Information on death rates due to circulatory is not available at ward level.

**Chart 6: Standardised death rates due to Circulatory Disease per 100,000 persons by Constituency, 2004-2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

### Deaths due to Suicide and Undetermined Intent

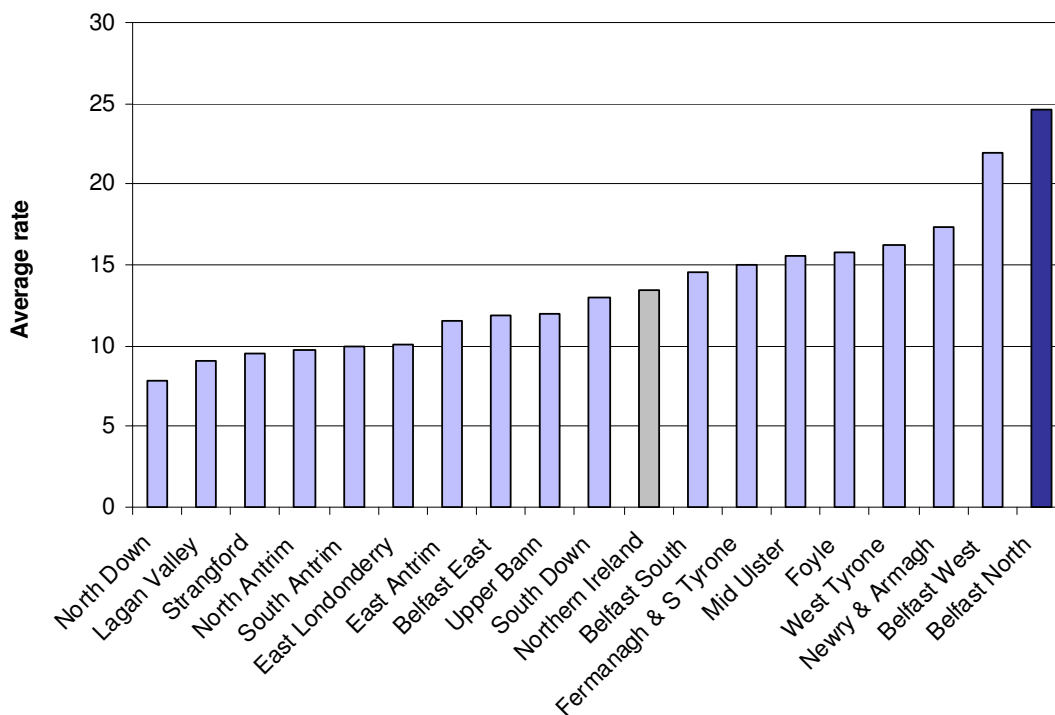
During the period 2004-2008, there were 101 deaths as a result of suicide and undetermined intent<sup>67</sup> in Belfast North. This equates to an average rate<sup>8</sup> of 25 per 100,000 persons per annum.

The average death rate due to suicide and undetermined intent is much higher for Belfast North than the Northern Ireland rate of 13 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the highest death rate due to suicide and undetermined intent.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 7: Average death rate per due to suicide and undetermined intent per 100,000 persons by Constituency, 2004-2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

<sup>6</sup> The information is aggregated data from the GRO death files, which are gathered when deaths are registered at the Registrar's Office.

<sup>7</sup> Death where the intention of the victim is not clear.

<sup>8</sup> Rate calculated using 2006 mid-year estimates provided by NISRA.

## Cancer Diagnoses

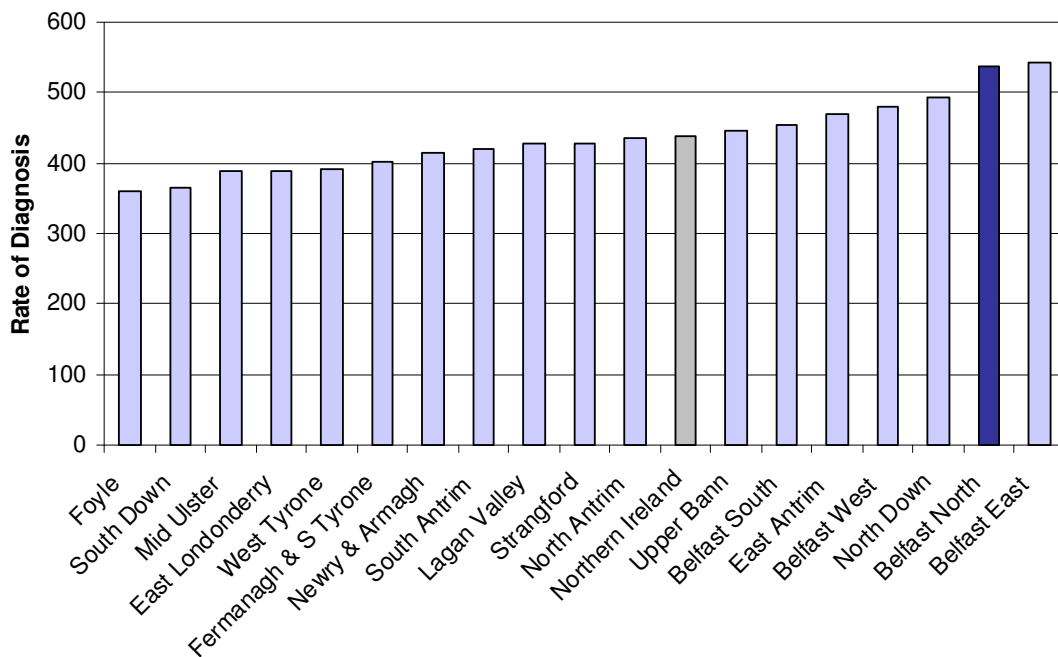
In 2007, there were 444 new incidences of cancer<sup>9,10</sup> diagnosed for Belfast North. This equates to a rate of 538 per 100,000 persons.

The rate of cancer diagnosis IS much higher for Belfast North than the Northern Ireland rate of 439 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate of cancer diagnosis in Northern Ireland.

During the period 2003-2007, rates<sup>11</sup> of cancer diagnosis per 100,000 persons are lowest in the wards of Ballysillan (414), Ardoyne (420) and Bellvue (432) and highest in the wards of Crumlin (794), Whitehouse (691) and Coole (653).

**Chart 8: Rate of diagnosis of all cancers per 100,000 persons by Constituency (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer), 2007**



Source: NISRA, NINIS, Northern Ireland Cancer Registry (calculated by DHSSPS)

<sup>9</sup> Excluding non-melanoma skin cancer.

<sup>10</sup> Data on cancer incidence are available from multiple sources, primarily pathological records, hospital discharges and death registrations from the General Registrar Office (GRO). This data is captured electronically, collated and quality assured on a regular basis to provide a population-based registry of cancer incidence for Northern Ireland. Tumour details are collected on cancer diagnoses according to the International Classification of Diseases, tenth revision (ICD10).

<sup>11</sup> Ward Rates calculated using 2005 mid-year estimates provided by NISRA.

### Hospital Admissions due to Self Harm

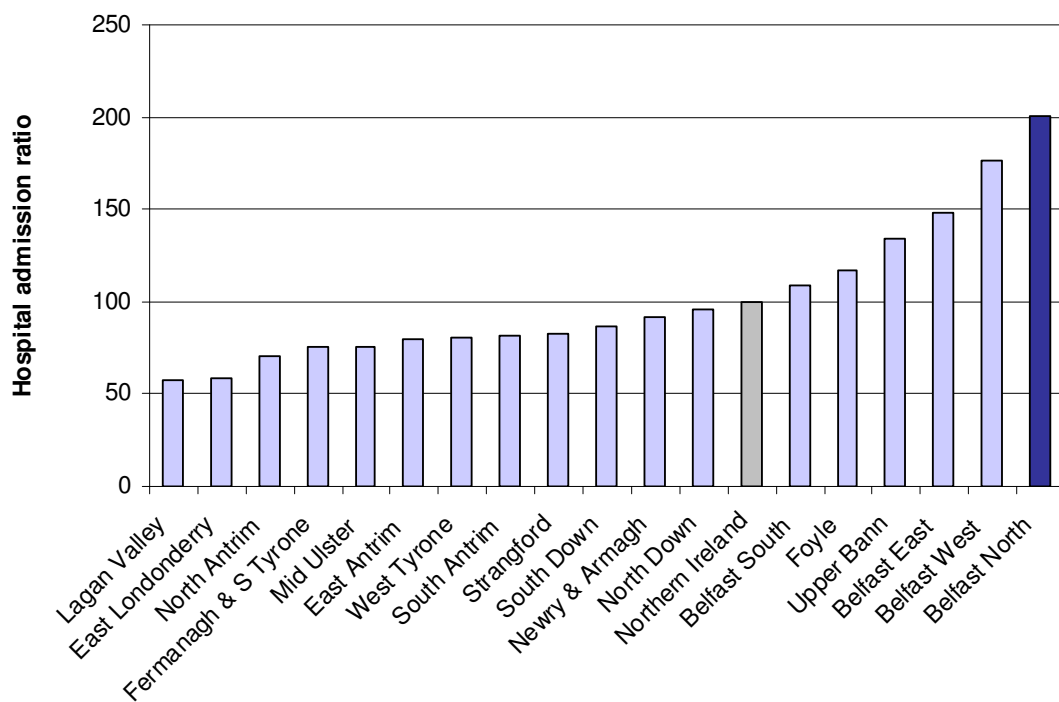
For the period 2005-2009, the standardised hospital admission ratio for self harm<sup>12</sup> in Belfast North stood at 201. Ratios are calculated to allow comparison of areas or groups to the NI average which is set to 100.

The standardised hospital admission ratio for self harm is much higher in Belfast North than the Northern Ireland ratio of 100. This is true for both males (214 compared to 100) and females (191 compared to 100).

Belfast North is the Constituency with the highest standardised hospital admission ratio for self harm.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 9: Standardised hospital admission ratio for self harm by Constituency, 2005-2009**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Northern Ireland Hospitals Patients Administration System, DHSSPS)

<sup>12</sup> The data is based upon the number of admissions due to self-harm provided by the Hospital Information Branch.

## Mood and Anxiety Disorder Prescriptions

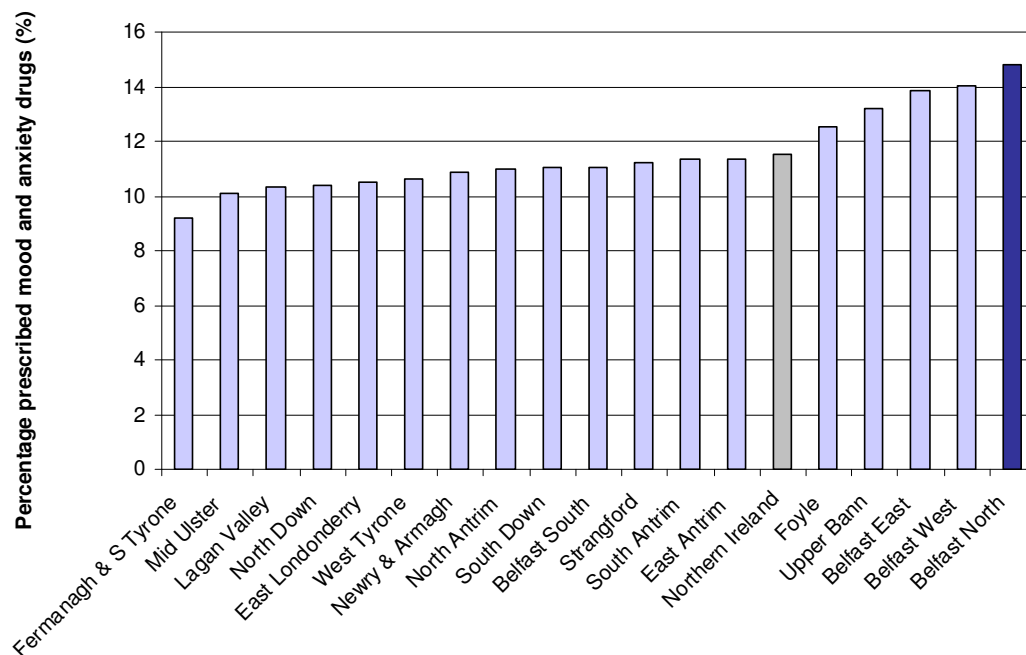
As at April 2008, an estimated 14.8% of people in Belfast North were on prescribed drugs for mood and anxiety disorders.<sup>13</sup>

A higher proportion of people in Belfast North are estimated to be on prescribed drugs for mood and anxiety disorders when compared to the Northern Ireland estimate of 11.5%.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the highest proportion of people estimated to be on prescribed drugs for mood and anxiety disorders.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 10: Estimated proportion of people on prescribed drugs for Mood and Anxiety Disorders by Constituency, April 2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GP practice prescription data for anxiolytic and anti-depressant drugs, DHSSPS)

<sup>13</sup> The number of individuals suffering from mood or anxiety disorders is estimated using prescription data by GP practice for anxiolytic and anti-depressant drugs. This data is then attributed to geographical area using the GP practice list.

### Disability-Related Benefit Recipients

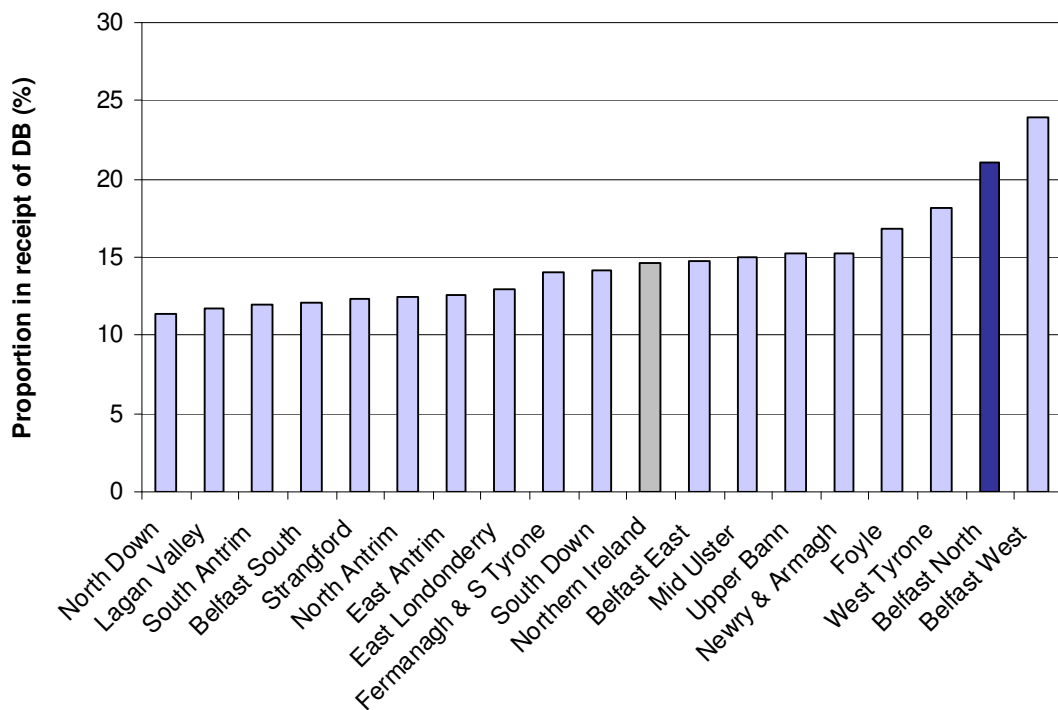
In February 2010, there were 17,548 people in Belfast North in receipt of at least one disability-related benefit.<sup>14</sup> This equates to 21.0% of all constituents receiving such benefits.

A higher proportion of people living in Belfast North were in receipt of disability-related benefits compared to the Northern Ireland average of 14.6%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of disability-related benefit recipients.

The lowest proportions of disability-related benefit recipients were concentrated in the wards of Cavehill (10.3%), Bellevue (16.1%), Abbey (16.6%) and Fortwilliam (16.6%) and the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of Crumlin (32.2%), New Lodge (30.4%) and Duncairn (26.9%).<sup>15</sup>

**Chart 11: Proportion of people in receipt of Disability-related Benefits by Constituency, 2010**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Analytical Services Unit, Department for Social Development (DSD))

<sup>14</sup> The information is aggregated data from IAD 100% scans of Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance data at 1992 ward level.

<sup>15</sup> Ward rates are calculated from total population using 2008 mid-year estimates.

## Births to Teenage Mothers

### *Proportion of all births which are to teenage mothers*

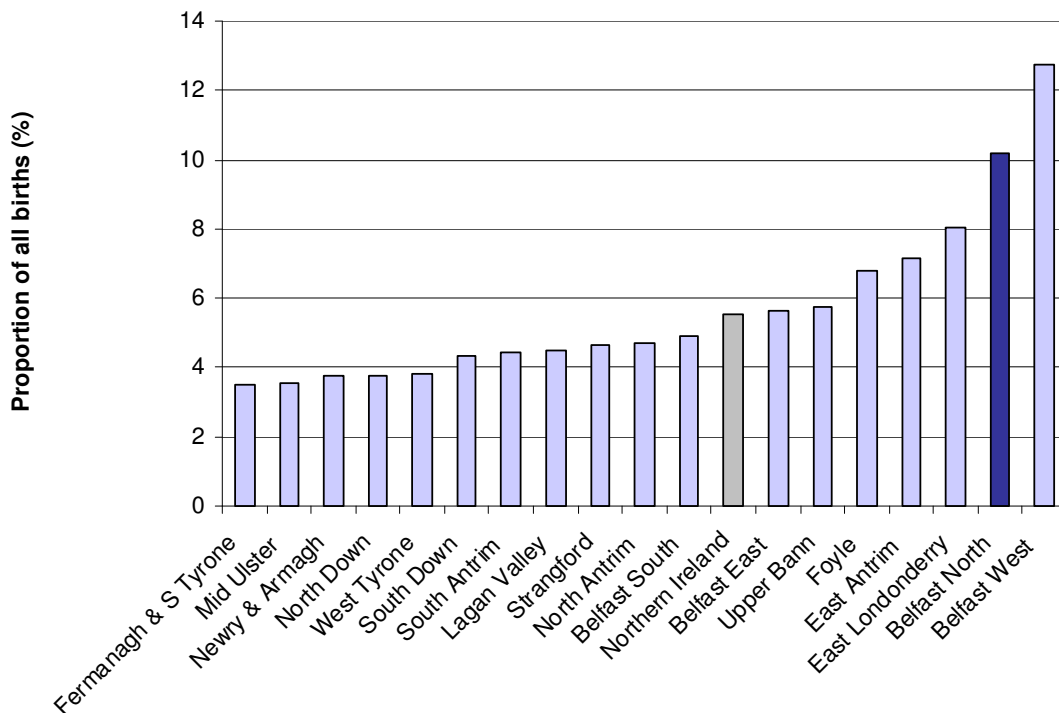
In 2008, there were 130 births to teenage mothers. Births to teenage mothers account for 10.2% of all births in Belfast North, although it is worth noting that this figure is influenced by the number of teenagers in the area and so the teenage birth rate (see over) is more accurate for the purposes of comparison between areas.

A higher proportion of births in Belfast North were to teenage mothers compared to the Northern Ireland average of 5.6%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of all births which are to teenage mothers.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 12: Proportion of all births which are to teenage mothers by Constituency, 2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

### Teenage Birth rate

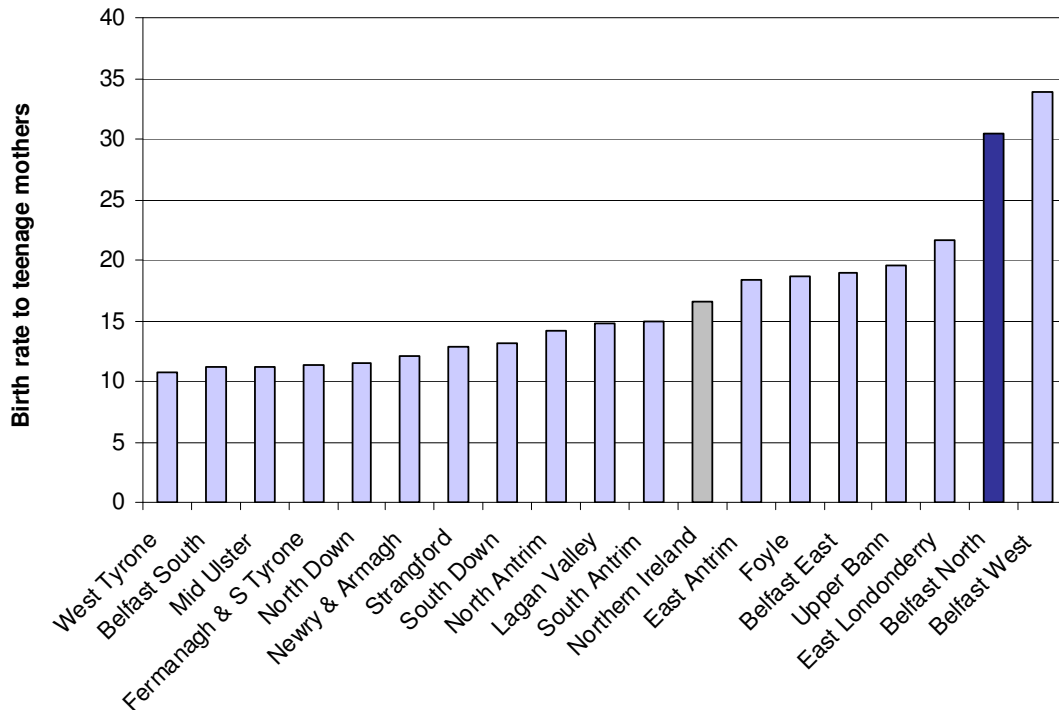
In 2008, the teenage birth rate of Belfast North stood at 30 per 1,000 female persons aged 13-19.

The teenage birth rate was much higher for Belfast North than the overall Northern Ireland rate of 17 per 1,000 female persons aged 13-19.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest teenage birth rate.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 13: Teenage Birth Rate per 1,000 females aged 13-19 by Constituency, 2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

### Quality Outcomes Framework – Disease Prevalence

The Quality Outcome Framework (QOF) is a system used to remunerate general practices; disease prevalence data per 1,000 patients is collected and then used within the QOF to deliver a more equitable distribution of payments in the light of different workloads that practices face.<sup>16</sup>

As at 31 March 2009, there was a higher prevalence of coronary heart disease, hypertension, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, obesity and epilepsy; and a lower prevalence of hypothyroid and chronic kidney disease amongst patients whose GP practice is located in the Belfast North area compared to GP practices across all of Northern Ireland.

**Table 1: Disease Prevalence per 1,000 patients as reported through QOF, 2009**

	Belfast North Patients		All Northern Ireland Patients	
	No.	Prevalence	No.	Prevalence
Coronary Heart Disease	6,212	47	75,278	41
All Heart Failure Patients	1,176	9	13,903	8
Stroke	2,414	18	31,063	17
Hypertension	16,810	127	225,093	122
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	3,410	26	29,099	16
Hypothyroid	3,786	29	57,599	31
Cancer	1,423	11	20,741	11
Mental Health	1,131	9	14,407	8
Asthma	7,714	58	104,527	56
Dementia	805	6	9,971	5
Atrial Fibrillation	1,788	13	23,827	13
Obesity (Patients aged 16+)	12,635	119	165,956	113
Diabetes Mellitus (Patients aged 17+)	5,338	51	65,066	45
Epilepsy (Patients aged 18+)	1,147	11	13,983	10
Chronic Kidney Disease (patients aged 18+)	3,459	34	55,150	39
Learning Disabilities (Patients aged 18+)	441	4	6,912	5

■ Higher than NI\*

■ Lower than NI\*

\* by more than 3

Source: NISRA, NINIS (Payment Calculation and Analysis System, DHSSPS)

<sup>16</sup> A full set of QOF data tables and explanation of the QOF can be found at [http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/hss/gp\\_contracts/gp\\_contract\\_qof.htm](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/hss/gp_contracts/gp_contract_qof.htm).

### 3. EDUCATION

This section presents information on:

- Post-primary pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Need
- The highest qualifications of school leavers and
- Participation in Further and Higher Education.

#### Statement of Special Educational Needs

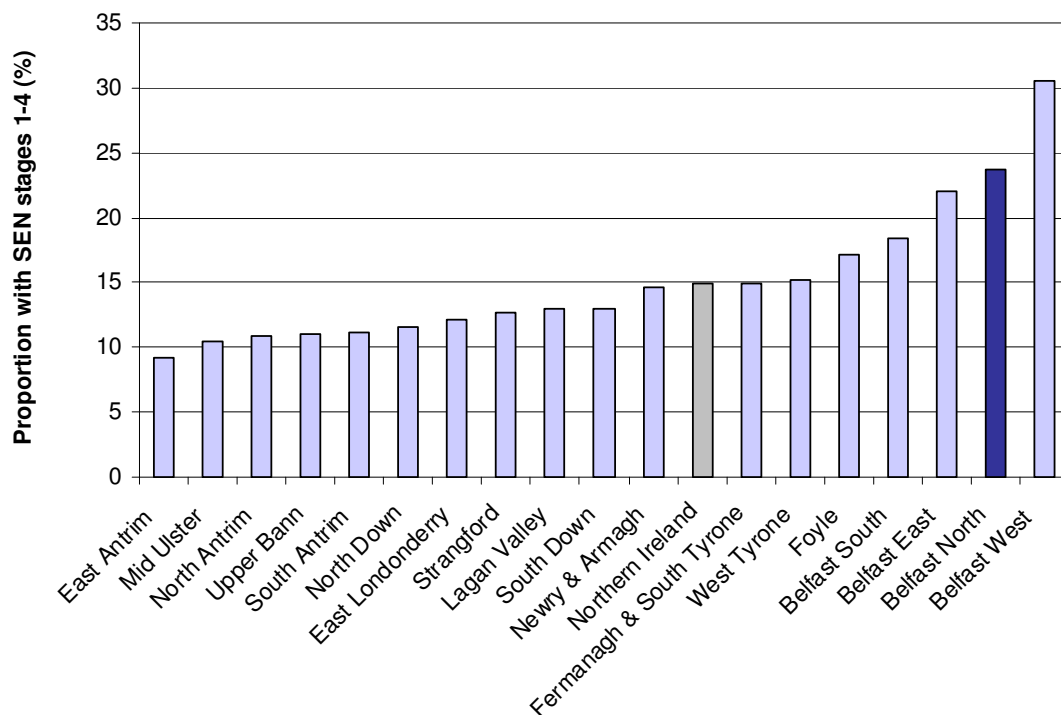
In 2008/09, 23.7% of Belfast North post-primary pupils had a Statement of Special Educational Need (SEN) at stages 1-4.

The proportion of post-primary pupils with a SEN at stages 1-4 was much higher for Belfast North than the Northern Ireland proportion of 14.9%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of pupils with a SEN at stages 1-4.

The lowest proportions of pupils with a SEN at stages 1-4 were concentrated in the wards of Whitehouse (6.5%), Abbey (7.4%) and Fortwilliam (11.7%) while the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of New Lodge (37.9%), Woodvale (33.9%) and Water Works (31.8%).

**Chart 14: Proportion of post-primary pupils with a SEN by Constituency, 2008/09**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (School Census, Department of Education (DE))

## Highest Qualifications of School Leavers

### *School leavers achieving at least two A-levels*

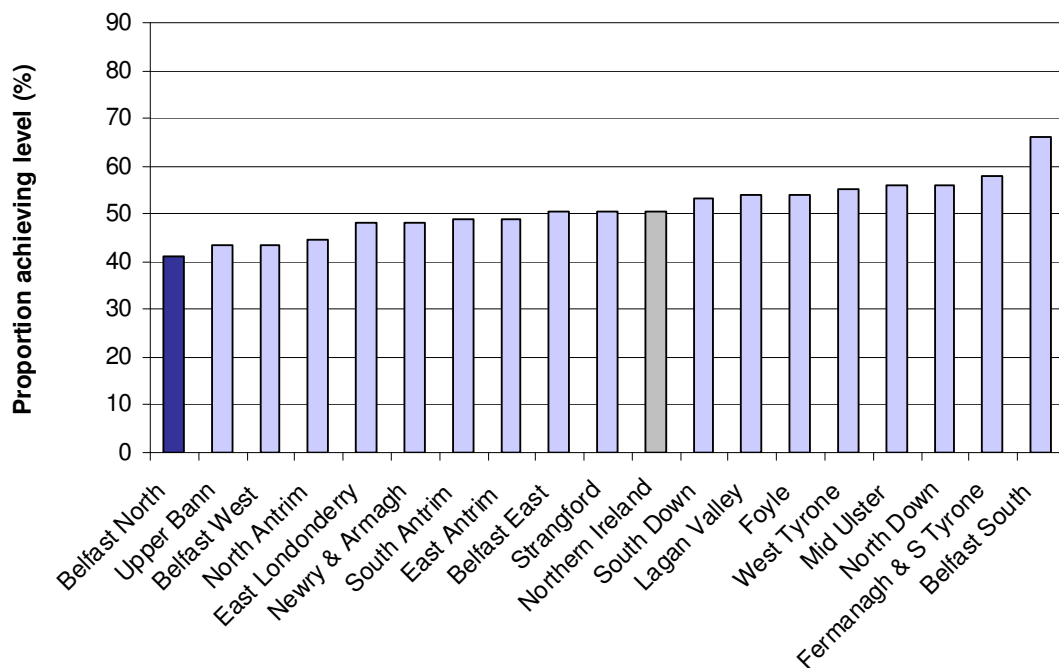
In 2008/09, 41.1% of Belfast North school leavers achieved at least two A-levels.

A lower proportion of pupils from Belfast North left school with at least two A-levels compared to the overall Northern Ireland figure of 50.6%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the lowest proportion of school leavers achieving at least two A-levels.

The lowest proportions of school leavers achieving at least two A-levels were concentrated in the wards of Crumlin (5.6%, 3 pupils), Duncairn (7.5%, 3 pupils) and Dunanney (8.3%, 3 pupils) and the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of Fortwilliam (72.5%), Cavehill (69.4%), and Chichester Park (62.9%).<sup>17</sup>

**Chart 15: Proportion of school leavers achieving at least two A-levels by Constituency, 2008/09**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (School Leavers Survey, DE)

<sup>17</sup> Note care should be taken in drawing conclusions from these figures due to the low numbers involved.

*At least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C*

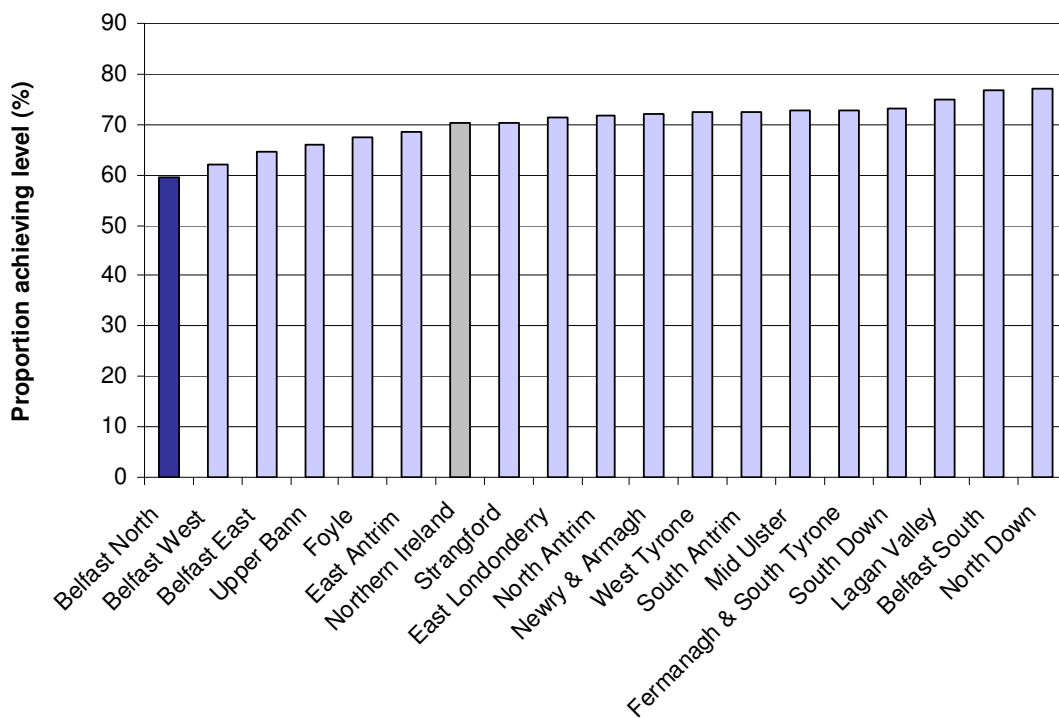
In 2008/09, 59.7% of Belfast North school leavers achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C.<sup>18</sup>

A lower proportion of Belfast North school leavers achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C as their highest level of attainment compared to all Northern Ireland school leavers (70.1%).

Belfast North was the Constituency with the lowest proportion of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C.

The lowest proportions of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C were concentrated in the wards of Duncairn (25.0%), Woodvale (30.2%) and Coole (31.0%) and the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of Cavehill (88.2%), Fortwilliam (85.0%) and Whitehouse (81.3%).

**Chart 16: Proportion of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A\*-C by Constituency, 2008/09**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (School Leavers Survey, DE)

<sup>18</sup> Note that this figure includes those who left school with at least two A-levels.

### Participation in Further Education

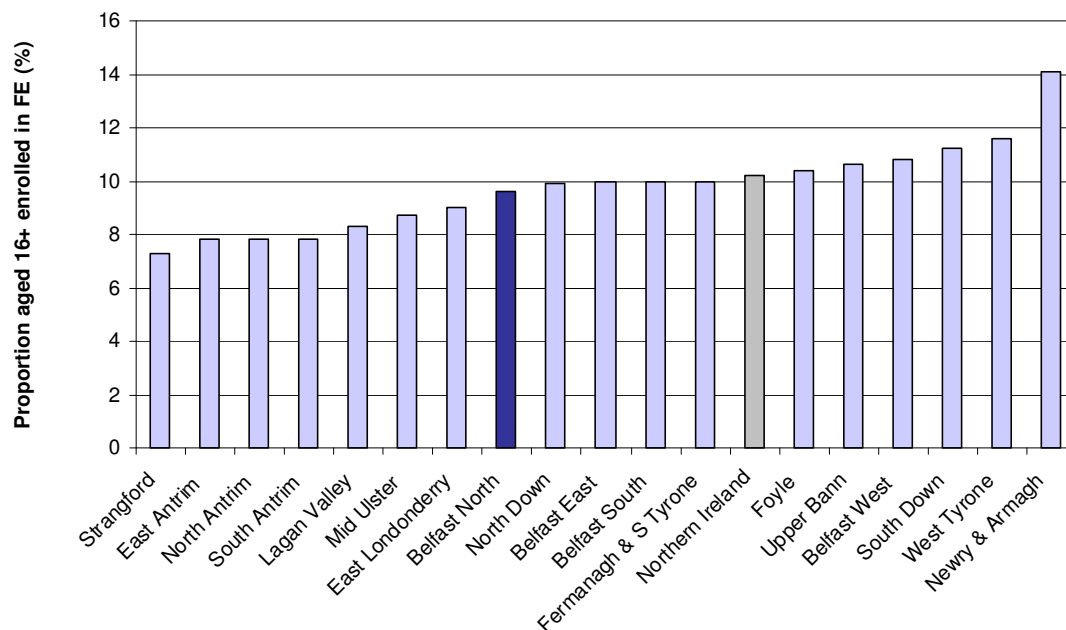
In 2007/08, there were 6,305 students from Belfast North enrolled in further education.<sup>19</sup> This equates to 9.6% of constituents aged 16 and over being enrolled in further education.

There was little difference in the proportion of people aged 16 and over from Belfast North enrolled in further education and the Northern Ireland average of 10.2%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 8<sup>th</sup> lowest proportion of people aged 16 and over enrolled in Further Education.

Further education participation rates were lowest in the wards of Valley (4.9%), Whitehouse (5.1%) and Woodvale (5.5%) and highest in the wards of Chichester Park (10.6%), Coole (9.8%) and Water Works (9.3%).

**Chart 17: Proportion of those aged 16+ enrolled in FE by Constituency, 2007/08**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (FE Enrolment data, Department for Employment and Learning)

Of all Belfast North students enrolled, 16.5% were full time and 83.5% were part time students, while 55.1% were female and 44.9% were male. In total, 42.8% of those enrolled in further education were aged 26 and over.

<sup>19</sup> Further Education can be defined as post-secondary education that is distinct from the education offered in universities.

### Participation in Higher Education

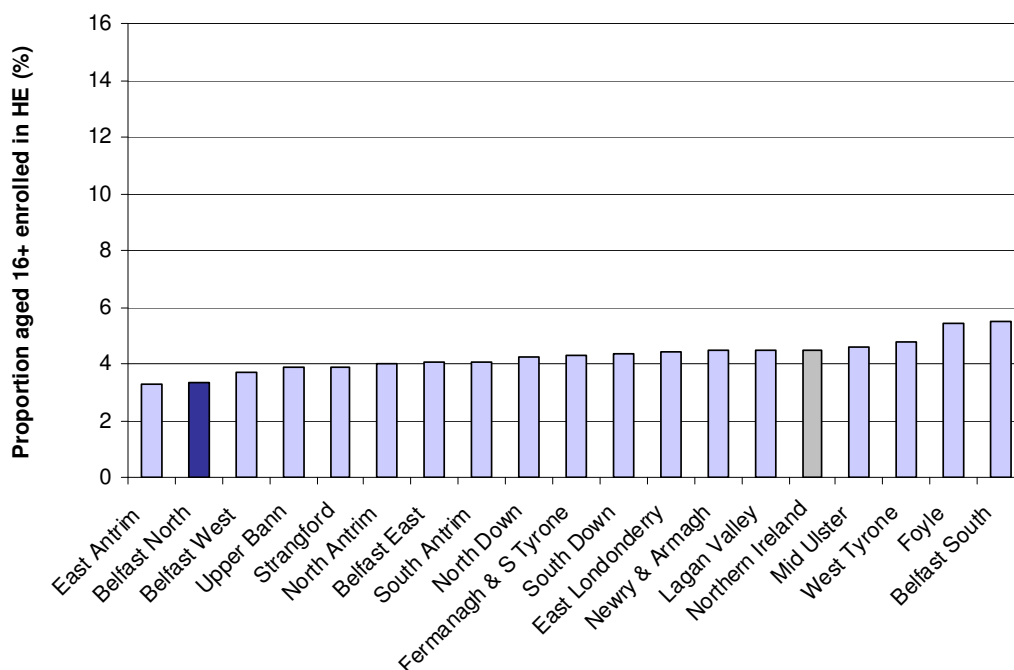
In 2007/08, there were 2,200 students from Belfast North enrolled in higher education.<sup>20</sup> This equates to 3.4% of all constituents aged 16 and over being enrolled in higher education.

There was little difference in the proportion of people aged 16 and over from Belfast North enrolled in higher education and the Northern Ireland average of 4.5%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest proportion of people aged 16 and over enrolled in higher education.

Higher education participation rates were lowest in the wards of Crumlin (0.6%), Woodvale (0.7%) and Coole (1.0%) and highest in the wards of Cavehill (6.1%), Chichester Park (5.2%) and Castleview (3.9%).

**Chart 18: Proportion of those aged 16+ enrolled in HE by Constituency, 2007/08**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (HE Enrolment data, DEL)

Of all students enrolled, 65.2% were full time and 34.8% were part time students, while 60.0% were female and 40.0% were male. In total, 37.3% of those enrolled in Higher Education were aged 25 and over.

<sup>20</sup> Higher Education can be defined as education at a higher level than secondary school, usually provided in universities.

#### 4. THE ECONOMY

This section presents information on financial assistance provided by Invest NI as well as information on those completing and subsequently being offered financial assistance through its Start a Business Programme.

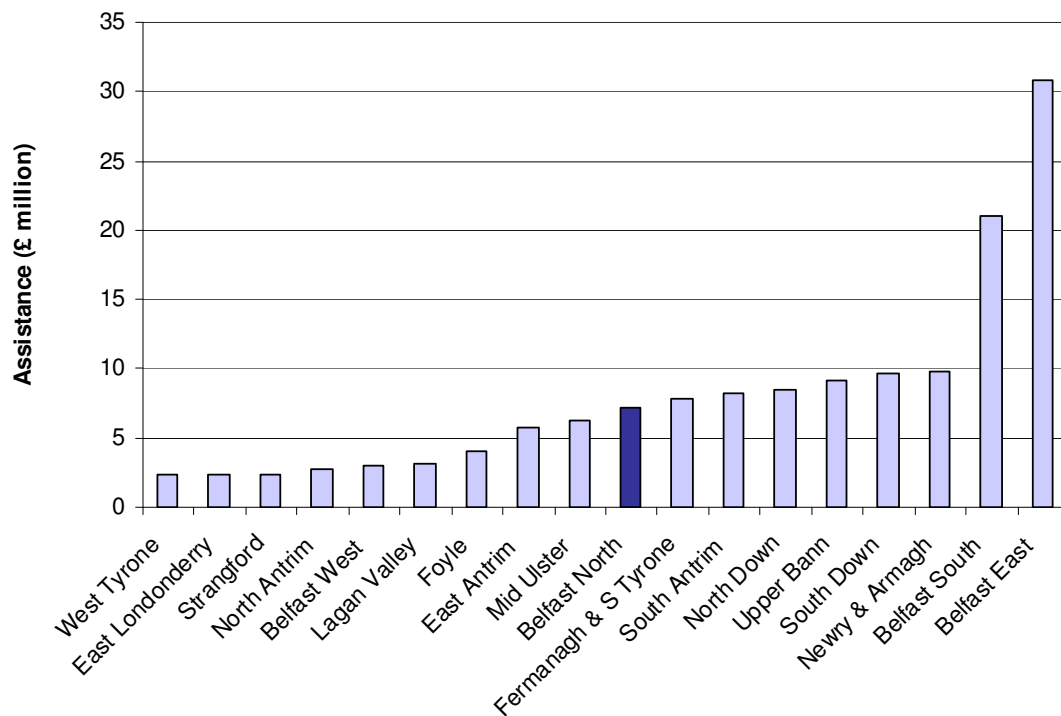
##### Invest NI Assistance

In 2008/09, Invest NI provided £7.2 million in financial assistance to companies in Belfast North, accounting for 5.0% of all assistance provided in Northern Ireland during that period.

Belfast North was the Constituency that received the 9<sup>th</sup> highest amount of financial assistance in 2008/09.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 19: Invest NI financial assistance in £m provided to Companies by Constituency, 2008/09**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Invest NI)

## Start a Business Programme

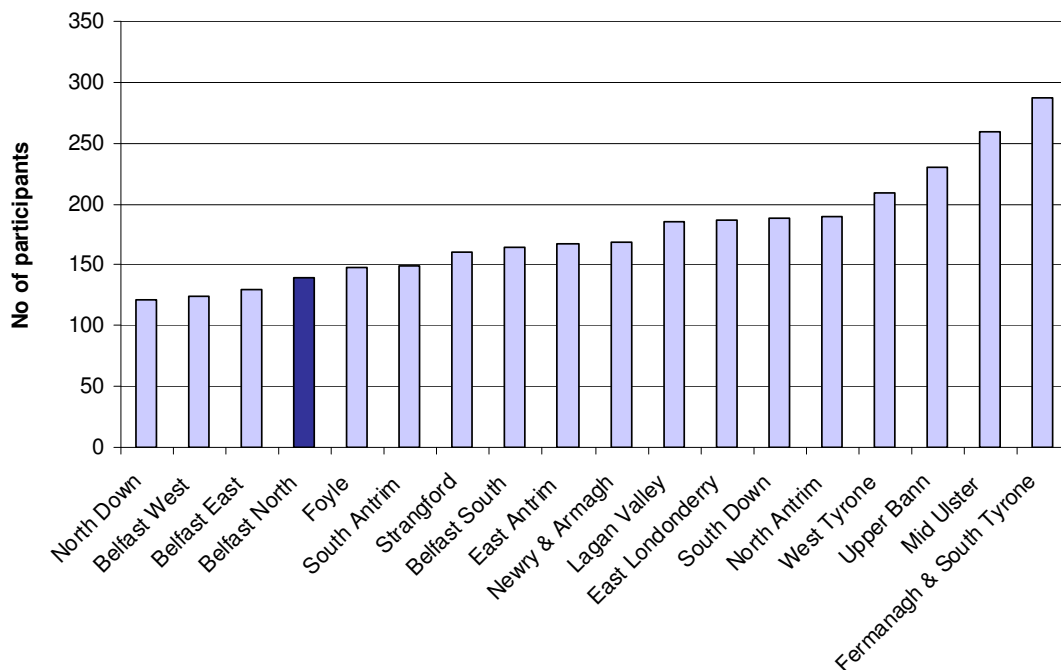
### *Participation in the Start a Business Programme*

In 2008/09, 139 people from Belfast North completed the Invest NI Start a Business Programme.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest number of people completing this programme.

The lowest numbers of participants who completed the training were from the wards of Whitehouse (1), New Lodge (2) and Abbey (2) and the highest numbers were from Chichester Park (17), Ballysillan (15) and Castleview (13).

**Chart 20: Number of Invest NI Start a Business Programme participants by Constituency, 2008/09**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Invest NI)

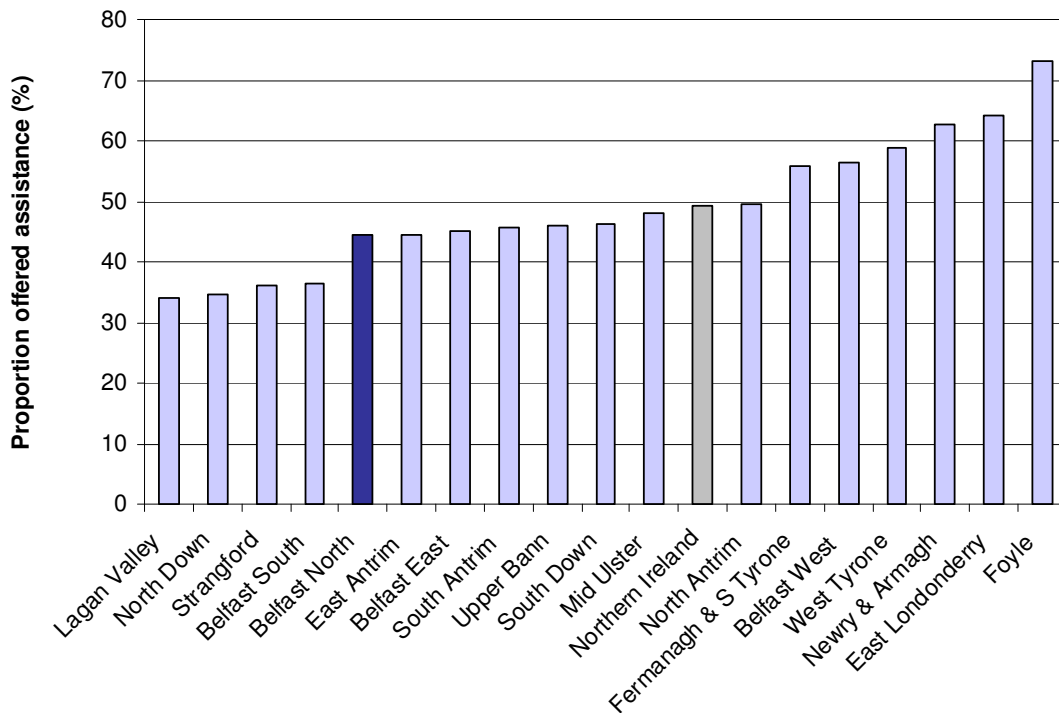
*Financial Assistance offered to those who completed the Start a Business programme*

Of those who that completed the Start a Business Programme, 44.6% of participants (62 people) from Belfast North were subsequently offered financial assistance.

A lower proportion of Belfast North participants were subsequently offered financial assistance compared to the Northern Ireland figure of 49.3%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 5<sup>th</sup> lowest proportion of participants who were offered financial assistance.

**Chart 21: Proportion of Invest NI Start a Business Programme participants who were offered financial assistance by Constituency, 2008/09**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Invest NI)

## 5. EMPLOYMENT

This section presents information on the number of employee jobs and employee jobs by sector; the number of redundancies in Belfast North and the unemployment claimant count.

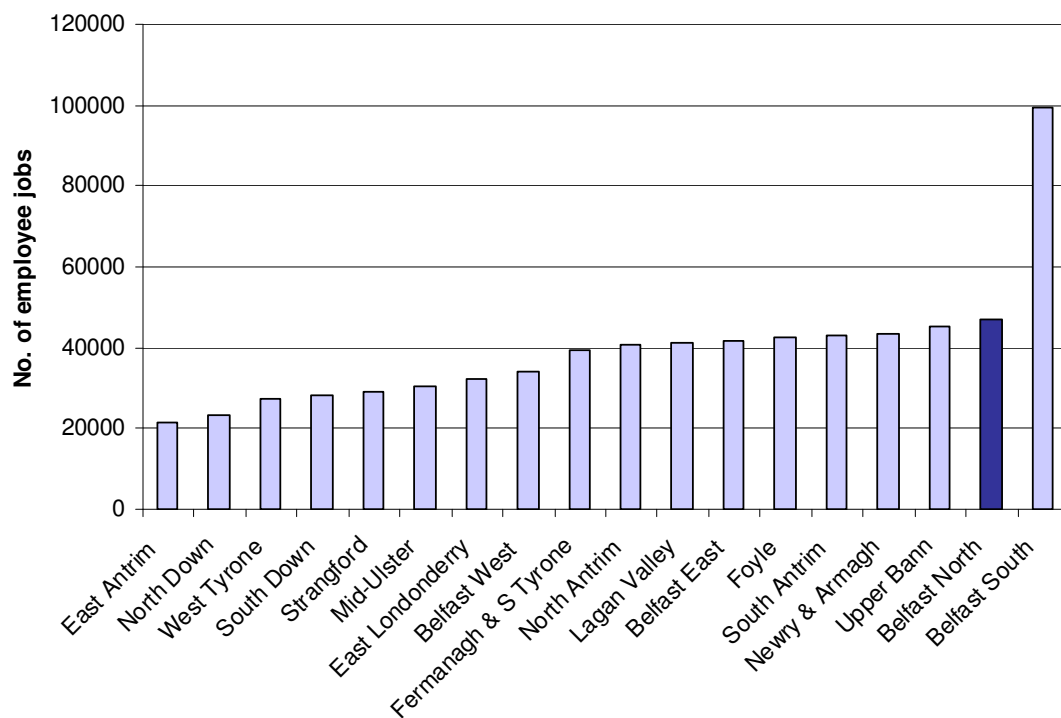
### Employee jobs

As at 3 September 2007, there were 46,845 employee jobs<sup>21</sup> located in Belfast North, representing 6.6% of all employee jobs in Northern Ireland.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of employee jobs located in the area.

The lowest concentrations of employee jobs were in the wards of Castleview (322), Ballysillan (343) and Cavehill (396) and the highest concentrations were in the wards of Duncairn (23,266), New Lodge (4,274) and Water Works (3,171).

**Chart 22: No. of employee jobs by Constituency, September 2007**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Census of Employment, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI))

<sup>21</sup> The Census of Employment is conducted every two years by means of a postal enquiry of all NI employers and a full response is sought in order to obtain an accurate count of the number of employee jobs at the Census date. It collects information on employees only (the self-employed are excluded) and counts the number of jobs rather than the number of people in these jobs.

### Employee jobs by Sector

In 2007, the majority of employee jobs in Belfast North were in the Services sector (87.9%), followed by manufacturing (7.4%) while 3.6% were in construction.

A higher proportion of employee jobs in Belfast North were in services compared to the proportion of all Northern Ireland jobs of 80.6%.

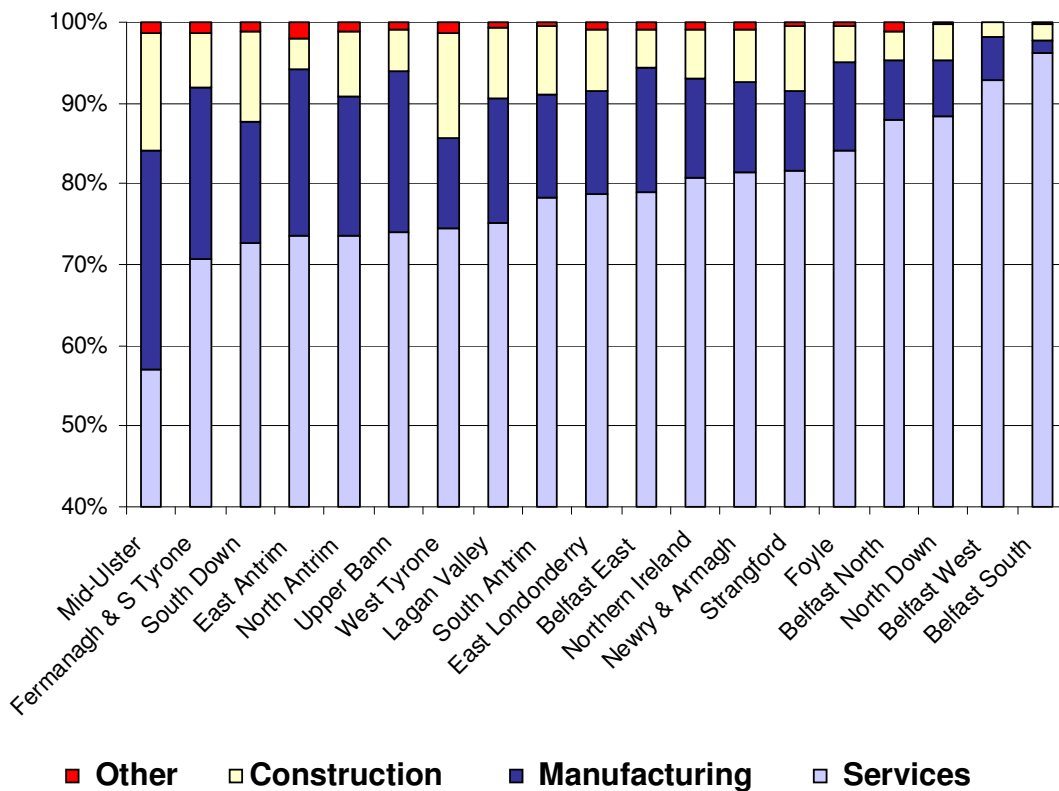
A lower proportion of employee jobs in Belfast North were in manufacturing compared to the proportion of all Northern Ireland jobs of 12.3%.

A slightly lower proportion of employee jobs in Belfast North were in construction compared to the proportion of all Northern Ireland jobs of 6.2%.

Belfast North is the Constituency with the 4<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of services jobs, the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest proportion of manufacturing jobs and the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest proportion of construction jobs.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 23: Employee jobs by sector and Constituency, 2007**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Census of Employment, DETI)

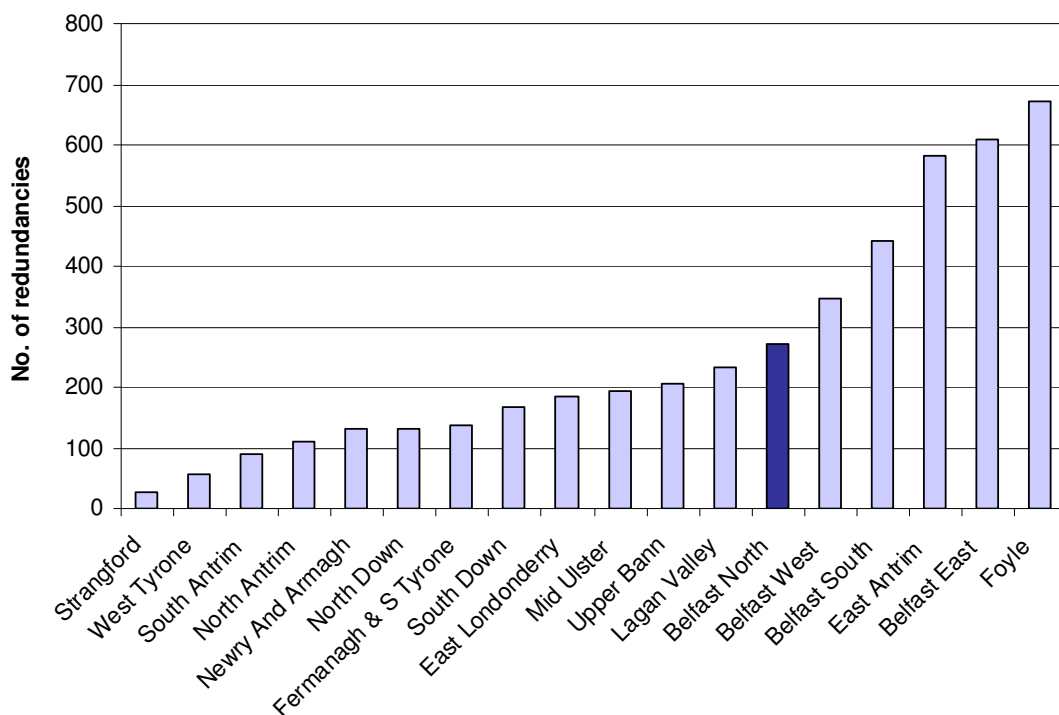
## Redundancies

In 2009, there were 272 redundancies<sup>22</sup> in Belfast North, representing 5.9% of all redundancies made in Northern Ireland.

The Constituency of Belfast North had the 6<sup>th</sup> highest number of redundancies in 2009.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 24: No. of redundancies by Constituency, 2009**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Claimant Count, DETI)

<sup>22</sup> While the figures provided are likely to be an underestimate of total job losses, it is not possible to quantify the extent of the shortfall. Subject to the criteria mentioned above, employers must notify the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment of (a) redundancies proposed and (b) redundancies confirmed. Since all proposed redundancies do not actually take place, the confirmed total provides a better indication of real job losses. Proposed redundancies are notified to the Department using the Advance Notification - HR1 Form. Redundancies do not necessarily equate to job losses, for example, employees who do not qualify for a redundancy package, those on temporary contracts, will not be incorporated into the redundancy figures.

### Unemployment Claimant Count

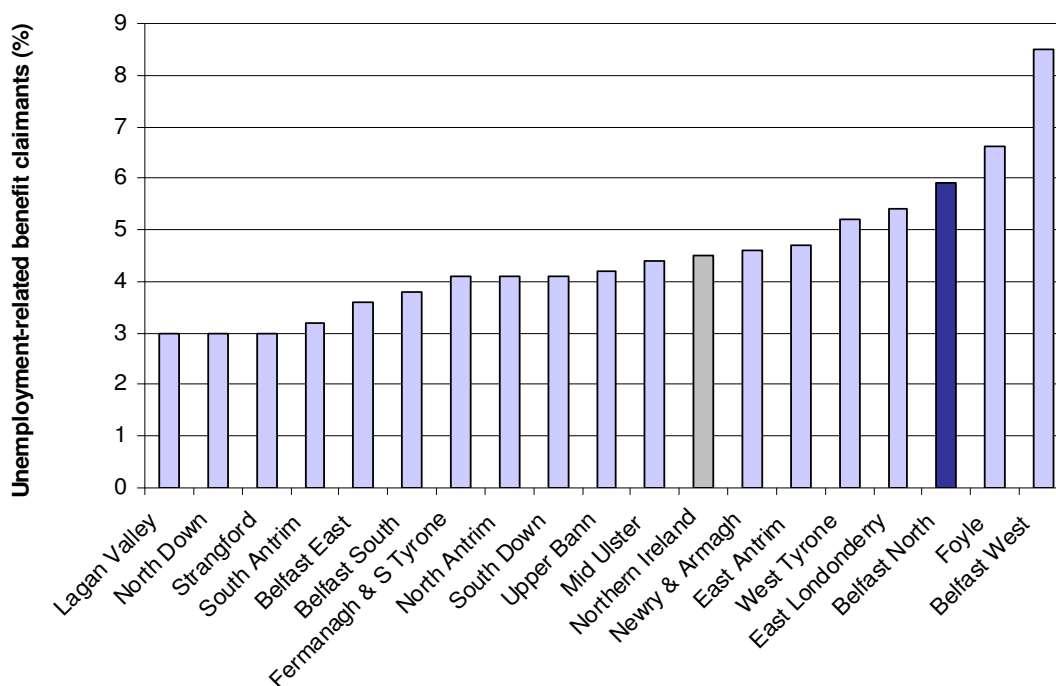
During the period January – December 2009, there were 2,945 people claiming unemployment-related benefits<sup>23</sup> in Belfast North. This equates to 5.9% of all working age constituents claiming such benefits.

There was little difference in the proportion of working age people claiming unemployment-related benefits in Belfast North and the Northern Ireland figure of 4.5%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest proportion of people claiming such benefits.

The proportions of unemployment-related benefit claimants were lowest in the wards of Cavehill (2.3%), Fortwilliam (3.5%) and Abbey (3.7%) and highest in the wards of Water Works (10.3%), Duncairn (9.7%) and Woodvale (9.4%).

**Chart 25: Proportion of working age people claiming unemployment-related benefits by Constituency, 2009**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Claimant Count, DETI)

<sup>23</sup> The Claimant Count records the number of people claiming unemployment-related benefits. 'Claimants' include the severely disabled claimants, but exclude students seeking vacation work and the temporarily stopped. The claimant count consists of all people claiming JSA at Jobcentre Plus local offices. They must declare that they are out of work, capable of, available for and actively seeking work during the week in which their claim is made.

## 6. HOUSING

This section presents information on housing type within Belfast North as well as information on planning applications and decisions in the area.

### Housing type

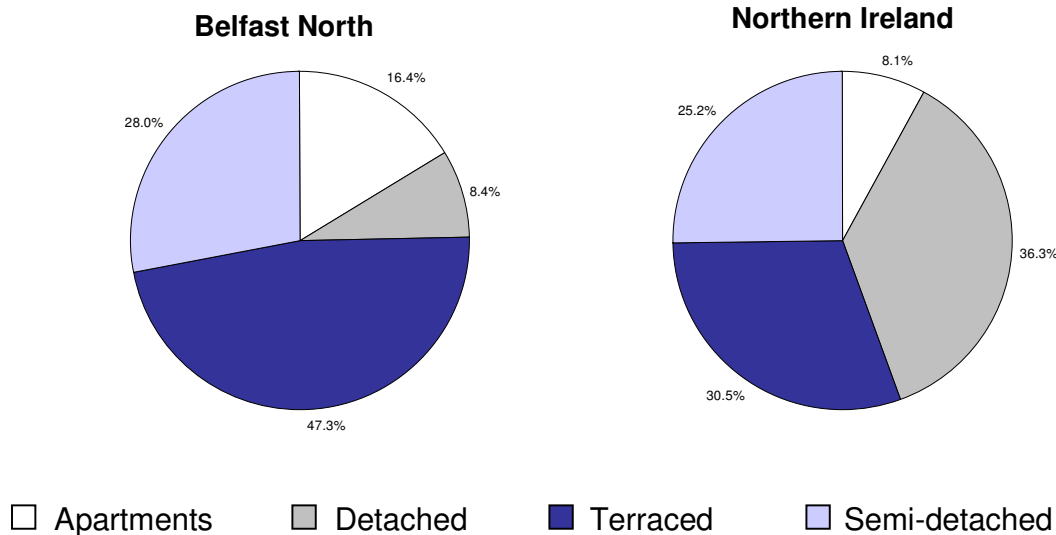
In 2008, there were 38,290 properties in Belfast North, representing 5.3% of all properties in Northern Ireland.

A much higher proportion of properties in Belfast North were terraced compared to the Northern Ireland figure (47.3% vs. 30.5%), accounting for the highest proportion of properties in the area.

A higher proportion of properties in Belfast North were apartments (16.4% vs. 8.1%) and a slightly higher proportion were semi-detached (28.0% vs. 25.2%) compared to Northern Ireland as a whole.

A much lower proportion of properties in Belfast North were detached compared to the Northern Ireland figure (8.4% vs. 36.3%), accounting for the lowest proportion of properties in the area.

**Charts 26 and 27: Housing type, 2008**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Valuation List, Land and Property Services)

## Planning applications and decisions

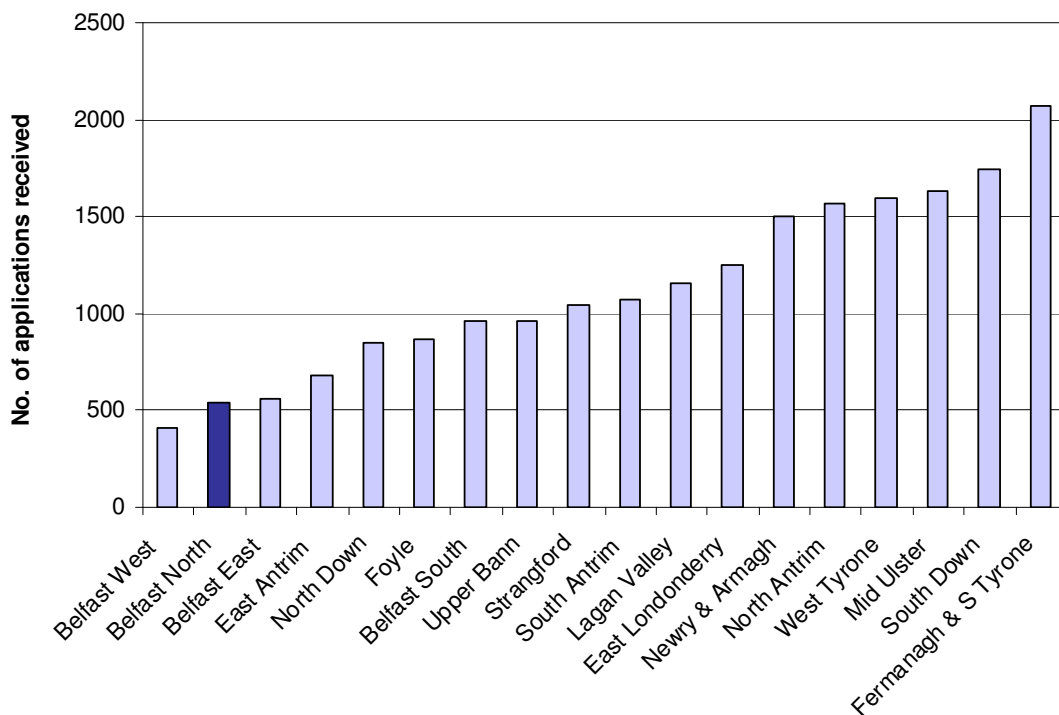
### *Planning applications*

In 2008/09, there were 542 new planning applications received for the Belfast North area, representing 2.6% of all new applications in Northern Ireland.<sup>24</sup>

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest number of new planning applications in 2008/09.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 28: Number of planning applications by Constituency, 2008/09**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Planning Service, Department of Environment (DoE))

<sup>24</sup> Applications received also include withdrawn applications.

### Planning Decisions

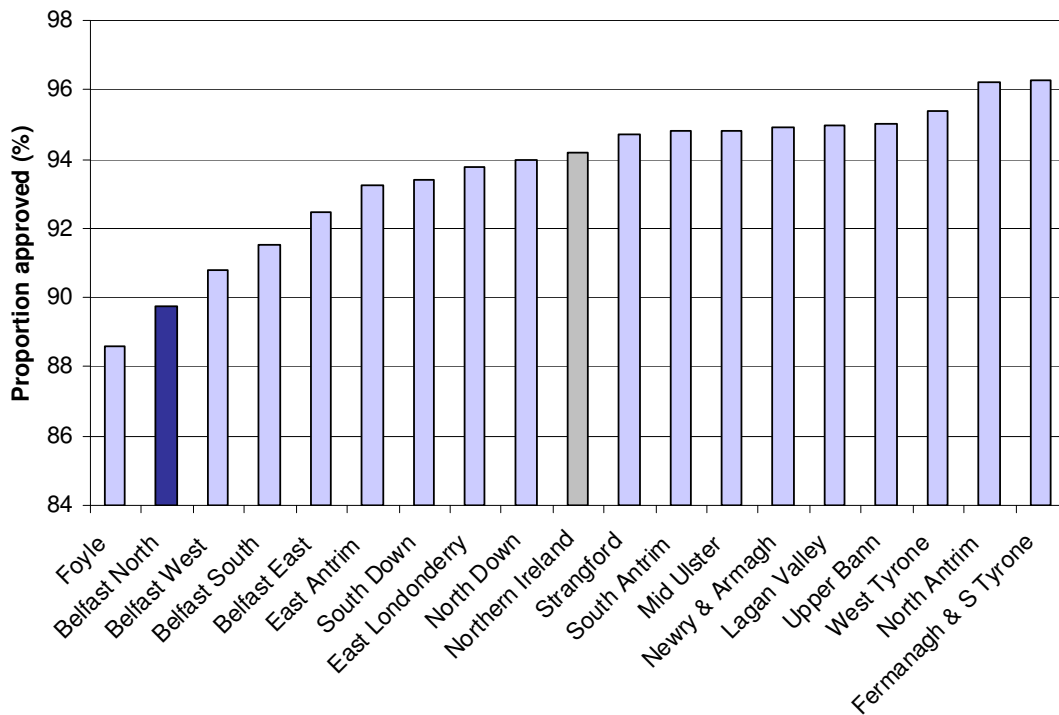
Decisions were made on a total of 585<sup>25</sup> applications during 2008/09, representing 2.4% of all decisions made in Northern Ireland.<sup>26</sup>

A lower proportion of applications were approved in Belfast North compared to the Northern Ireland total (89.7% vs. 94.2%).

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest proportion of approvals in 2008/09.

This information is not available at ward level.

**Chart 29: Proportion of planning applications approved by Constituency, 2008/09**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Planning Service, DoE)

<sup>25</sup> Note that the number of decisions is higher than the number of planning applications received as this includes applications from previous years.

<sup>26</sup> Excludes withdrawn applications. The number and per cent of applications approved is based on the number of decisions issued in the same year.

## 7. CRIME

This section presents information on the overall recorded crime rate in Belfast North and breaks this down further into violent crime, burglary, theft and criminal damage. Information on anti-social behaviour rates is also presented in this section. These figures relate to where the offence occurred rather than where the offender was from.

### Overall Crime rate

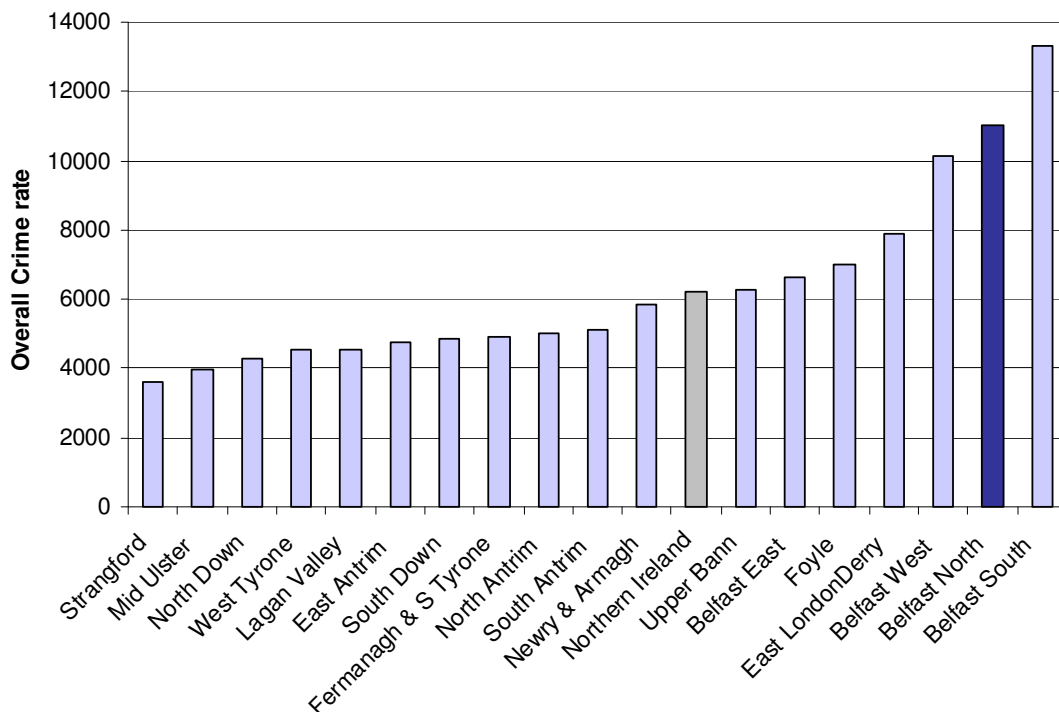
In 2009/10, a total of 9,412 offences were recorded in Belfast North. This equates to an overall crime rate of 11,273 per 100,000 persons.

The crime rate for Belfast North was much higher than the overall Northern Ireland rate of 6,149 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest crime rate.

Overall crime rates were lowest in the wards of Ballysillan (3,792), Dunanney (4,948) and Cavehill (5,055) and highest in the wards of Duncairn (37,731), New Lodge (21,030) and Water Works (18,894).

**Chart 30: Overall crime rate per 100,000 persons by Constituency, 2009/10**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Notifiable Offences Recorded, Police Service for Northern Ireland (PSNI))

## Crime Rates by type - violent crime, burglary, theft and criminal damage

Rates of violent crime, burglary, theft and criminal damage were higher in Belfast North than the Northern Ireland rates.

**Table 2: Crime Rates by type of crime, 2009/10**

	Belfast North		Northern Ireland
	Rate	Rank*	Rate
<b>Violent Crime</b>	3,380	2	1,865
<b>Burglary</b>	1,484	2	709
<b>Theft</b>	2,340	3	1,499
<b>Criminal Damage</b>	3,035	1	1,490

\*1=highest crime rate, 18=lowest crime rate

Source: NINIS

### *Violent Crime*

In 2009/10, the violent crime rate for Belfast North was 3,380 per 100,000 persons and was higher than the Northern Ireland rate. Violent crime rates were lowest in the wards of Cavehill (866), Ballysillan (1,281) and Castlevue (1,384) and highest in the wards of Duncairn (11,295), New Lodge (6,275) and Water Works (5,144).

### *Burglary*

In 2009/10, the burglary rate for Belfast North was 1,484 per 100,000 persons and was higher than the Northern Ireland rate. Burglary rates were lowest in the wards of Crumlin (390), Coole (457) and Dunanney (545) and highest in the wards of Duncairn (5,943), Water Works (2,757) and New Lodge (2,506).

### *Theft*

In 2009/10, the theft rate for Belfast North was 2,340 per 100,000 persons and was higher than the Northern Ireland rate. Theft rates were lowest in the wards of Ballysillan (530), Dunanney (545) and Woodvale (647) and highest in the wards of Duncairn (10,259), Valley (8,287) and New Lodge (4,952).

### *Criminal Damage*

In 2009/10, the criminal damage rate for Belfast North was 3,035 per 100,000 persons and was higher than the Northern Ireland rate. Criminal damage rates were lowest in the wards of Ballysillan (1,076), Abbey (1,100) and Dunanney (1,316) and highest in the wards of Duncairn (6,658), Water Works (5,698) and New Lodge (5,473).

### Anti-social Behaviour

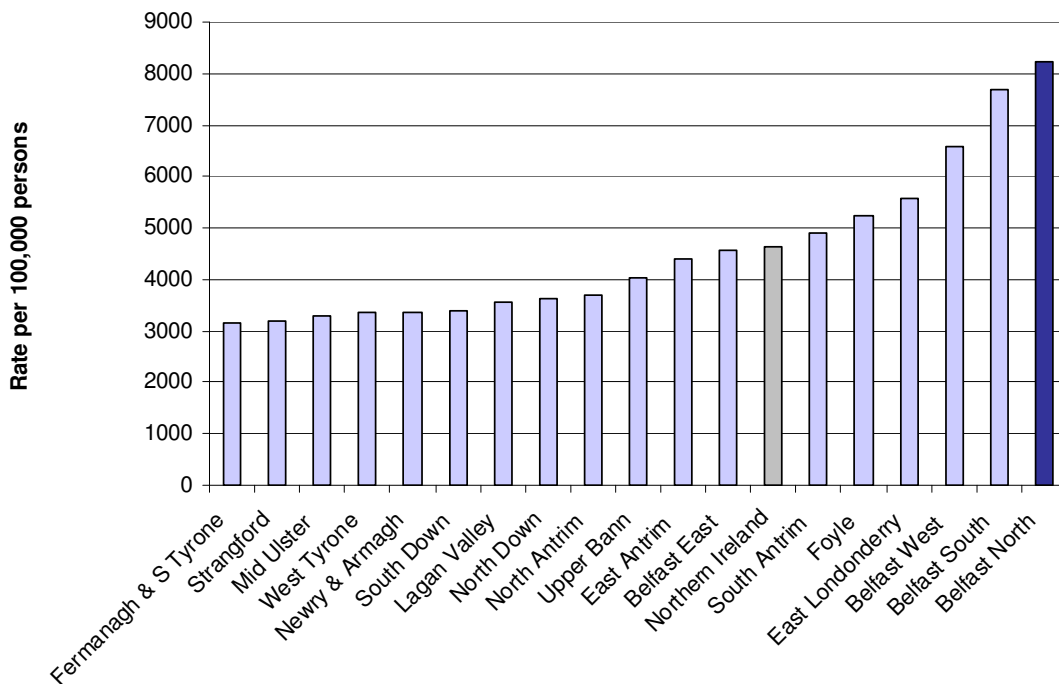
In 2009/10, there were 6,865 incidents of anti-social behaviour in Belfast North. This equates to a rate of 8,222 per 100,000 persons.

The rate of anti-social behaviour incidents in Belfast North was much higher than the overall Northern Ireland rate of 4,625 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the highest rate of anti-social behaviour incidents.

The lowest rates of anti-social behaviour incidents were recorded in the wards of Ballysillan (3,109), Castleview (3,166) and Coole (3,945) and the highest rates were recorded in the wards of Duncairn (22,244), Water Works (16,406) and Chichester Park (15,127).

**Chart 31: Rates of Anti-social Behaviour per 100,000 persons by Constituency, 2009/10**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Anti-social behaviour incidents, PSNI)

## 8. DEPRIVATION AND POVERTY

This section presents information from the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 and on the number of people claiming benefits.

### **Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure**

The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2010 identifies small concentrations of multiple deprivation across Northern Ireland. Summaries at Constituency level consisting of five measures are also produced. The following contains the summary information for Belfast North.

#### *Extent*

Belfast North has an Extent of 59. This means that 59% of people living in Belfast North live in the most deprived<sup>27</sup> Super Output Areas<sup>28</sup> in Northern Ireland. Belfast North is the Constituency ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in terms of Extent.

#### *Income Deprivation Scale*

The Income Deprivation Scale shows that there are 34,825 people in Belfast North experiencing Income Deprivation. Belfast North is the Constituency ranked 3 out of 18 on this measure of deprivation.

#### *Percentage of the total population Income Deprived*

42% of those living in Belfast North are income deprived. Belfast North is ranked 2 out of 18 on this measure of deprivation.

#### *Employment Deprivation Scale*

The Employment Deprivation Scale shows that 9,283 people in Belfast North are experiencing employment deprivation. Belfast North is ranked 4 out of 18 on this measure of deprivation.

#### *Percentage of working age population Employment Deprived*

20% of working age people in Belfast North are employment deprived. Belfast North is ranked 2 out of 18 on this measure of deprivation.

---

<sup>27</sup> *Most deprived* is defined as within the first 30% most deprived areas, including all of the population in the 10% most deprived SOAs, and a proportion of the population from the next two deciles (i.e. the next 20%) on a sliding scale.

<sup>28</sup> A geography designed for the collection of small area statistics with similar population sizes.



## Benefit Claimants

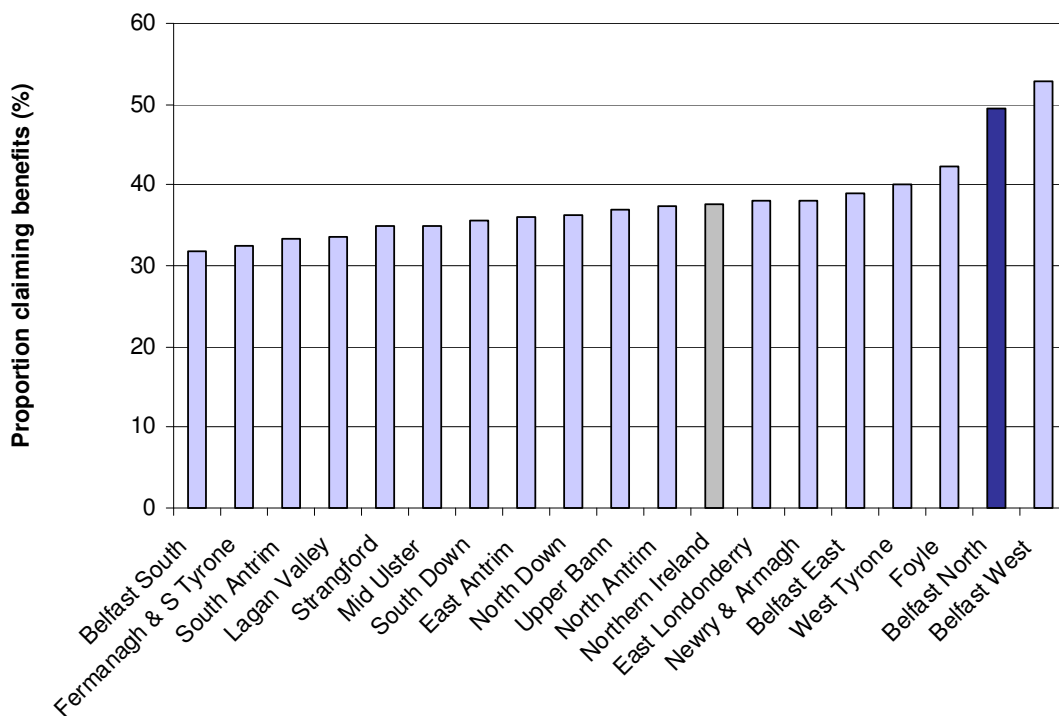
As at April 2010, 32,532 people in Belfast North were claiming at least one benefit. This equates to 49.6% of all constituents aged 16 and over claiming at least one benefit.

A much higher proportion of people aged 16 and over living in Belfast North were claiming at least one benefit compared to the Northern Ireland figure of 37.6%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of the people aged 16 and over claiming at least one benefit.

The lowest proportions of people aged 16 and over claiming at least one benefit were concentrated in the wards of Cavehill (25.7%), Ballysillan (31.4%) and Castleview (33.2%) and the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of New Lodge (51.1%), Crumlin (50.9%) and Whitehouse (48.1%).<sup>29</sup>

**Chart 32: Proportion of the population aged 16+ claiming at least one benefit, April 2010**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Social Security Benefits data, DSD)

<sup>29</sup> Ward figures calculated as a proportion of total population using 2008 mid-year estimates.

*Income support*

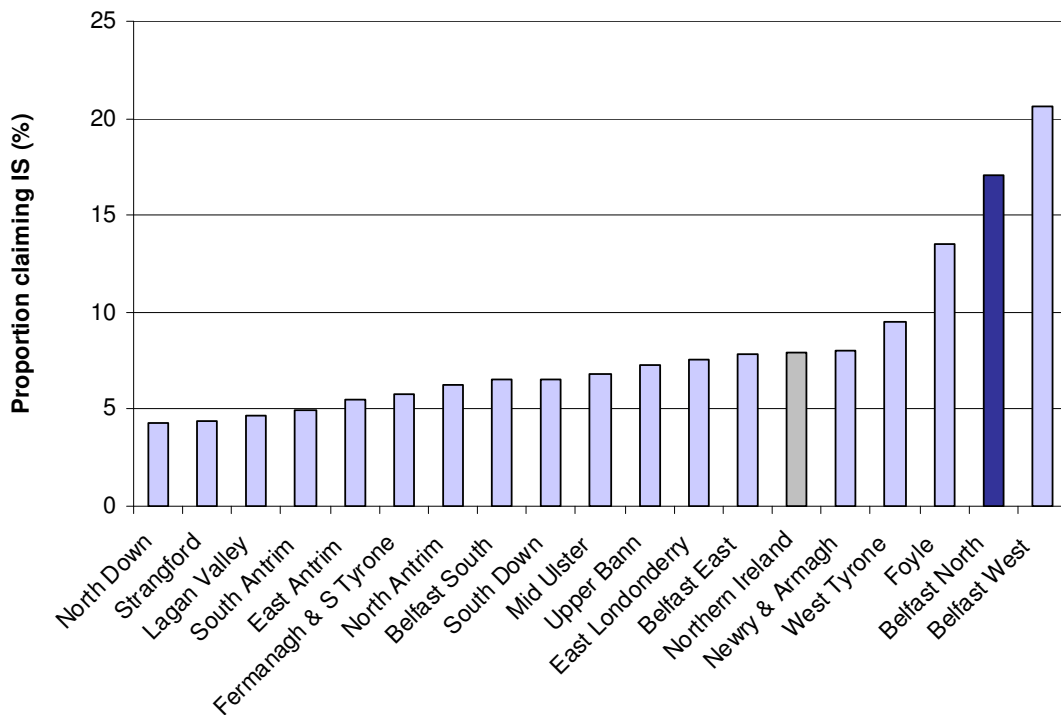
As at February 2010, there were 8,444 people claiming Income Support. This equates to 17.1% of all working age constituents claiming such benefits.

A higher proportion of working age people living in Belfast North were claiming Income Support compared to the Northern Ireland figure of 8.0%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion of Income Support claimants.

The lowest proportions of Income Support claimants were concentrated in the wards of Cavehill (1.6%), Fortwilliam (4.1%) and Abbey (4.1%) and highest in the wards of New Lodge (19.8%), Ardoyne (16.7%) and Crumlin (15.4%).<sup>30</sup>

**Chart 33: Proportion of working age people claiming Income Support, February 2010**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Social Security Benefits data, DSD)

<sup>30</sup> Ward figures calculated as a proportion of total population using 2008 mid-year estimates.

### *Housing Benefit*

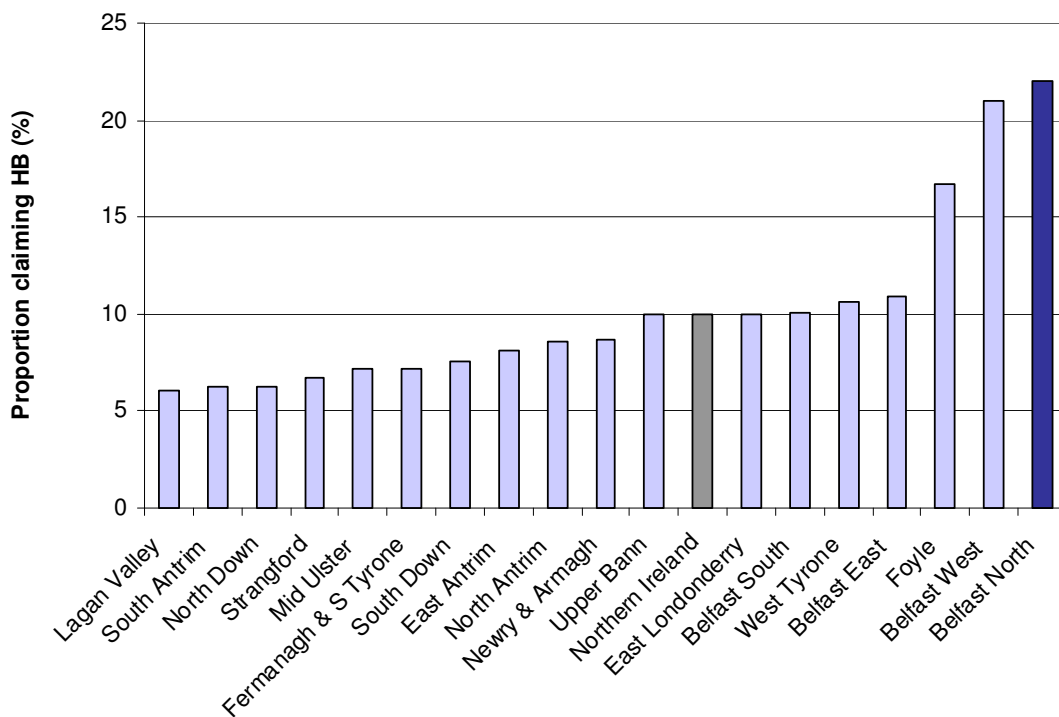
As at May 2009, there were 14,421 people claiming Housing Benefit. This equates to 22.0% of all constituents aged 16 and over claiming this benefit.

A higher proportion of people aged 16 and over living in Belfast North were claiming Housing Benefit compared to the Northern Ireland figure of 10.0%.

Belfast North was the Constituency with the highest proportion of Housing Benefit claimants.

The lowest proportions of Housing Benefit claimants were concentrated in the wards of Cavehill (1.9%), Fortwilliam (6.7%) and Abbey (7.1%) and the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of Crumlin (31.2%), New Lodge (30.5%) and Duncairn (29.9%).<sup>31</sup>

**Chart 34: Proportion of those aged 16+ claiming Housing Benefit by Constituency, May 2009**



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Housing Benefit data, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, aggregated by DSD)

<sup>31</sup> Ward figures calculated as a proportion of total population using 2008 mid-year estimates.

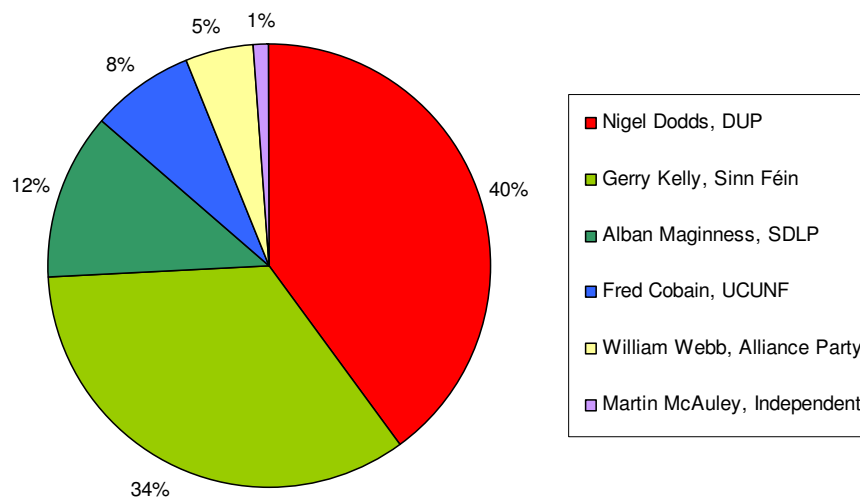
## 9. ELECTION RESULTS

This section presents information on the 2010 Westminster Election Results and the 2007 Assembly Election Results.

### 2010 Westminster Election Results

In Belfast North, 65,504 people were eligible to vote in the 2010 Westminster Elections. 36,993 valid votes were cast, a turnout of 56.5%.<sup>32</sup> Turnout for Belfast North was similar to the Northern Ireland turnout of 56.7%. The Democratic Unionist Party received the majority of votes in the Constituency with 14,812 votes. As a result, Nigel Dodds, was elected to represent Belfast North.

**Chart 35: 2010 Westminster Election Results**



Candidate (*elected)	Votes	Party
Nigel Dodds*	14,812	Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)
Gerry Kelly	12,588	Sinn Féin
Alban Maginness	4,544	Social Democratic & Labour Party (SDLP)
Fred Cobain	2,837	Ulster Conservatives and Unionists - New Force
William Webb	1,809	Alliance Party
Martin McAuley	403	Independent

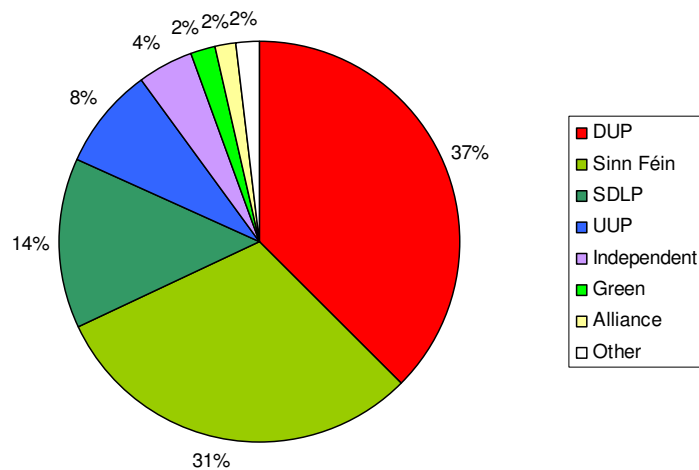
Source: The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland

<sup>32</sup> Excludes invalid votes, n = 240.

## 2007 Assembly Election Results

In Belfast North, 49,372 people were eligible to vote in the 2007 Assembly Elections. 29,175 valid votes were cast, a turnout of 59.1%.<sup>33</sup> Turnout for Belfast North was lower than the Northern Ireland turnout of 62.3%. The DUP and Sinn Féin won 2 seats each while the SDLP and the UUP won 1 seat each.

**Chart 36: 2007 Assembly Election Results**



Candidate (*elected)	1 <sup>st</sup> pref votes	Party
Nigel Dodds*	6,973	DUP
Gerry Kelly*	5,414	Sinn Féin
Carál Ní Chuilín*	3,680	Sinn Féin
Fred Cobain*	2,498	Ulster Unionist Party
Nelson McCausland*	2,462	DUP
Alban Maginness*	2,212	SDLP
Pat Convery	1,868	SDLP
William Humphrey	1,673	DUP
Raymond McCord	1,320	Independent Unionist
Peter Emerson	590	Green Party
Thomas McCullough	486	Alliance Party
Robert McCartney	360	United Kingdom Unionist Party
John Lavery	139	Workers Party
Rainbow George	40	Make Politicians History

Source: *The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland*

<sup>33</sup> Excludes invalid votes, n = 352.





**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

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