

census
2021



2021- 2011 Census in Northern Ireland questionnaire comparability report

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background

Census 2021 took place on 21 March 2021 and was conducted by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA).

Census 2021 was primarily conducted online with most households receiving an invitation to fill out their questionnaire through a secure website. For the majority of householders this made the census easier to complete. Given the importance of ensuring that everyone took part, those who wanted to could still complete their census questionnaire on paper.

Census 2021 in Northern Ireland recorded the highest ever response rate in the modern era (97%).

Following the 2011 Census, NISRA engaged in an extensive period of consultation, research and testing to prepare for Census 2021. This included:

- collaboration with the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and National Records of Scotland (NRS) to ensure harmonisation of UK wide censuses;
- the 2015 topic consultation;
- engagement with topic experts;
- large scale quantitative research projects including the 2017 Census Test and 2019 Census Rehearsal; and
- various small scale pop-up research exercises.

Through this work, NISRA was able to ensure that the Census 2021 questionnaire met the user need. It allowed NISRA to determine the user need for information on each topic on the questionnaire and decide, given the limited space available, which questions should be added and which could be removed. Crucially, testing indicated how proposed new and updated questions might be received by the public.

Further details including the census timeline can be found within the [2021 Census proposals document](#).

This paper details the changes/differences between the NISRA 2011 and 2021 paper questionnaires.

The PDF version of each questionnaire can be found via the links below:

- [Census 2011 questionnaire for Northern Ireland](#)
- [Census 2021 questionnaire for Northern Ireland](#)

1.2. Questionnaire design

Although Census 2021 would be conducted primarily online, the questionnaire design still had to meet the requirements of a paper questionnaire.

Due to the need to manage overall costs and the printing requirements, the 2021 paper questionnaire was limited to 32 pages (to cover the household questions, six usual residents and three visitors). It also had to meet scanning requirements set out by the questionnaire management supplier, for example, the size of tick boxes and space between questions had to meet exacting standards.

Furthermore, the online questionnaire had to satisfy the Government Statistical Service (GSS) guidelines on accessibility and ensure that the questions could be easily understood. As a result, NISRA had to carefully manage the content within the available space.

NISRA made a number of changes to the 2011 questionnaire to create the 2021 questionnaire, these included:

- updated or reworded question stems to ensure better and more consistent public understanding;
- updated response options to reflect changes in both the respondent and user needs over time;
- updated guidance and instructions within the questionnaire; and
- revised layout of response options to save space.

The 2011 Census included 45 questions. In 2021, this number was reduced to 44 – several questions were removed or updated, while others were added.

Questions on the following topics were removed:

- self-contained accommodation;
- number of rooms available;
- three individual questions on short-term migration; and

- voluntary work.

New questions on the following topics were added:

- renewable energy systems;
- apprenticeships (as a separate question); and
- sexual orientation .

1.3. Definitions

The majority of the 2011 Census definitions (mostly around the enumeration) remained unchanged for 2021.

However, due to societal changes since 2011, it was necessary to update a relatively small number of definitions relating to:

- sheltered housing;
- enumeration of Armed Forces personnel on ships;
- student enumeration;
- serviced apartments; and
- prisoners.

Full details on all definitions and changes can be found in the [Census 2021 population definitions](#).

1.4. Online questionnaire

In the 2011 Census, the paper questionnaire was the main method of response, however, in 2021, an online first approach was taken to the census. As a result, most households received an invitation to respond through a secure website. For the majority of householders this move made the census easier to complete. That said, given the importance of ensuring that everyone took part, those who wanted to, could still complete their census questionnaire on paper.

The online system included a number of features which were designed to make the questionnaire easier to complete and so reduce the burden on the respondent. These features included a hub to allow the respondent to keep track of their progress, specific routing to allow the household address and the name of the respondent to display in certain questions, and response drop-down lists for a

number of questions. All of these features, designed to help the user better understand each question and minimise the time spent completing the survey, underwent rigorous user testing with the public.

A small number of questions had to be presented differently on the online questionnaire from the paper questionnaire due to space constraints (on paper) and the difference in the modes of completion. These included questions on the following topics:

- type of accommodation;
- Irish/Ulster-Scots;
- health conditions;
- qualifications; and
- main place of work/study.

Other additional features included:

- address lookups that let the respondent select their address from a list were added to reduce respondent burden (once the initial characters of an address were entered by the respondent, a list of possible addresses were presented);
- it was possible for an individual to request a separate Unique Access Code that would let them, for privacy reasons, complete an individual response, separate from their household/family response;
- online help was added to questions to provide extra guidance; and
- the user was able to complete the survey on a range of different devices/operating systems.

2. 2021 – 2011 questionnaire comparison

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
2.1. Enumeration base							
Count of usual residents in the household and household members table							
H1: Who usually lives here? USUAL RESIDENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Me, this is my permanent or family home <input type="checkbox"/> Family members including partners, children, and babies born on or before 21 March 2021 <input type="checkbox"/> Students and/or schoolchildren who live away from home during term time <input type="checkbox"/> Housemates, tenants or lodgers <input type="checkbox"/> People who usually live outside the UK who are staying in the UK for <u>3 months or more</u> <input type="checkbox"/> People who work away from home within the UK, or are members of the Armed Forces, if this is their permanent or family home <input type="checkbox"/> People who are temporarily outside the UK for <u>less than 12 months</u> <input type="checkbox"/> People staying temporarily who usually live in the UK but do not have another UK address (for example relatives or friends) <input type="checkbox"/> Other people who usually live here, including anyone temporarily away from home (see page 31 for further information) OR <input type="checkbox"/> no-one usually lives here (for example this is a second address or holiday home)	H1: Who usually lives here? <input type="checkbox"/> Me, this is my permanent or family home <input type="checkbox"/> Family members including partners, children, and babies born on or before 27 March 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> Students and/or schoolchildren who live away from home during term time <input type="checkbox"/> Housemates, tenants or lodgers <input type="checkbox"/> People who work away from home within the UK, or are members of the armed forces, if this is their permanent or family home <input type="checkbox"/> People staying, or expected to stay, in a residential establishment (such as a hospital, care home or hostel) for less than 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> People who usually live outside the UK who are staying in the UK for 3 months or more <input type="checkbox"/> People who are temporarily outside the UK for less than 12 months <input type="checkbox"/> People staying temporarily who usually live in the UK but do not have another UK address (for example, relatives, friends) <input type="checkbox"/> Other people who usually live here, including anyone temporarily away from home (see page 31 for further information) OR <input type="checkbox"/> No-one usually lives here (for example, this is a second address or holiday home)	No	Yes	Yes	Question wording change: No Instruction change: The term 'USUAL RESIDENTS' was added to the right hand side of the question to reinforce the pool of people who should be reflected in this question. Tick box change: The 2021 question was simplified by reducing the number of tick boxes – the 2011 tick box 'People staying, or expecting to stay, in a residential establishment (such as a hospital, care home, or hostel) for less than 6 months' was not included on the 2021 questionnaire. For 2021, such individuals were covered by the response option 'Other people who usually live here, including anyone temporarily away from home' with a note to direct the respondent to page 31 which further explained who should be included in this category. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
H2: Counting everyone you included in question H1, how many people usually live here?	H2: Counting everyone you included in question H1, how many people usually live here?	No	No	No	No change	N/A	Comparable
H3: Starting with yourself, list the names of all the people counted in question H2 including children, babies, lodgers and students living away.	H3: Starting with yourself, list the names of all the people counted in question H2 including children, babies and lodgers.	Yes	No	No	Question wording change: The 2021 question stem included an additional reference to 'students living away'. This was to emphasise the need to reflect all usual residents in the question, explicitly students living away from home. Instruction change: No Tick box change: No Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Visitors							
H4: Apart from everyone counted in question H2, who else is staying overnight here on 21 March 2021? These people are counted as visitors. Remember to include children and babies. VISITORS H5: Counting only the people included in question H4, how many visitors are staying overnight here on 21 March 2021?	H4: Apart from everyone counted in question H2, who else is staying overnight here on 27 March 2011? These people are counted as visitors. Remember to include children and babies. H5: Counting only the people included in question H4, how many visitors are staying overnight here on 27 March 2011?	No	Yes	No	Question wording change: No Instruction change: The term 'VISITORS' was added to the right hand side of the 2021 question to reinforce the pool of people who should be reflected in this question. Tick box change: No Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Relationship matrix							
H6: How are members of the household related to each other? If members are not related, tick the 'Unrelated' box. <input type="checkbox"/> Husband or wife <input type="checkbox"/> Civil partner <input type="checkbox"/> Partner <input type="checkbox"/> Son or daughter <input type="checkbox"/> Step-child <input type="checkbox"/> Brother or sister <input type="checkbox"/> Step-brother or step-sister <input type="checkbox"/> Mother or father <input type="checkbox"/> Step-mother or step-father <input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Relation – other <input type="checkbox"/> Unrelated (including foster child)	H6: How are members of the household related to each other? If members are not related, tick the 'Unrelated' box. <input type="checkbox"/> Husband or wife <input type="checkbox"/> Same-sex civil partner <input type="checkbox"/> Partner <input type="checkbox"/> Son or daughter <input type="checkbox"/> Stepchild <input type="checkbox"/> Brother or sister <input type="checkbox"/> Stepbrother or stepsister <input type="checkbox"/> Mother or father <input type="checkbox"/> Stepmother or stepfather <input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Relation – other <input type="checkbox"/> Unrelated (including foster child)	No	Yes	Yes	Question wording change: No Instruction change: The guidance notes were amended to clarify them for the respondent. Tick box change: The reference to same-sex was removed from 'civil partner'. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
2.2. Household questions							
Type of accommodation							
<p>H7: What type of accommodation is this?</p> <p>A whole house or bungalow that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> detached <input type="checkbox"/> semi-detached <input type="checkbox"/> terraced (including end-terrace) <p>A flat, maisonette or apartment that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> in a purpose-built block of flats <input type="checkbox"/> part of a converted or shared house (including bedsits) <input type="checkbox"/> in a commercial building (for example in an office building, hotel, or over a shop) <p>A mobile or temporary structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a caravan or other mobile or temporary structure 	<p>H7: What type of accommodation is this?</p> <p>A whole house or bungalow that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> detached <input type="checkbox"/> semi-detached <input type="checkbox"/> terraced (including end-terrace) <p>A flat, maisonette or apartment that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> in a purpose-built block of flats or tenement <input type="checkbox"/> part of a converted or shared house (including bedsits) <input type="checkbox"/> in a commercial building (for example, in an office building, hotel, or over a shop) <p>A mobile or temporary structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> a caravan or other mobile or temporary structure 	No	Yes	Yes	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: The online question was split over a number of screens dependent on the respondent's answer. Respondents who selected 'Whole house or bungalow' at the initial question were then taken to the question 'Which of the following is your house or bungalow?'. Whereas, respondents who selected 'Flat, maisonette or apartment' were directed to the question 'Where is your flat, maisonette or apartment?'. Finally, respondents who selected 'Caravan or other temporary mobile or temporary structure' were directed to next household question on the questionnaire.</p> <p>User testing indicated that splitting the question over three screens reduced respondent burden and helped the respondent navigate the question more easily.</p> <p>Tick box change: In both the online system and the paper question, the reference to 'Tenement' in the fourth tick box in 2011 question was removed, as in 2021, there were very few such household types within Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Not asked in 2021	H8: Is this household's accommodation self-contained?	N/A	N/A	N/A	This question was dropped from the 2021 questionnaire due to the development of a more detailed census address register. The new register allowed for the identification of multiple (self-contained) households at a single address – as a result, each household was provided with their own census questionnaire – hence no need to ask if they were self-contained, and space on the paper questionnaire could be freed up.	N/A	N/A
Not asked in 2021	H9: How many rooms are available for use only by this household?	N/A	N/A	N/A	The question was also dropped from the 2021 questionnaire - part of the work after the 2011 Census suggested that this question had not been particularly well answered due to respondents not following the guidance around which rooms to count.	N/A	N/A
					As a result, NISRA investigated whether any alternative administrative sources of data on the number of rooms in households was available – the by-product of this would also be to save space on the paper questionnaire. An investigation of data held by Land & Property Services revealed it to be of a high quality and coverage, and that it could be added to the census information on a household-by-household basis. As a result, the question was not needed and the space was saved.		

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
<p>H8: Has this accommodation been designed or adapted for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> internal wheelchair usage (for example a downstairs bathroom)? <input type="checkbox"/> external wheelchair access (for example a ramp)? <input type="checkbox"/> other physical or mobility difficulties? <input type="checkbox"/> visual difficulties? <input type="checkbox"/> hearing difficulties? <input type="checkbox"/> other, write in <input type="checkbox"/> no adaptations 	<p>H10: Has this accommodation been designed or adapted for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> wheelchair usage? <input type="checkbox"/> other physical or mobility difficulties? <input type="checkbox"/> visual difficulties? <input type="checkbox"/> hearing difficulties? <input type="checkbox"/> other, write in <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above 	No	No	Yes	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: Responses to the topic consultation confirmed an ongoing need for information on the number of households where the property has been adapted for a range of health conditions or disabilities. For 2021, NISRA updated the response options to distinguish between internal wheelchair usage and external wheelchair access. In addition, examples of adaptations were added to certain response options to increase clarity.</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	<p>Minor change.</p> <p>Data comparable with 2011.</p>	Comparable
<p>H9: What type of central heating does this accommodation have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Oil <input type="checkbox"/> Main gas <input type="checkbox"/> Tank or bottled gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electric (for example storage heaters) <input type="checkbox"/> Wood (for example logs or waste wood) <input type="checkbox"/> Solid fuel (for example coal) <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable heating system <input type="checkbox"/> Other central heating <input type="checkbox"/> No central heating 	<p>H11: What type of central heating does this accommodation have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No central heating <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electric (including storage heaters) <input type="checkbox"/> Oil <input type="checkbox"/> Solid fuel (for example, wood, coal) <input type="checkbox"/> Other central heating 	No	No	Yes	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: The 2011 question on type of central heating was updated for 2021 as research showed that it supported the monitoring of energy efficiency and fuel poverty. While some administrative information on central heating is available, it was deemed not to be a viable alternative source of the information required. The 2021 question included more response options, including a new 'Renewable heating system' option together with a standalone response option for 'Wood' which was added to meet the current user need.</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	<p>Minor change.</p> <p>Some components will be directly comparable.</p>	Broadly comparable
<p>H10: What type of renewable energy systems does this accommodation have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Solar panels for electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Solar panels for heating water <input type="checkbox"/> Wind turbine <input type="checkbox"/> Other, write in 	New question for 2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	The work to review the central heating question identified a need for information on renewable energy systems. A new question was developed with the help of topic experts to establish a benchmark and help inform progress toward achieving government targets on renewable energy.		New to 2021
<p>H11: Does your household own or rent this accommodation?</p>	<p>H12: Does your household own or rent this accommodation?</p>	No	No	No	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: No</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>Data comparable with 2011.</p>	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
H12: Who do you rent from? <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Ireland Housing Executive <input type="checkbox"/> Housing association or charitable trust <input type="checkbox"/> Private landlord <input type="checkbox"/> Private renting with a letting agency <input type="checkbox"/> Employer of a household member <input type="checkbox"/> Relative or friend of a household member <input type="checkbox"/> Other	H13: Who is your landlord? <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Ireland Housing Executive <input type="checkbox"/> Housing association or charitable trust <input type="checkbox"/> Private landlord or letting agency <input type="checkbox"/> Employer of a household member <input type="checkbox"/> Relative or friend of a household member <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Yes	No	Yes	Question wording change: Yes Instruction change: No (just question numbers) Tick box change: The 2011 question stem was simplified for 2021 and the 2011 'Private landlord or letting agency' option was replaced with two more-detailed options of 'Private landlord' and 'Private renting with a letting agent' (due to increased user need for further information on the local rental sector). Routing change: No	Minor change. Data will have comparable aspects with 2011.	Broadly comparable
H13: In total, how many cars or vans are owned, or available for use, by members of this household?	H14: In total, how many cars or vans are owned, or available for use, by members of this household?	No	No	No	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No (just question numbers) Tick box change: No Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
2.3. Demography							
Name							
1: What is your name?	1: What is your name?	No	Yes	N/A	This confidential information is not part of the outputs. Question wording change: No Instruction change: The 2011 question was updated for 2021 to collect 'First name(s)' rather than 'First name'. This was to match the layout of the online questionnaire where (in line with the ONS approach) middle name was added to improve overall data quality and completeness. Tick box change: N/A Routing change: No	Minor change.	Comparable
Sex							
3: What is your sex?	2: What is your sex?	No	No	No	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No (just question numbers) Tick box change: The order of the tick boxes in 2011 'Male, Female' was reversed in the 2021 question to reflect the fact that there are more females than males in Northern Ireland – this would also reduce respondent burden. In addition, the order of this question was swapped with the question on date of birth to harmonise with the ONS approach where they had changed the order following user testing. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
Date of birth							
2: What is your date of birth?	3: What is your date of birth?	No	No	N/A	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No (just question numbers) Tick box change: N/A Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Marital status							
4: What is your marital or civil partnership status? <input type="checkbox"/> Single (never married and never in a civil partnership) <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Separated, but still legally married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> In a civil partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Separated, but still legally in a civil partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Formerly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved <input type="checkbox"/> Surviving partner from a civil partnership	4: On 27 March 2011, what was your legal marital or same-sex civil partnership status? <input type="checkbox"/> Never married and never registered a same-sex civil partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Separated, but still legally married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> In a registered same-sex civil partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Separated, but still legally in a same-sex civil partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved <input type="checkbox"/> Surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership	Yes	No	Yes	Question wording change: The 2011 question stem and several response options were modified to reflect current terminology and changes in legislation in 2020 which introduced opposite-sex civil partnerships. Instruction change: No Tick box change: Yes – removal of the term same-sex in relation to civil partnerships. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data will have comparable aspects with 2011.	Broadly comparable
Schoolchild or student							
5: Are you a student or schoolchild in full-time education?	5: Are you a student or schoolchild in full-time education?	No	No	No	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No Tick box change: No Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
Student term time address							
6: During term time, where do you usually live:	6: During term time, do you live:	Yes	No	No	<p>Question wording change: Yes</p> <p>Instruction change: No</p> <p>Tick box change: No</p> <p>Routing change: In 2011, respondents who ticked 'at another address' were directed to the end of the questionnaire because they would have been enumerated at their term-time address.</p> <p>However, for 2021, given the difficulty of enumerating students, NISRA decided to take every opportunity to capture their details at both their term time address and at their home address – elements of double-counting could be addressed later. The 2021 questionnaire was therefore updated to ensure that the respondent completed the full questionnaire regardless.</p> <p>Additionally, the online system took the opportunity to ask the respondent for full details of their term time address.</p>	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
2.4. Migration							
Country of birth							
7: What is your country of birth?	7: What is your country of birth?	No	Yes	No	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: This question is the first in a suite of questions around migration which, in 2011, had also identified what were termed 'short-term residents'. Following a detailed analysis of the 2011 data, it was found that this was a relatively small pool of people and that although they had said that they intended to stay in Northern Ireland for a period of 12 months or less, most actually had remained in Northern Ireland long after the 12 month cut-off. Given the effect of this on the quality of the data collected in this question, it was decided to drop these questions and use the space saved to ask different questions to meet the current user need.</p> <p>The four questions removed from this section are shown below.</p> <p>Tick box change: No</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
Not asked in 2021	<p>8: Routing question regarding when they arrived in UK</p> <p>9: Including the time you have already spent in the United Kingdom, how long do you intend to stay in the UK?</p> <p>10: Have you lived outside Northern Ireland for a continuous period of one year or more?</p> <p>11: During this time outside Northern Ireland, what was the last country you lived in?</p>	N/A	N/A	N/A	The four questions dropped for 2021.	N/A	N/A
8: What year did you come to live in Northern Ireland?	12: When did you most recently arrive to live in Northern Ireland?	Yes	No	N/A	<p>Question wording change: The 2011 question stem was updated for 2021 to emphasise their most recent arrival to live in Northern Ireland. In addition, the 'Month' write in box was removed as analysis of the 2011 response suggested that respondents might have had difficulty remembering which month they arrived to live in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: N/A</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
2.5. Ethnicity, Identity, Language and Religion							
Passports held							
10: What passports do you hold?	14: What passports do you hold?	No	No	No	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: No</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
National identity							
11: How would you describe your national identity?	15: How would you describe your national identity?	No	No	No	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: No</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
Ethnic group							
12: What is your ethnic group? <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Irish Traveller <input type="checkbox"/> Roma <input type="checkbox"/> Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino <input type="checkbox"/> Black African <input type="checkbox"/> Black Other <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed ethnic group, write in <input type="checkbox"/> Any other ethnic group, write in	16: What is your ethnic group? <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Irish Traveller <input type="checkbox"/> Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistan <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> Black African <input type="checkbox"/> Black Other <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed ethnic group, write in <input type="checkbox"/> Any other ethnic group, write in	No	No	Yes	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No (just question numbers) Tick box change: The response options were updated for 2021 following research carried out on the 2011 Census results, an examination of the latest school census data, and engagement with the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland. As a result, the tick box categories for Roma and Filipino were added and the options of Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Black Caribbean were removed (although these responses could still be written in). The response options were split into two columns to manage space constraints. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Religion belong to/brought up in							
13: What religion, religious denomination or body do you belong to? 14: What religion, religious denomination or body were you brought up in?	17: What religion, religious denomination or body do you belong to? 18: What religion, religious denomination or body were you brought up in?	No	No	No	The two questions on religion were left unchanged to ensure any difference in outputs are data-driven (changes in the distribution of response) rather than process-driven (any changes to layout or processing). Question wording change: No Instruction change: No (just question numbers) Tick box change: No Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Main language							
15: What is your main language? 16: How well can you speak English?	19: What is your main language? 20: How well can you speak English?	No	No	No	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No (just question numbers) Tick box change: No Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
Irish/Ulster-Scots							
<p>17: Can you understand, speak, read or write Irish?</p> <p>18: Can you understand, speak, read or write Ulster-Scots?</p> <p>Tick all that apply.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No ability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Understand</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Speak</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Read</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Write</p> <p>How often do you speak Irish (17) or Ulster-Scots (18)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Daily</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Weekly</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Less often</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Never</p>	<p>21: Can you understand, speak, read or write Irish or Ulster-Scots?</p> <p>Irish</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No ability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Understand</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Speak</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Read</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Write</p> <p>Ulster-Scots</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No ability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Understand</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Speak</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Read</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Write</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>This was another example of a question where the layout differed on paper compared to the online version.</p> <p>The online question was split over two screens dependent on the respondent's answer. Those who selected 'Speak' were filtered to the question on how frequently they speak it; all other respondents were filtered to the next question.</p> <p>Question wording change: Yes</p> <p>The 2011 question on the ability to understand, speak, read or write Irish or Ulster-Scots was retained for 2021 due to evidence of user need from the topic consultation.</p> <p>However, the question was split into two separate questions so that they could be extended to collect information on the frequency with which Irish or Ulster-Scots is spoken.</p> <p>Instruction change: Yes. The in-built shaded filter indicated that only respondents who could 'Speak' either language should answer the question on frequency of use (also question numbers).</p> <p>Tick box change: Yes. Addition of the tick boxes on frequency with which Irish or Ulster-Scots is spoken.</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	<p>Minor change.</p> <p>Data comparable with 2011.</p>	Comparable
2.6. Health							
General health							
<p>19: How is your health in general?</p>	<p>24: How is your health in general?</p>	No	No	No	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: No</p> <p>Routing change: No</p> <p>In 2021, the order of the health questions was changed to reduce respondent burden.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>Data comparable with 2011.</p>	Comparable
<p>20: Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, limited a little</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, limited a lot</p>	<p>22: Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, limited a lot</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, limited a little</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	No	No	Yes	<p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: The order of the 2011 tick boxes was reversed in 2021 to reduce respondent burden based on the results of the 2011 Census where most people ticked 'no'.</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	<p>Minor change.</p> <p>Data comparable with 2011.</p>	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
<p>21: Do you have any of the following conditions which have lasted, or are expected to last, at least 12 months?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Deafness or partial hearing loss <input type="checkbox"/> Blindness or partial sight loss <input type="checkbox"/> A mobility or dexterity difficulty that requires the use of a wheelchair <input type="checkbox"/> A mobility or dexterity difficulty that limits basic physical activities (for example walking or dressing) <input type="checkbox"/> An intellectual or learning disability (for example Down syndrome) <input type="checkbox"/> A learning difficulty (for example dyslexia) <input type="checkbox"/> Autism or Asperger syndrome <input type="checkbox"/> An emotional, psychological or mental health condition (for example depression or schizophrenia) <input type="checkbox"/> Frequent periods of confusion or memory loss (for example dementia) <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term pain or discomfort <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing (for example asthma) <input type="checkbox"/> Other condition (for example cancer, diabetes or heart disease) <input type="checkbox"/> No condition 	<p>23: Do you have any of the following conditions which have lasted, or are expected to last, at least 12 months?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Deafness or partial hearing loss <input type="checkbox"/> Blindness or partial sight loss <input type="checkbox"/> Communication difficulty (a difficulty with speaking or making yourself understood) <input type="checkbox"/> A mobility or dexterity difficulty (a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying) <input type="checkbox"/> A learning difficulty, an intellectual difficulty, or a social or behavioural difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> An emotional, psychological or mental health condition (such as depression or schizophrenia) <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term pain or discomfort <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing (such as asthma) <input type="checkbox"/> Frequent periods of confusion or memory loss <input type="checkbox"/> A chronic illness (such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, heart disease or epilepsy) <input type="checkbox"/> Other condition <input type="checkbox"/> No condition 	No	No	Yes	<p>This question, due to the high number of tickboxes available, needed to be split over two screens online. The first of the two online questions asked about 'Physical health conditions' and the second asked about 'Other health conditions'. All respondents were presented with both questions.</p> <p>Question wording change: No</p> <p>Instruction change: No (just question numbers)</p> <p>Tick box change: The 2011 response categories were updated to take account of changing user needs and to align with international definitions to promote standardisation. In particular, a new separate category was included in 2021 for 'Autism or Asperger syndrome', to develop a baseline on the prevalence of these conditions. In addition, other 2011 response options were disaggregated to increase the usability of the data.</p> <p>These changes were arrived at through extensive collaboration with topic experts on health from the Department of Health, Department of Communities, Health and Social Care NI (HSCNI) and Queens University Belfast.</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	<p>Minor change.</p> <p>Data will have comparable aspects with 2011.</p>	Broadly comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
Unpaid care							
<p>22: Do you look after, or give any help or support to, anyone because they have long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, or problems related to old age?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 1 to 19 hours a week</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 20 to 34 hours a week</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 35 to 49 hours a week</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 50 or more hours a week</p>	<p>25: Do you look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • long-term physical or mental ill-health/disability? • problems related to old age? <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 1 - 19 hours a week</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 20 - 49 hours a week</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, 50 or more hours a week</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>Question wording change: The 2011 question stem was updated for 2021 to support respondents who relied on online screen reader facilities.</p> <p>Instruction change: The instructions were changed to align with the need to accommodate online screen readers (also question numbers).</p> <p>Tick box change: The 'Yes, 20-49 hours a week' tick box was disaggregated to show a split at the 35-hour mark to allow for analysis on how much of the population (who provide care for 35 hours or more) qualify for carer's allowance.</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	Minor change. Data will have comparable aspects with 2011.	Broadly comparable
2.7. Sexual orientation							
<p>23: Are you aged 16 or over?</p>	<p>26: If you are aged 16 or over Go to 27</p> <p>If you are aged 15 or under Go to 43</p>				In 2011, this question was managed by a filter that relied on the respondent following it. In 2021, an actual question (with yes and no tick boxes) was used to reinforce the filter.		
<p>24: Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Straight/Heterosexual</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gay or Lesbian</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bisexual</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other sexual orientation, write in</p>	New question for 2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p>The 2015 topic consultation showed that there was an identified need to gather data on sexual orientation to inform policy development and enable organisations to meet and monitor their statutory obligations stemming from Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and other relevant legislation.</p> <p>As a result, a question on sexual orientation was developed through extensive research and testing. The question included an 'Other sexual orientation' write-in box for respondents who wished to use alternative terms to describe their sexual orientation. In addition, an option of 'Prefer not to say' was included to reduce respondent burden and preserve the response rate by providing every respondent with a tick box that met their needs. The front cover of the paper questionnaire also explained that there was no penalty for not completing the question – online respondents were able to complete their questionnaire without answering this question.</p> <p>A topic report was published on the research and testing behind the decision to include the question.</p>	N/A	New to 2021

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
2.8. Qualifications							
<p>25: Have you achieved a qualification at degree level or above?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>26: Have you achieved any other qualification?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> GCSEs or equivalent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5 or more GCSEs (A*-C, 9-4), O levels (passes) or CSEs (grade 1)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Any other GCSEs, O levels or CSEs (any grades)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> AS, A level or equivalent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 or more A levels, 4 or more AS levels</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 A level, 2-3 AS levels</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 AS level</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NVQ or equivalent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NVQ level 3, BTEC National, OND or ONC, City and Guilds Advanced Craft</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NVQ level 2, BTEC General, City and Guilds Craft</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NVQ level 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other or no qualifications</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Any other qualifications, equivalent unknown</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No qualifications</p>	<p>27: Which of these qualifications do you have?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 4 O Levels/CSEs/GCSEs (any grades), Entry Level, Foundation Diploma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 1, Foundation GNVQ, Basic/Essential Skills</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5+ O Levels (passes)/CSEs (grade 1)/GCSEs (grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1 A Level/2 - 3 AS Levels/VCEs, Higher Diploma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma, RSA Diploma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Apprenticeship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 3, Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Degree (for example BA, BSc), Higher degree (for example MA, PhD, PGCE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher Level, Foundation degree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Professional qualifications (for example teaching, nursing, accountancy)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other vocational/work-related qualifications</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Qualifications gained outside the UK</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No qualifications</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>This is another example of a question where the layout differed on paper compared to the online version.</p> <p>Analysis of the 2011 results suggested that some respondents had difficulty with the qualifications question.</p> <p>The online suite of qualifications questions were split over six screens following extensive user testing that showed it reduced respondent burden.</p> <p>Question wording change: NISRA engaged in extensive testing and consultation with the public and experts from the education sector to address this. The paper question was restructured by dividing it into three separate questions: (1) details of degree level qualifications, (2) details of other qualifications and (3) a separate question on apprenticeships (see next question).</p> <p>Instruction change: The question layout was simplified by removing examples and much more emphasis was placed on the respondent to select their 'equivalent' qualification to reduce respondent burden and make the question easier to read.</p> <p>Tick box change: Work with topic experts also ensured that the tick box titles could be aligned with current bandings on level of education. Hence, the 2011 response options of 'Professional qualifications', 'Other vocational/work-related qualifications' and 'Qualifications gained outside the UK' were removed.</p> <p>Routing change: No</p>	<p>Minor change.</p> <p>Data will have comparable aspects with 2011.</p>	Broadly comparable
<p>27: Have you completed an apprenticeship?</p>	New question for 2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	Introduction of a separate question on apprenticeships.		New to 2021

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
2.9. Voluntary work							
Not asked in 2021	28: In the past year, have you helped with or carried out any voluntary work without pay?	N/A	N/A	N/A	In 2011, the question on voluntary work required a yes or no answer however it did not ask about the type or frequency of the voluntary work. Research also identified that the Continuous Household Survey (managed by NISRA Central Survey Unit) contains a question about voluntary work which can be used as an alternative data source for this information if required, therefore it was agreed that the question would not be asked in the 2021 Census.	N/A	N/A
2.10. Labour market							
Introductory questions							
28: In the last seven days, were you doing any of the following? <input type="checkbox"/> Working as an employee <input type="checkbox"/> Self-employed or freelance <input type="checkbox"/> Temporarily away from work ill, on holiday or temporarily laid off <input type="checkbox"/> On maternity or paternity leave <input type="checkbox"/> Doing any other kind of paid work <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above	29: Last week, were you: <input type="checkbox"/> working as an employee? <input type="checkbox"/> on a government sponsored training scheme? <input type="checkbox"/> self-employed or freelance? <input type="checkbox"/> working, paid or unpaid, for your own or your family's business? <input type="checkbox"/> away from work ill, on maternity leave, on holiday or temporarily laid off? <input type="checkbox"/> doing any other kind of paid work? <input type="checkbox"/> none of the above	Yes	No	Yes	The 2011 suite of labour market questions remained largely the same for 2021, however, the questions were reordered to make them flow better and reduce respondent burden. Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: No Tick box change: Amended to remove 'government sponsored training scheme' and to split 'maternity or paternity leave' from 'temporarily away from work ill...' to ensure UK-wide harmonisation for the labour market section of the questionnaire. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data will have comparable aspects with 2011.	Broadly comparable
29: Which of the following describes what you were doing in the last seven days?	33: Last week, were you:	Yes	No	No	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: No Tick box change: No Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
30: In the last four weeks, were you actively looking for any kind of paid work?	30: Were you actively looking for any kind of paid work during the last four weeks?	Yes	No	No	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: No Tick box change: No Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
31: If a job became available now, could you have started it within two weeks?	31: If a job had been available last week, could you have started it within two weeks?	Yes	No	No	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: No Tick box change: No Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
32: In the last seven days, were you waiting to start a job already accepted?	32: Last week, were you waiting to start a job already obtained?	Yes	No	No	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: No Tick box change: No Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Paid work							
33: Have you ever done any paid work? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in the last 12 months <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not in the last 12 months <input type="checkbox"/> No, have never worked	34: Have you ever worked? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, write in the year that you last worked <input type="checkbox"/> No, have never worked	Yes	Yes	Yes	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: The write-in box in the 2011 question was removed. Tick box change: This question was restricted for 2021 as research suggested that some respondents had difficulty remembering the last year they worked - response options were added to distinguish whether or not the respondent has worked in the last 12 months (a threshold for long-term unemployment). Routing change: No	Minor change. Data will have comparable aspects with 2011.	Broadly comparable
Occupation and industry							
34: Answer questions 35 to 41 for your main job or, if not working, your last main job. 35: In your main job, what is (was) your employment status?	35: Answer questions 36 to 42 for your main job or, if not working, your last main job. 36: In your main job, are (were) you:	Yes	No	No	The 2011 suite of labour market questions remained largely the same for 2021, however, they were reordered to make them flow better. Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: No Tick box change: No Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
36: What is (was) the name of the organisation or business you work (worked) for? <input type="checkbox"/> No organisation or work (worked) for a private individual	41: In your main job, what is (was) the name of the organisation you work (worked) for? <input type="checkbox"/> No organisation (for example, self-employed, freelance, or work (worked) for a private individual)	Yes	No	Yes	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: No Tick box change: Minor amendment Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
37: What is (was) your full job title?	37: What is (was) your full and specific job title?	Yes	No	N/A	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: No Tick box change: N/A Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
38: Briefly describe what you do (did) in your main job.	38: Briefly describe what you do (did) in your main job.	No	No	N/A	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No Tick box change: N/A Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
39: What is (was) the main activity of your organisation, business or freelance work?	40: At your workplace, what is (was) the main activity of your employer or business?	Yes	Yes	N/A	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: Minor amendment. Tick box change: N/A Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
40: Do (did) you supervise or oversee the work of other employees on a day-to-day basis?	39: Do (did) you supervise any employees?	Yes	Yes	No	Question wording change: Slight wording change. Instruction change: Removed Tick box change: No Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
41: In your main job, how many hours a week do (did) you usually work? <input type="checkbox"/> 0 – 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 – 30 <input type="checkbox"/> 31 - 48 <input type="checkbox"/> 49 or more	42: In your main job, how many hours a week do (did) you usually work? <input type="checkbox"/> 15 or less <input type="checkbox"/> 16 – 30 <input type="checkbox"/> 31 – 48 <input type="checkbox"/> 49 or more	No	No	Yes	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No Tick box change: Minor amendment. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Name and address of main place of work or course of study							
42: What is the name and address of your main place of work or course of study (including school)? <input type="checkbox"/> Not currently working or studying <input type="checkbox"/> Work or study mainly at or from home <input type="checkbox"/> No fixed place <input type="checkbox"/> The address below, write in	43: What address do you travel to for your main job or course of study (including school)? <input type="checkbox"/> Not currently working or studying <input type="checkbox"/> Work or study mainly at or from home <input type="checkbox"/> No fixed place <input type="checkbox"/> Offshore installation <input type="checkbox"/> The address below, write in	Yes	Yes	Yes	Question wording change: Slight wording change. The paper question asked the respondent for the address of their main job or course of study, however, the online question was tailored specifically to the respondent based on their previous answers. This approach was the result of extensive user testing which showed that splitting the question reduced respondent burden. Instruction change: The guidance was clarified to make it easier to understand. Tick box change: The response option 'Offshore installation' was removed due to low numbers using this tick box in 2011. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
Travel to main place of work or study (including school)							
43: How do you usually travel to your main place of work or study (including school)?	44: How do you usually travel to your main place of work or study (including school)?	No	Yes	Yes	Question wording change: No Instruction change: The guidance was clarified to make it easier to understand. Tick box change: The response options were reordered for 2021 based on the pattern of response from 2011. Routing change: No	Minor change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
2.11. Further information (page 31)							
This section of the paper questionnaire is used to provide more detailed guidance to the respondent and to clarify who should be reflected in the responses.							
This section was reviewed, to ensure that it continued to meet the needs of the user. As a result, the following two sections were updated.							
<p>Students / schoolchildren who live away from home during term time</p> <p>Students or schoolchildren who live away from home during term time must be included on the questionnaire at both their home and term-time addresses.</p>	<p>Students / schoolchildren who live away from home during term time</p> <p>All students or schoolchildren who live away from home during term time need to be included on a questionnaire at both their home and term-time addresses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At their home address they must be included in Household questions (H1 to H3 and H6) and Individual questions (1 to 6). • At their term-time address they must be included in Household questions (H1 to H3 and H6) and Individual questions (1 to 45). 	N/A	Yes	N/A	This question asked students about their term time address. Given the difficulty of enumerating students in 2011, NISRA decided to take every opportunity to capture their details at both their term time address and at their home address in 2021 (elements of double-counting could be addressed later). As a result, the guidance was updated to reflect this change.	N/A	N/A
<p>People temporarily away from home</p> <p>Anyone who is temporarily away from their permanent or family home on 21 March 2021 should be included at their home address, in Household questions (H1 to H3 and H6) and Individual questions (1 to 44). This includes people who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • staying, or expecting to stay, in an establishment (such as a hospital, care home or hostel) for less than 6 months; • living away from home while working, on holiday or travelling (unless outside the UK for 12 months or more); • members of the Armed Forces; • staying at their second address; • visiting friends or relatives; • in prison on remand (for any length of time), or sentenced to less than 12 months' imprisonment. 	<p>People temporarily away from home</p> <p>Anyone who is temporarily away from their permanent or family home on 27 March 2011 should be included at their home address, in Household questions (H1 to H3 and H6) and Individual questions (1 to 45). This includes people who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • staying, or expecting to stay, in an establishment (such as a hospital, care home or hostel) for less than 6 months; • living away from home while working, on holiday or travelling (unless outside the UK for 12 months or more); • members of the Armed Forces; • staying at their second address; • visiting friends or relatives; • in prison on remand (for any length of time), or sentenced to less than 6 months' imprisonment. 	N/A	Yes	N/A	The changes on question H1 meant that this section needed to be updated, in particular for prisoners (from the 6 months threshold to 12 months). The reason for this change is that prisoners sentenced under 12 months are frequently released halfway through their sentence.	N/A	N/A

2021 question	2011 question	Question wording change	Instruction change	Tick box change	Changes made	Impact	Extent of comparability
2.12. Visitor information							
V1: What is this person's name?	V1: What is this person's name?	No	No	N/A	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No Tick box change: N/A Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
V2: What is this person's date of birth?	V3: What is this person's date of birth?	No	No	N/A	The order of the sex and date of birth questions was swapped to match the layout on the individual questionnaire. Question wording change: No Instruction change: No Tick box change: N/A Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
V3: What is this person's sex?	V2: What is this person's sex?	No	No	Yes	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No Tick box change: The order of the 'Male' and 'Female' tick boxes was swapped to match the layout on the individual questionnaire. Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable
V4: What is this person's usual UK address? OR Outside the UK, write in country	V4: What is this person's usual UK address? OR Outside the UK, write in country	No	No	N/A	Question wording change: No Instruction change: No Tick box change: N/A Routing change: No	No change. Data comparable with 2011.	Comparable