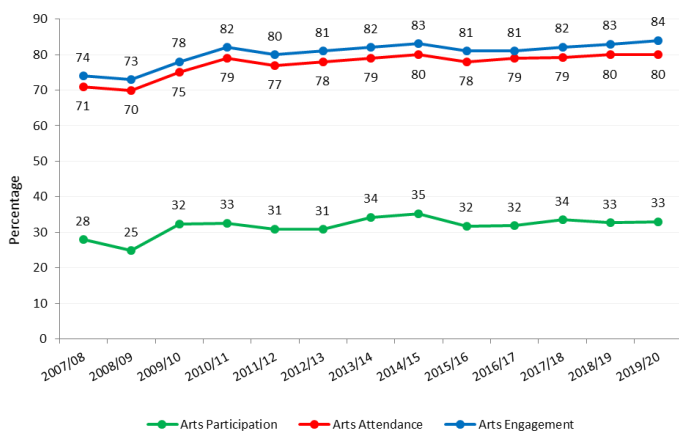


## Main stories

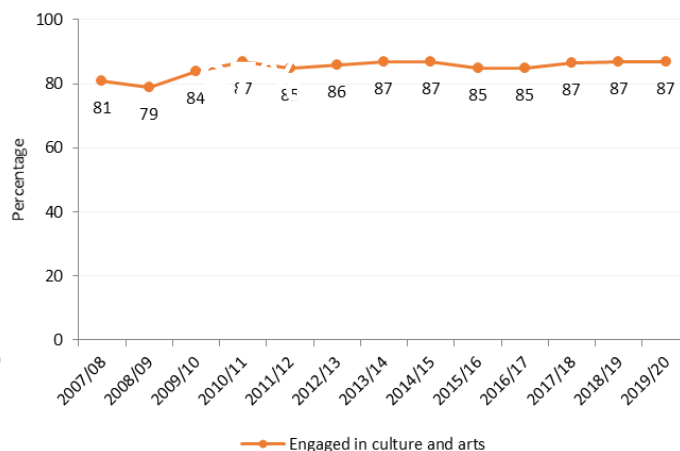
- The proportion of the adult population engaging in culture and arts remained consistent at 87% in 2019/20 unchanged from 2017/18 and 2018/19.
- In 2019/20, over four-fifths (84%) of all adults in Northern Ireland engaged with the arts, similar to the proportion in 2018/19 (83%).
- Over a third (37%) of all adults in Northern Ireland had visited a museum or science centre in 2019/20.
- Usage of the public library service has decreased from a quarter (25%) of all adults in 2018/19 to 23% in 2019/20.
- In 2019/20, 5% of adults used PRONI services within the last 12 months, consistent with the proportion in 2018/19 (5%).

### Engagement with the arts Similar to the previous years' figures



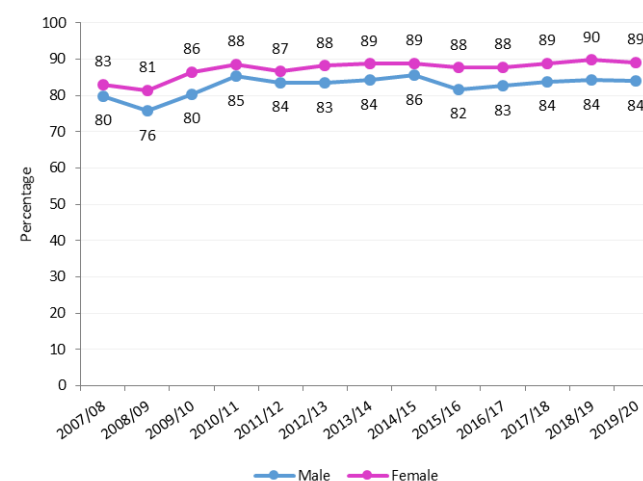
Over 8 in every 10 adults had engaged with the arts at least once within the previous year since 2010/11. Engagement with the arts is largely driven by attendance at arts events.

### Engagement in culture and arts Similar to the previous years' figures



Almost 9 out of every 10 adults (87%) in Northern Ireland had engaged with culture and the arts at least once within the previous year. This proportion has remained relatively consistent since 2009/10.

### Engagement in culture and arts Women more likely to engage in culture and arts than men



Women were more likely to have engaged in culture and the arts within the previous year (89%) than men (84%). This difference has continued over much of the trend period.

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## Introduction

The Department for Communities (DfC) is the lead department for arts and creativity, museums, libraries and public records. This bulletin follows a headline bulletin released in May 2020 and brings together information on the experience of the arts, libraries, museums and PRONI. The publication will be of interest to a wide variety of users but has particular relevance in informing cultural and arts activities as defined in the draft Programme for Government for Northern Ireland 2016-21.

Engagement in culture and arts includes:

- Engagement in the arts (includes both arts participation and arts attendance)
- Usage of the public library service
- Visits to museums and science centres
- Visits to the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.

## Continuous Household Survey

This report presents the findings from the 2019/20 Continuous Household Survey (CHS) in relation to engagement with culture and arts in Northern Ireland which are used to inform the development, monitoring and evaluation of policy. More information relating to the CHS, an annual household survey, including the methodology, definitions and interpretation of the figures can be found in the [definitions and technical notes](#) section. Data tables are available in [Excel](#) and [ODS format](#). The questions that were asked in 2019/20 CHS are available [here](#).

Lead Statistician: Jennifer O'Donnell

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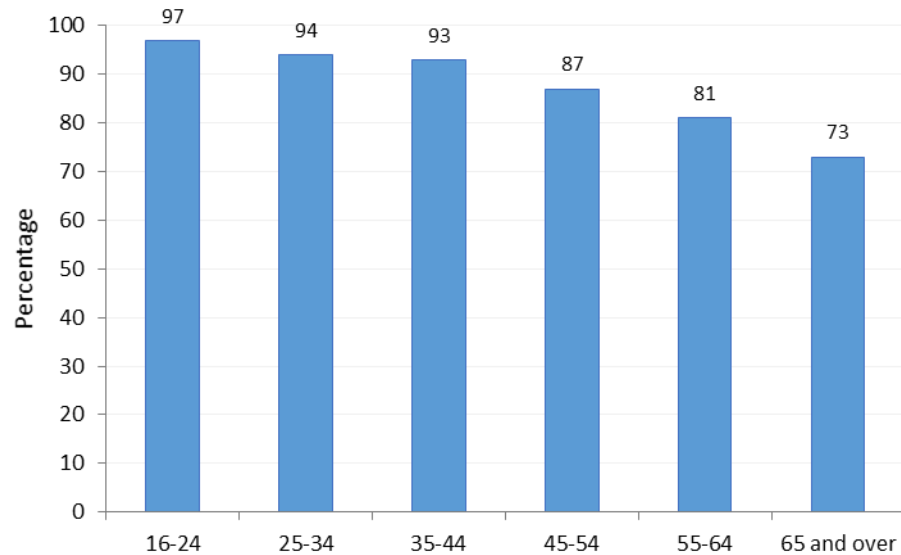
Published 1 October 2020

# Engagement in culture and arts

In 2019/20, almost nine out of ten adults in Northern Ireland (87%) had engaged with culture and the arts at least once within the previous year. There were decreases in engagement rates within the last year among adults living in the least deprived areas (90%) and adults living in urban areas (86%) in comparison to 2018/19 (94% and 88% respectively).

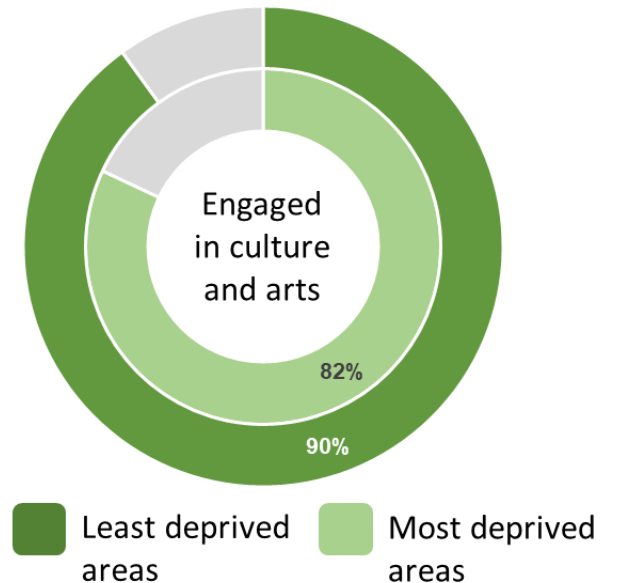
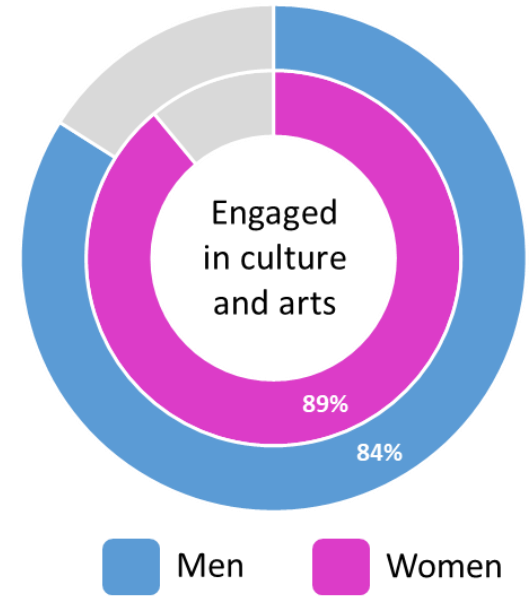
Women were more likely to have engaged with culture and arts activities within the last year than men (89% and 84% respectively). The proportions of adults who engaged with culture and the arts generally decreased as age group increased, particularly beyond the 35-44 years age group.

## Engaged in culture and arts by age group



The engagement rates of adults from the Catholic and Protestant communities were similar within the last year (86% and 85% respectively). Adults with a disability were less likely to have engaged with culture and the arts within the previous year, with 77% having engaged, compared to 90% of those who do not have a disability.

Concerning where people live, adults living in the least deprived areas were more likely to have engaged in culture and arts than those living in the most deprived areas (90% and 82% respectively). However there were no significant differences in engagement rates between adults living in urban and rural areas (86% and 87% respectively).



# Trends

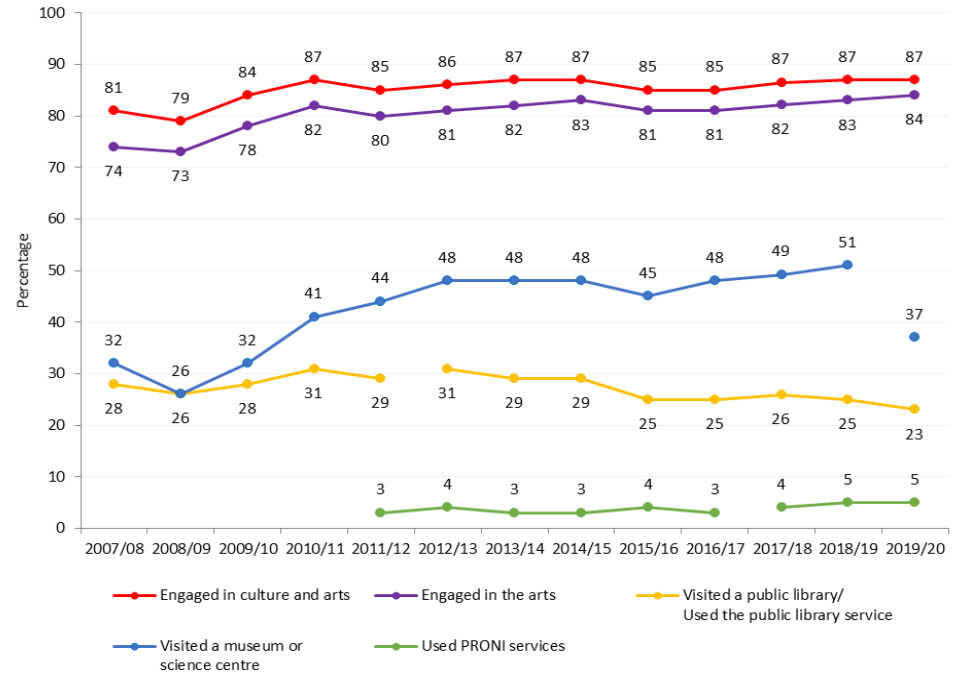
## Culture and arts engagement

Almost nine out of every ten adults (87%) engaged in activities associated with culture and the arts. This proportion has remained fairly consistent over the majority of the trend period.

Engagement in the arts among adults within the previous year (84%) has also remained consistent over the majority of the trend period, where just over 8 in every 10 adults had engaged with the arts at least once within the previous year since 2010/11.

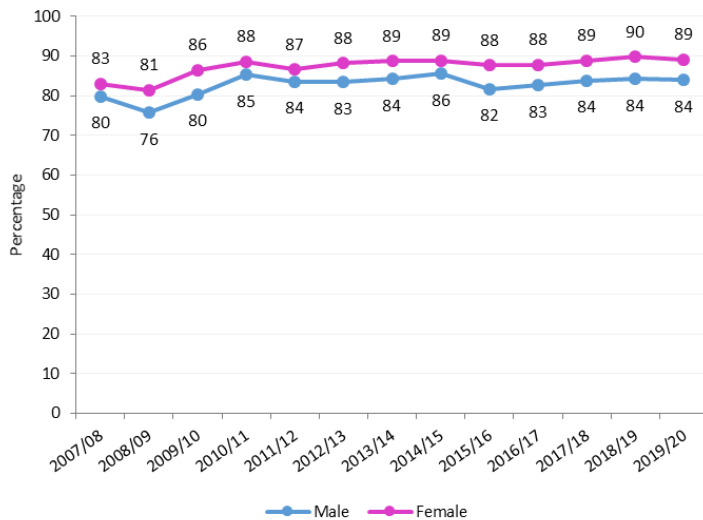
Use of the public library service has decreased from a quarter of all adults (25%) in 2018/19 to just over a fifth (23%) in 2019/20. The long term trend for use of the public library service shows a decline from 31% in 2012/13 to 23% in 2019/20.

In 2019/20, the museums questions were changed to include an estimation of the length of time since a visit to a museum and as a result the 2019/20 figure is not directly comparable to previous years. Over a third of all adults (37%) had visited a museum or science centre in 2019/20.



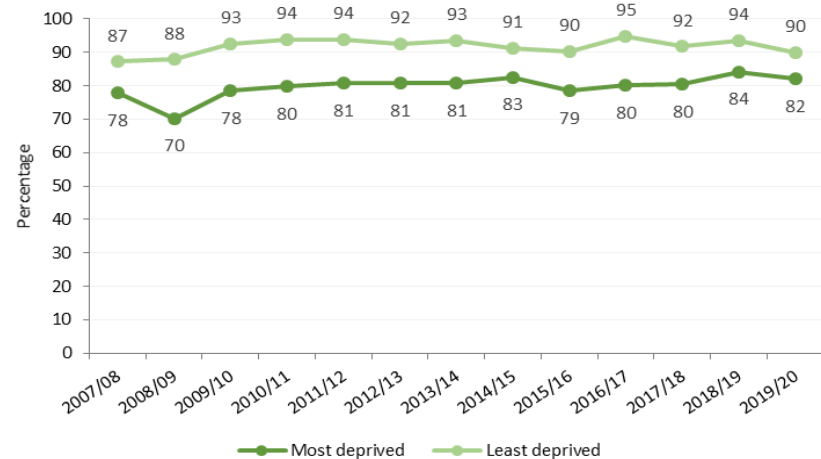
## Gender

Women were more likely than men to have engaged in culture and the arts within the previous year (89% and 84% respectively). This difference has remained consistent over the entire trend period.



## Deprivation

Adults who lived in the least deprived areas (90%) were more likely to have engaged in culture and the arts than those who live in the most deprived areas (82%). As with gender, this difference has remained consistent over the reporting period.



# Arts

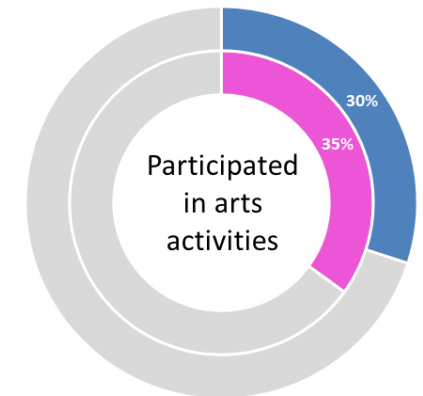
## Participation in arts activities

In 2019/20, a third of all adults (33%) participated in an arts activity at least once within the previous year, showing no change on the 2018/19 proportion. Participation rates remained consistent from 2018/19 to 2019/20 across all the demographic groups.

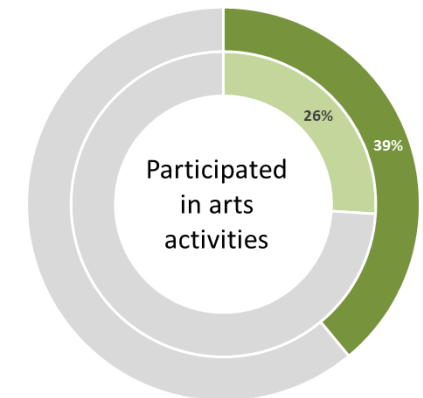
A higher proportion of females than males participated in arts activities in 2019/20 (35% and 30% respectively). In addition, relatively more Protestant adults (33%) participated in an arts activity at least once within the previous year than those from the Catholic community (28%).

In 2019/20, adults with dependants were less likely to have participated in arts activities than those with no dependants (30% and 35% respectively).

Adults who lived in the least deprived areas were more likely to have participated in arts activities than those who lived in the most deprived areas (39% and 26% respectively).



Men Women



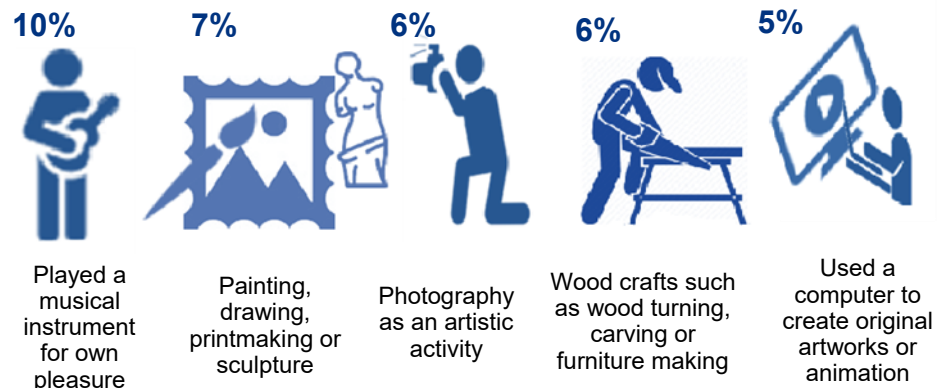
Least deprived areas Most deprived areas

## Types of arts activities

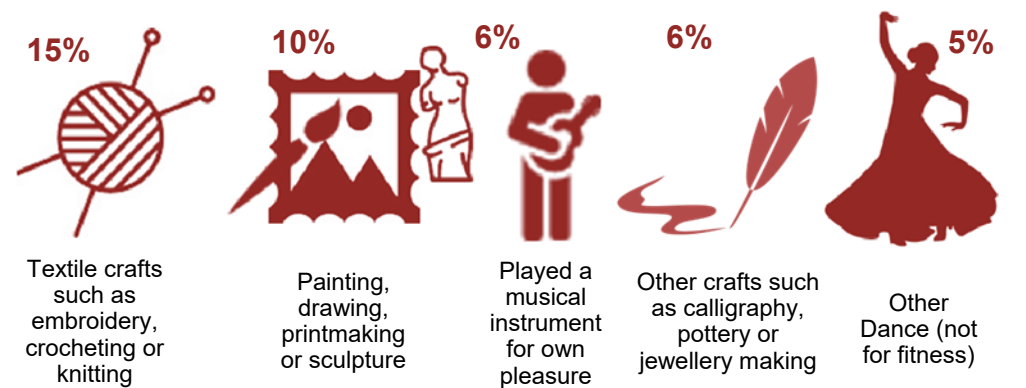
The five most popular arts activities that adults participated in within the previous year were: 'Textile crafts such as embroidery, crocheting or knitting' (9%), 'Played a musical instrument' (8%), 'Painting, drawing, printmaking or sculpture' (8%), 'Photography as an artistic activity' (5%) and 'Used a computer to create original artworks or animation' (4%).

When analysed by gender the five most popular were:

### Males:



### Females:



# Arts

## Attendance at arts events

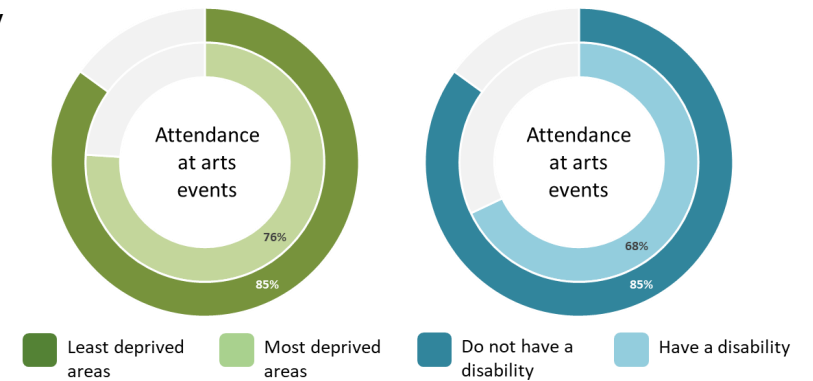
In 2019/20, four-fifths of all adults (80%) indicated that they had attended at least one arts event over the previous year. This is similar to the proportion in 2018/19. Analysis by demographic group shows an increase in the attendance at arts events for those adults aged 65 and over (62%) and those living in rural areas (82%) when compared to 2018/19 (58% and 79% respectively).

As with participation in the arts, women (83%) were more likely than men (77%) to have attended the arts. There is a relationship between arts attendance and age, with attendance generally decreasing as age increases from age 35 and upwards.

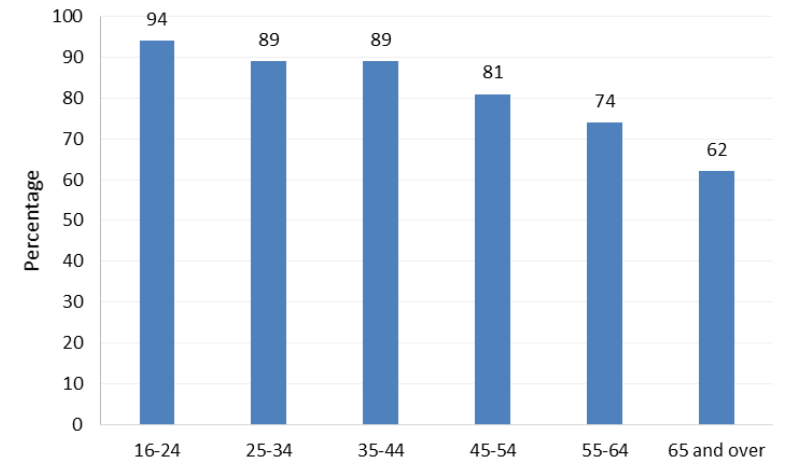
Adults with a disability were less likely to attend an arts event than those who do not have a disability (68% and 85% respectively). A greater proportion of adults with dependants (86%) had attended an arts event than those without dependants (77%).

Concerning where people lived, adults who lived in the least deprived areas were more likely to have attended an arts event (85%) than those who live in the most deprived areas (76%).

When adults who only attend a cinema are excluded from the analysis attendance at arts events reduces to 68%.

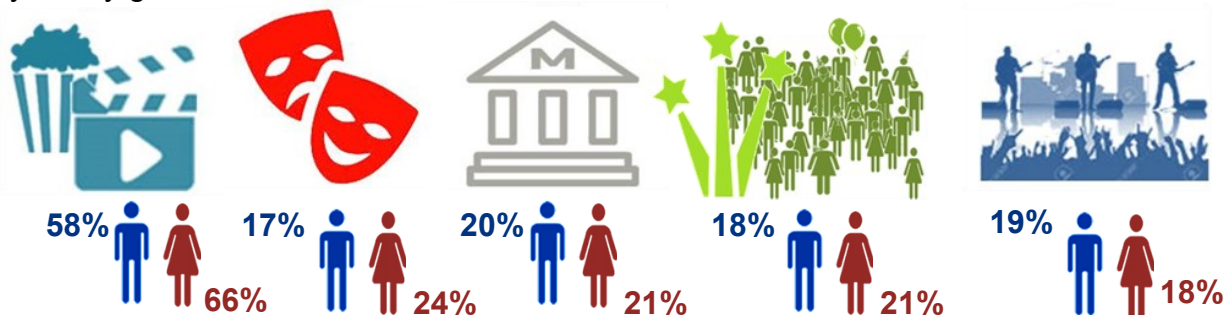


## Attendance at arts events by age



## Types of arts events

The most popular arts events attended by adults over the last year were 'Film at cinema or other venue' (62%), 'Play or drama' (21%), 'A museum' (21%), 'A community festival' (20%) and 'Rock or pop music performance' (19%). The same five events were analysed by gender:



# Arts

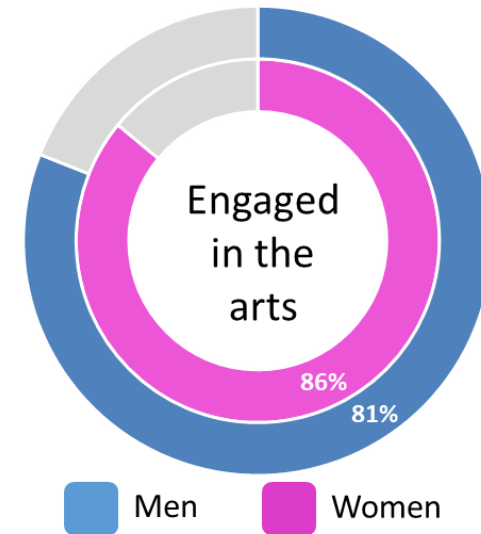
## Engagement in the arts

In 2019/20, just over four-fifths (84%) of all adults in Northern Ireland engaged with the arts i.e. either participated in arts activities or attended arts events, similar to the proportion in 2018/19 (83%). Compared with 2018/19, arts engagement rates have remained similar across most demographic groups, apart from increases in adults with a disability, those who do not have dependants and those who live in the least deprived and rural areas.

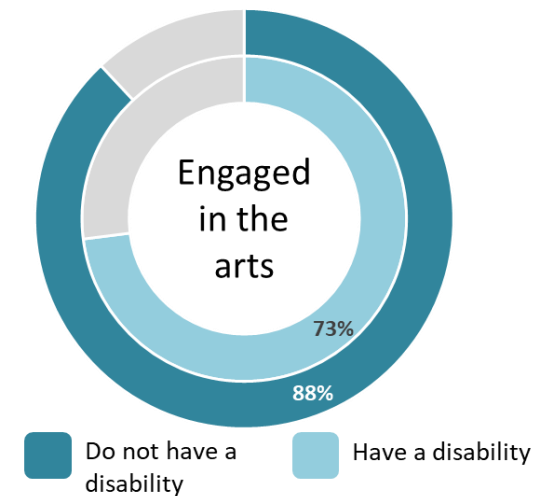
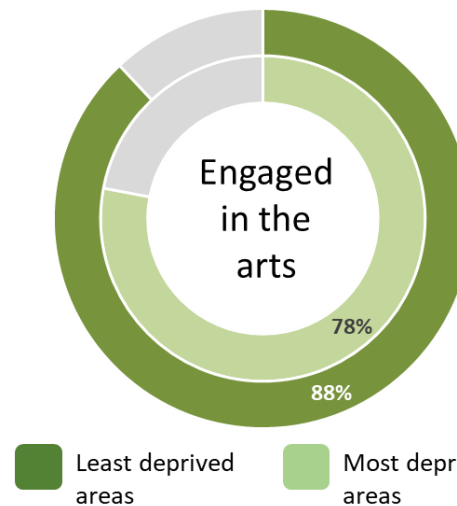
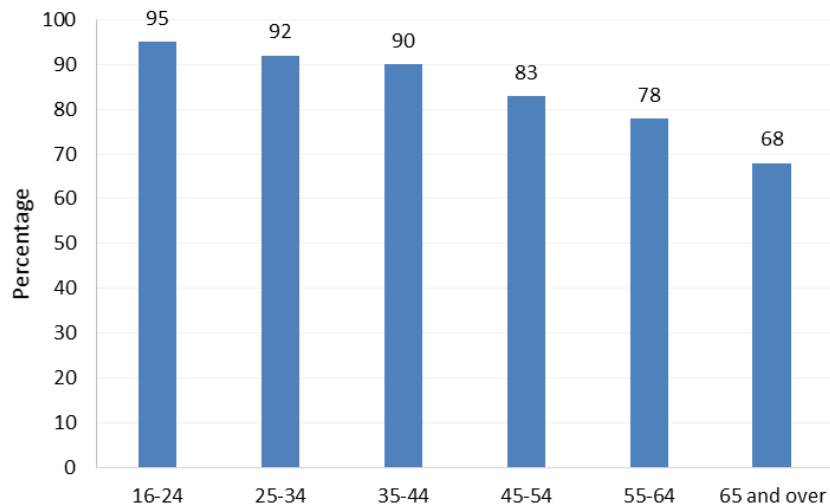
In 2019/20, 86% of all females engaged with the arts compared with 81% of males. Regarding age, the trend was similar to that for attending arts events, engagement rates tended to drop as age increased from age 35 onwards.

Similar proportions of Catholics (84%) and Protestants (82%) engaged with the arts. However, adults with a disability were less likely to have engaged than those without a disability (73% and 88% respectively).

Concerning where people lived, adults who lived in the least deprived areas (88%) were more likely to have engaged with the arts in the previous year than those who live in the most deprived areas (78%). Similarly, adults who live in rural areas (85%) were more likely to have engaged than those who live in urban areas (83%).



## Engagement in the arts by age



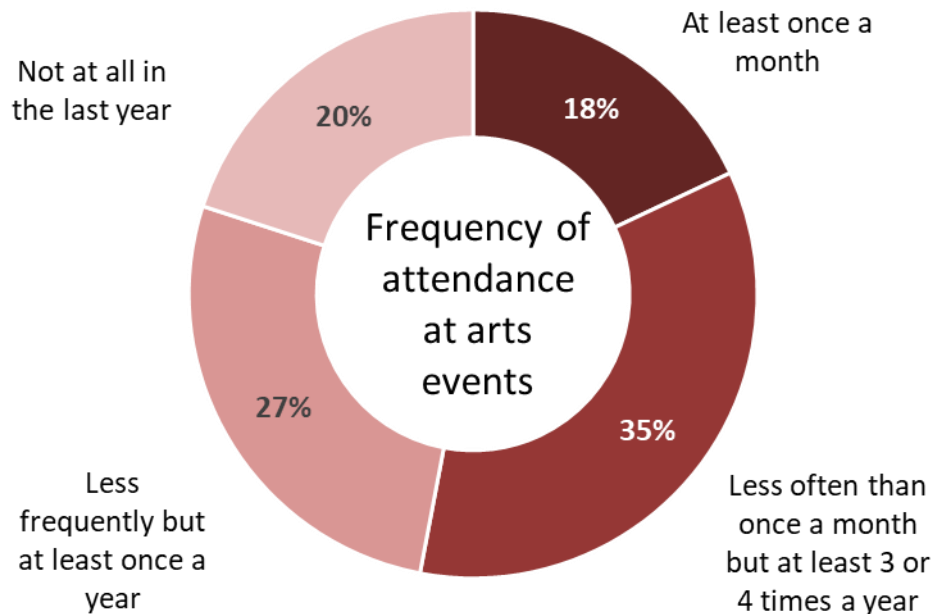
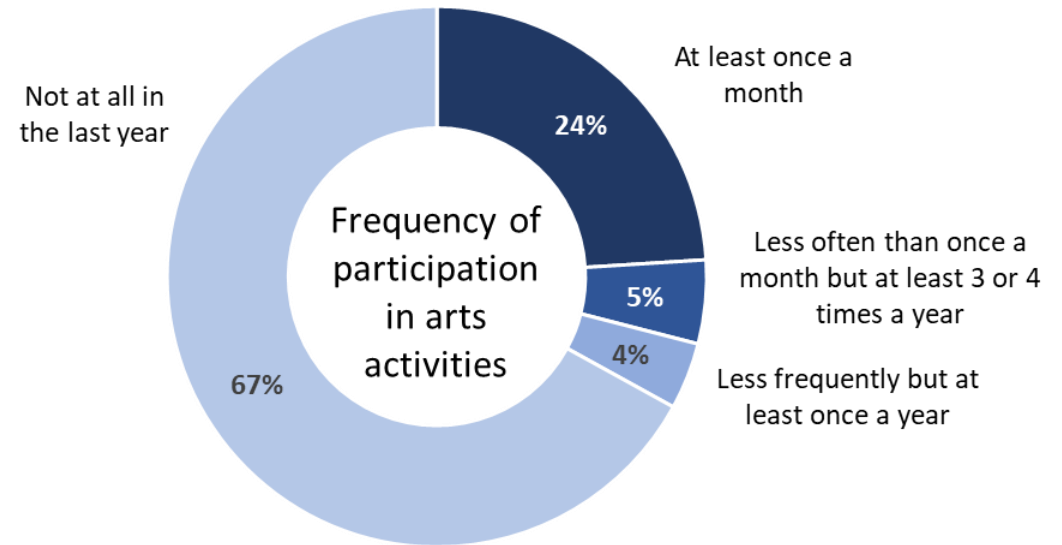
# Arts

## Frequency of participation

In 2019/20, the frequency of engagement question was changed into two separate questions, asking about frequency of participation in arts activities and frequency of attendance at arts events.

Just under a quarter (24%) of all adults participated in arts activities at least once a month over the previous year, while just over two-thirds (67%) did not participate at all in the last year.

Around 1 in every 20 adults either participated less often than once a month but at least 3 or 4 times a year (5%) or less frequently but at least once a year (4%).



## Frequency of attendance

In 2019/20, just under a fifth of all adults (18%) had attended an arts event at least once a month.

Over a third of adults attended less often than once a month but at least 3 or 4 times a year (35%) and over a quarter (27%) attended less frequently but at least once a year.

However, a fifth of all adults (20%) did not attend an arts events at all in the last year.

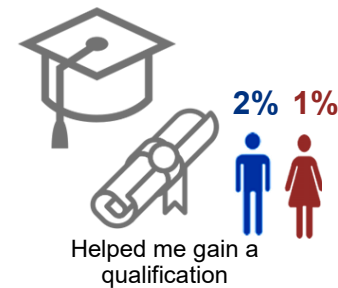
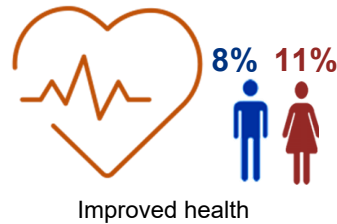
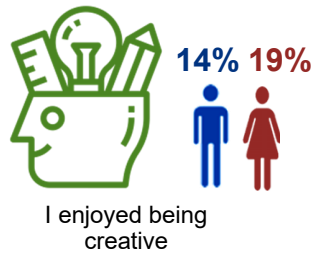
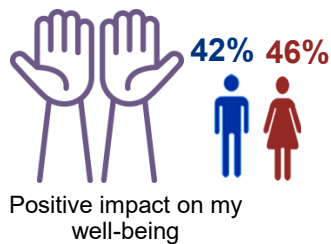


## Benefits of engaging with the arts

In 2019/20 over three quarters (77%) of all adults cited “I had fun” as a benefit of engaging with the arts. Just over two-fifths of adults (44%) cited having a “Positive impact on my well-being” as a benefit of engaging. Other benefits of engagement that were stated by respondents include “Improved my knowledge” (34%), “Enabled me to communicate with family and friends” (22%) and “I made new friends” (19%).

Six percent of all adults stated that they experience no benefit from engaging with the arts.

When analysed by gender, females were more likely to cite “Positive impact on my well-being”, “I enjoyed being creative”, “Improved health” and “Developed my confidence” as benefits to engaging with the arts. However, males were more likely to cite “Helped me gain a qualification” and “Helped me get a job” as benefits.

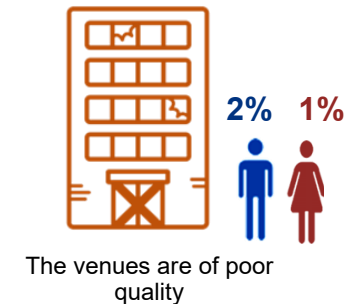
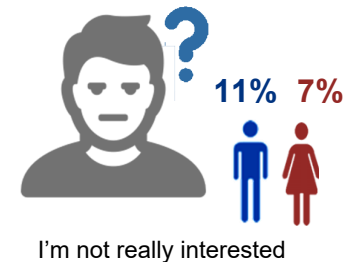
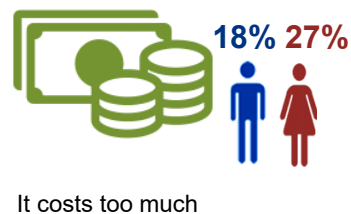
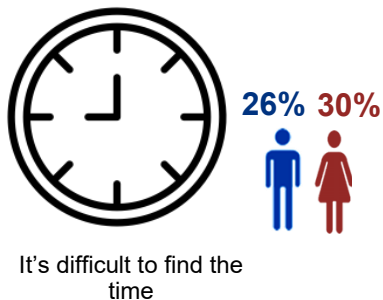


## Barriers to attending arts events

In 2019/20 almost three out of ten adults (28%) stated “It’s difficult to find the time” as a barrier to attending arts events. Other more common answers stated by respondents as barriers to attending include; “It costs too much” (22%), “I have family commitments” (15%), “Events are not publicised enough” (12%) and “Not enough facilities close to where I live” (11%).

Over three out of every ten adults (31%) state that nothing prevents them from attending.

When analysed by gender, females were more likely to cite “It’s difficult to find the time”, “It costs too much” and “I have family commitments” as barriers to attending arts events. However, males were more likely to cite “I’m not really interested” and “The venues are of poor quality” as barriers.

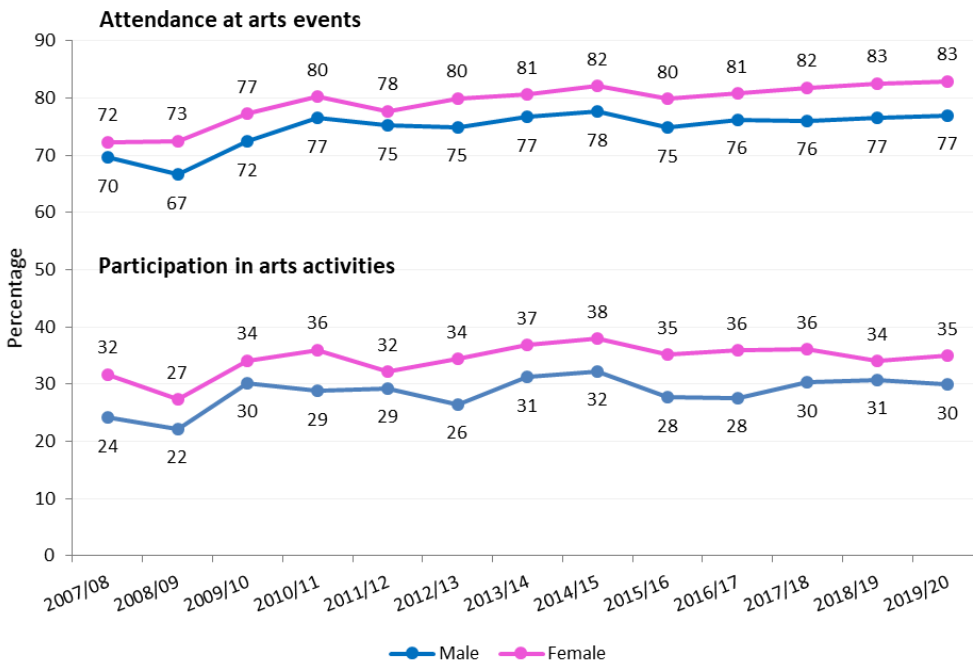
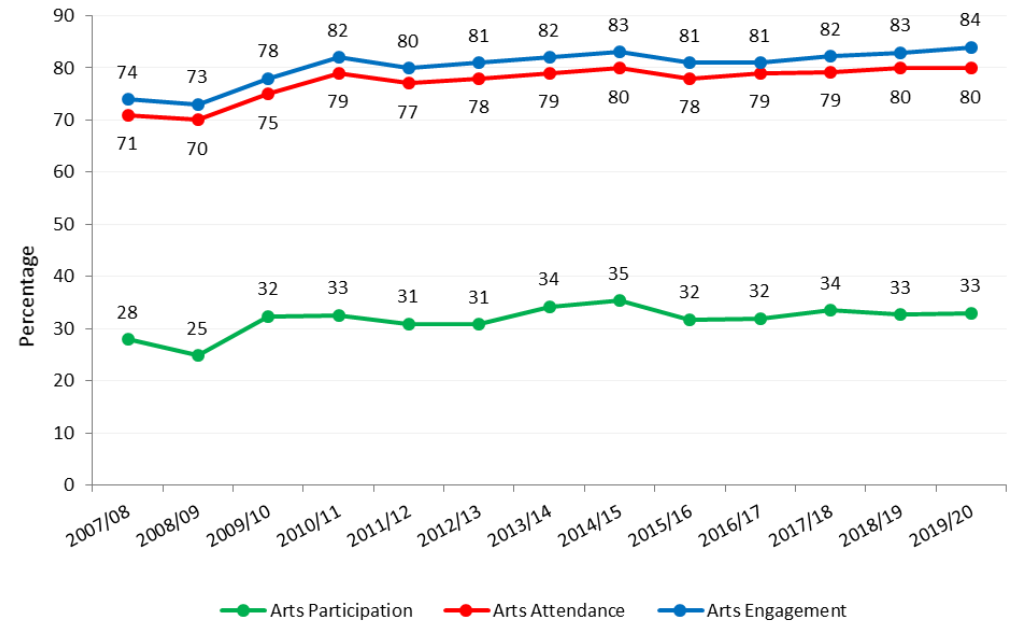


# Trends

## Engagement with the arts

Since 2010/11, around 8 in every 10 adults had engaged with the arts at least once within the previous year. This trend followed an increase from the rates in 2007/08 (74%) and 2008/09 (73%) to 78% in 2009/10.

Engagement with the arts is largely driven by attendance at arts events. Consistently over the trend period, only 3% of adults had participated in an arts activity without also having attended an arts event within the year.



## Gender

Women were more likely to have engaged with the arts within the previous year (86%) than men (81%). This is a result of both their greater likelihood of having participated in an arts activity (35%) and having attended an arts event (83%) within the previous year than men (30% and 77% respectively).

This has also been the case throughout the entire trend period with a higher proportion of women engaging with the arts than men year on year.

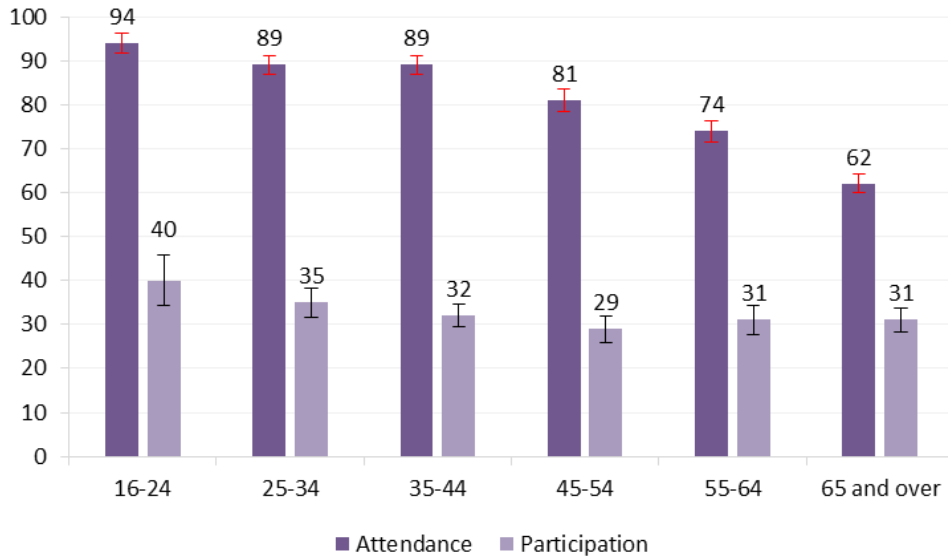
# Trends

## Age group

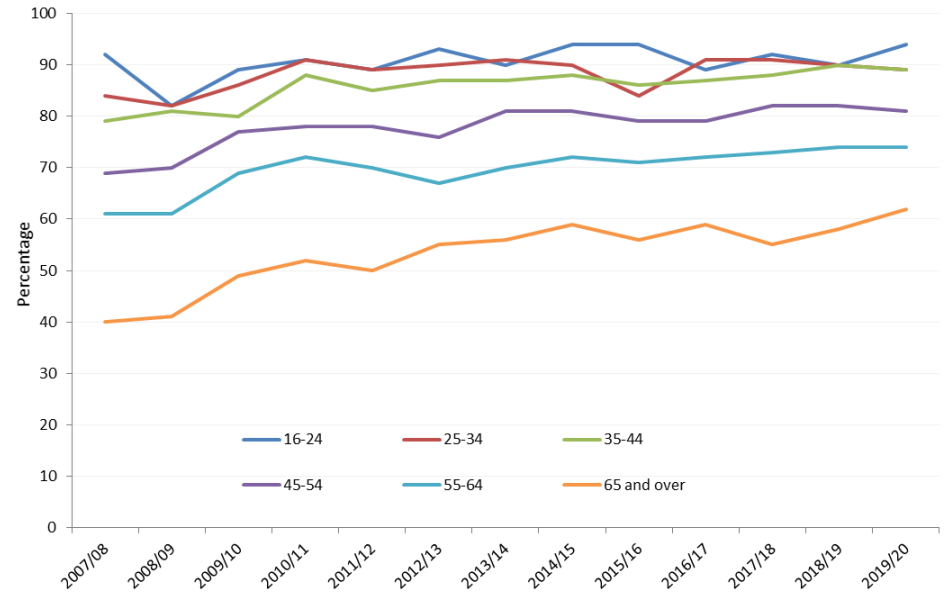
Generally speaking 'attendance at an arts event' decreases with age. This is especially true beyond the 45-54 age group with lower proportions from successive age groups attending an arts event within the previous year since 2007/08. Adults aged 65 years and over have consistently been the least likely to have done so.

Looking at arts participation within the previous year by age group shows that around a third of all age groups had participated in the arts at least once within the previous year. Although, those aged 16-24 years were generally more likely to have participated than other age groups.

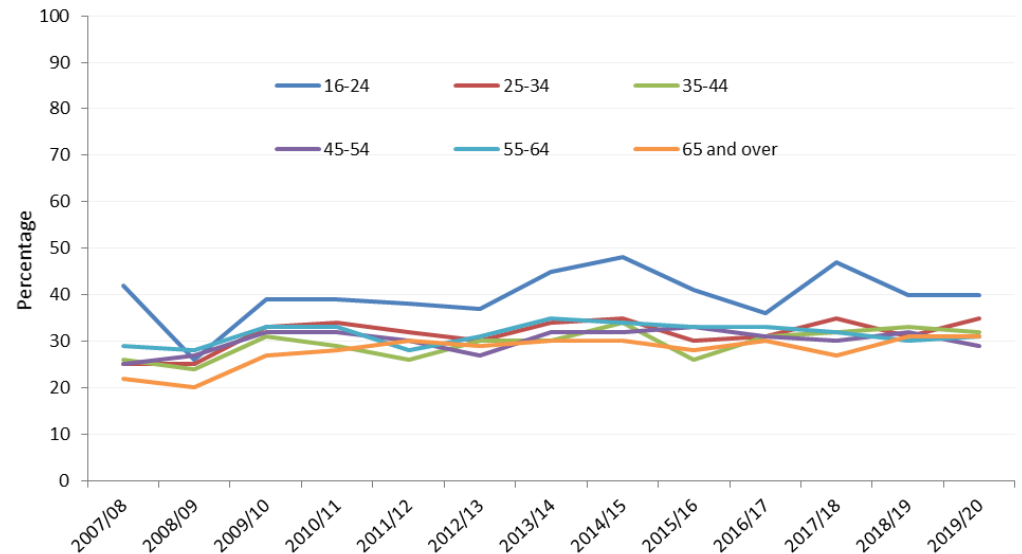
### Attendance and participation in the arts by age



### Arts attendance



### Arts participation



# Museums and science centres

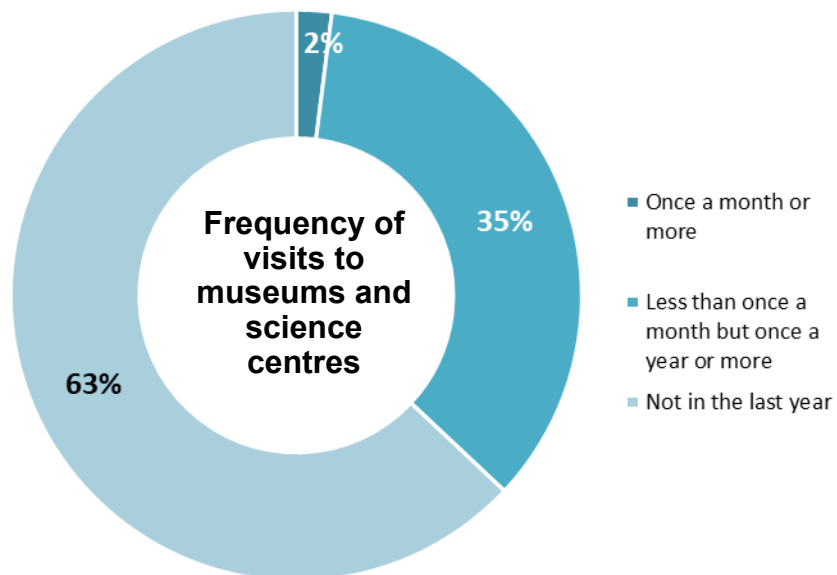
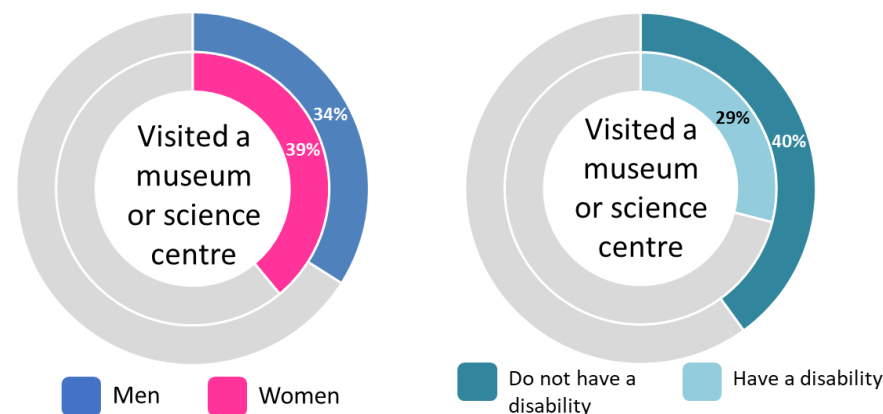
## Visited a museum or science centre

In 2019/20, the question on visits to museums was changed to include an estimation of the length of time since a visit to museum and is not directly comparable with previous years.

Over a third of adults (37%) in Northern Ireland had visited a museum or science centre at least once within the last year. Women were found to be more likely to have visited a museum or science centre than men (39% and 34% respectively).

There were also differences by age and disability in the proportions of adults who visited a museum or science centre. Adults who have a disability (29%) were less likely to have visited a museum or science centre than those who do not have a disability (40%).

Adults aged under 45 were more likely to have visited a museum or science centre in the last year than those aged 45 and over (48% and 28% respectively).



## Frequency of visits to museums and science centres

Just over a third (35%) of adults had visited a museum or science centre less than once a month but at least once in the last year with only 2% having visited at least once a month or more.

# Museums and science centres

## Visited a National Museums Northern Ireland museum

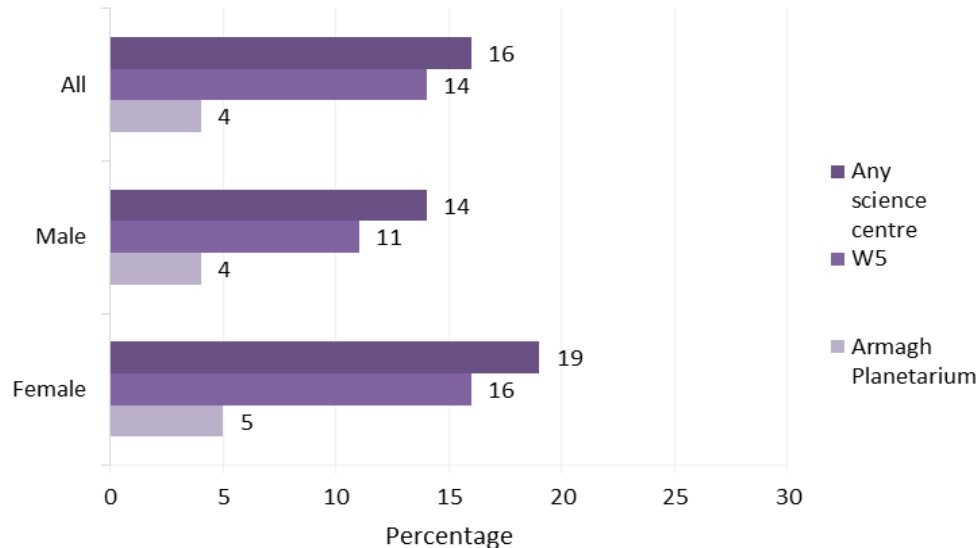
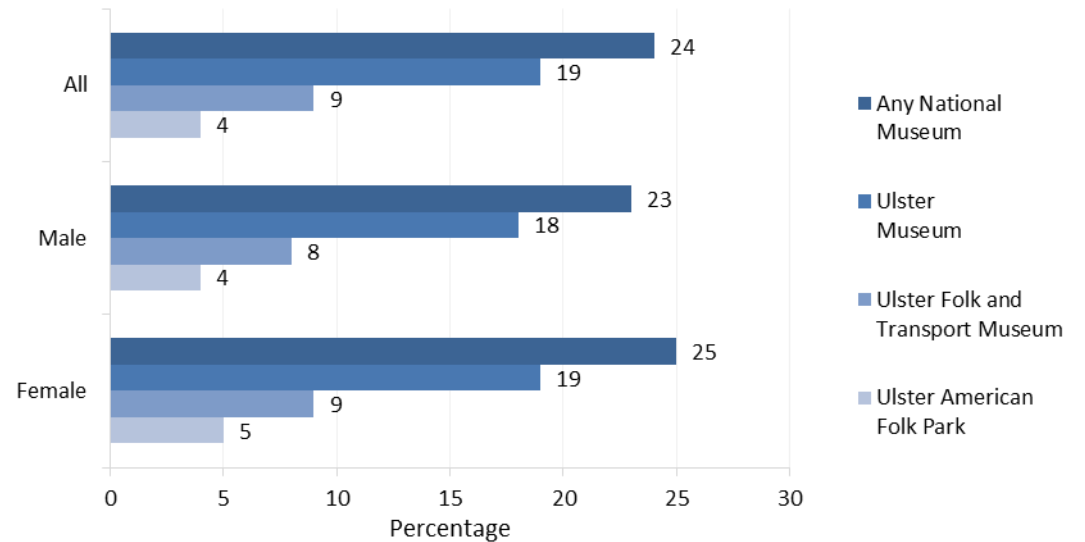
In 2019/20, the question on visits to museums was changed to include an estimation of the length of time since a visit to museum and is not directly comparable with previous years.

National Museums Northern Ireland (NMNI) has three museums across Northern Ireland. Just under a quarter of all adults (24%) had been to a NMNI museum within the last year.

When analysed by gender there was no difference between the proportions of men (23%) and women (25%) who have visited a NMNI museum in the last year.

Adults aged 45 and over (19%) were less likely to have visited than those aged under 45 (31%). Similarly, adults who have a disability (18%) were less likely to have visited a National Museum than those who do not have a disability (26%).

Considering where people live, adults who live in the most deprived areas were less likely to have visited a NMNI museum at least once in the last year than those who live in the least deprived areas (20% and 36% respectively).



## Visits to science centres

Sixteen per cent of all adults in Northern Ireland visited a science centre at least once within the last year.

Women were more likely to have visited a science centre than men (19% and 14% respectively), as well as adults aged under 45 (28%) compared to those aged 45 and over (8%).

Adults with a disability were less likely to have visited a science centre in the last year than those who do not have a disability (11% and 18% respectively).

# Museums and science centres

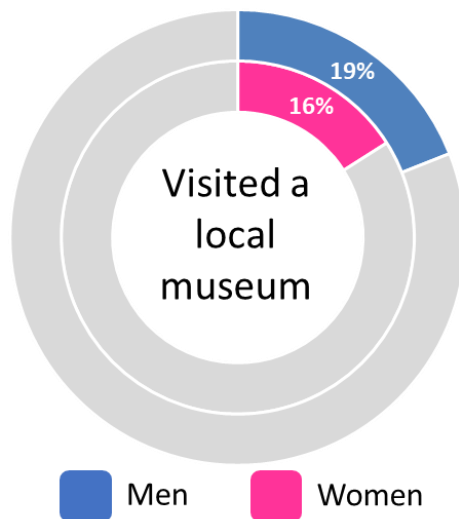
## Visited a local museum

In 2019/20, the question on visits to museums was changed to include an estimation of the length of time since a visit to museum and is not directly comparable with previous years.

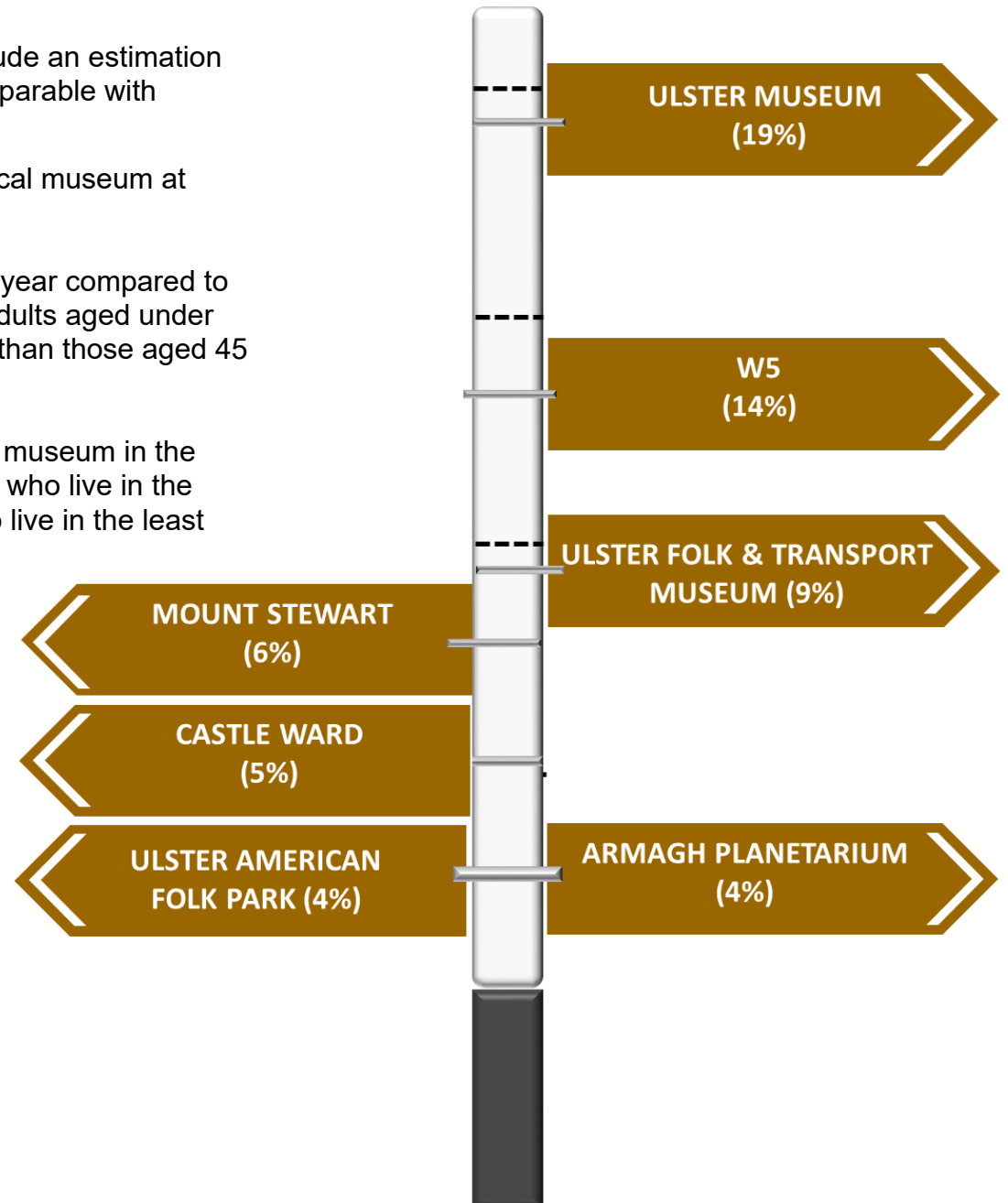
Almost a fifth of all adults (18%) in Northern Ireland had visited a local museum at least once within the last year.

Women were more likely to have visited a local museum in the last year compared to men (19% and 16% respectively). Similarly, when looking at age, adults aged under 45 were more likely to have visited a local museum in the last year than those aged 45 and over (22% and 16% respectively).

Adults with a disability (14%) were less likely to have visited a local museum in the last year than those who do not have a disability (19%). Also adults who live in the most deprived areas were less likely to have visited than those who live in the least deprived areas (12% and 25% respectively).



## Popular museums and science centres



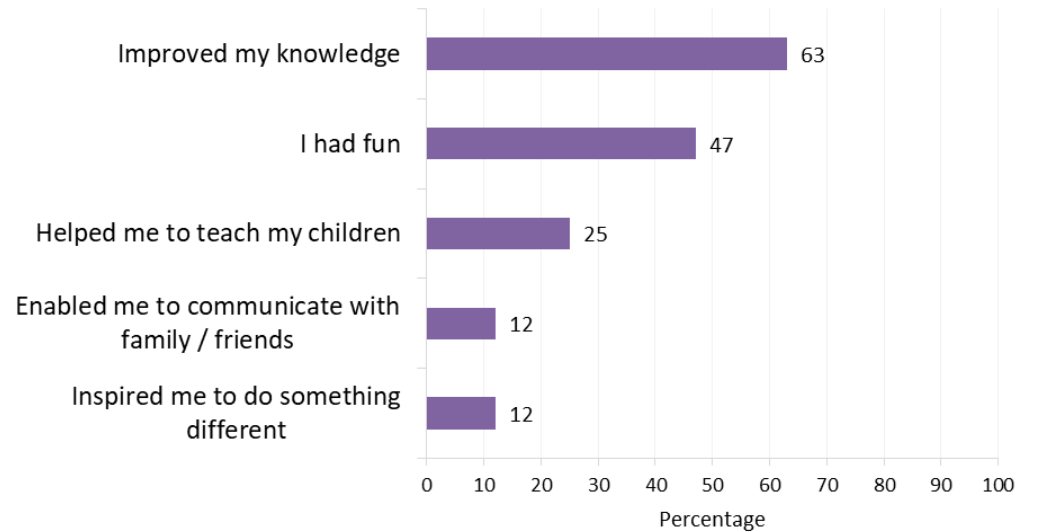
# Museums and science centres

## Benefits experienced from visiting a museum or science centre

Almost two-thirds of all adults (63%) who had visited a museum or science centre in the last year said that a benefit was they had improved their knowledge, whilst almost half (47%) cited 'having fun' as a benefit of their visit. One quarter (25%) said that it helped them to teach their children and 12% said that it enabled them to communicate with family/friends and inspired them to do something different. However, almost one-fifth (17%) of adults stated that they felt no benefits from having visited a museum or science centre in the last year.

Looking at the differences in gender, women were more likely than men to have said that that they had fun, that it helped them to teach their children and inspired them to do something different, as the main benefits of visiting a museum or science centre.

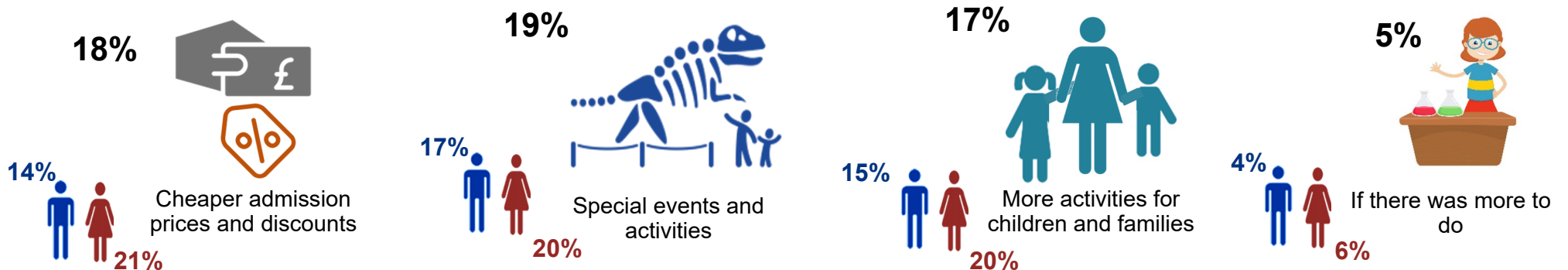
## Most frequently cited benefits



## Encourage visits to a museum or science centre

The most frequently cited answers that adults gave when asked what would encourage them to visit a museum or science centre were 'Exhibition or display of a subject I am interested in' (37%), 'If I had more time' (31%) and 'Special events and activities' (19%) and 'Cheaper admission prices and discounts' (18%).

When analysed by gender, women were more likely than men to cite: 'Cheaper admission prices and discounts'; 'Special events and activities'; 'More activities for children and families' and 'If there was more to do' as the main factors to encourage them to visit museums and science centres.



# Libraries

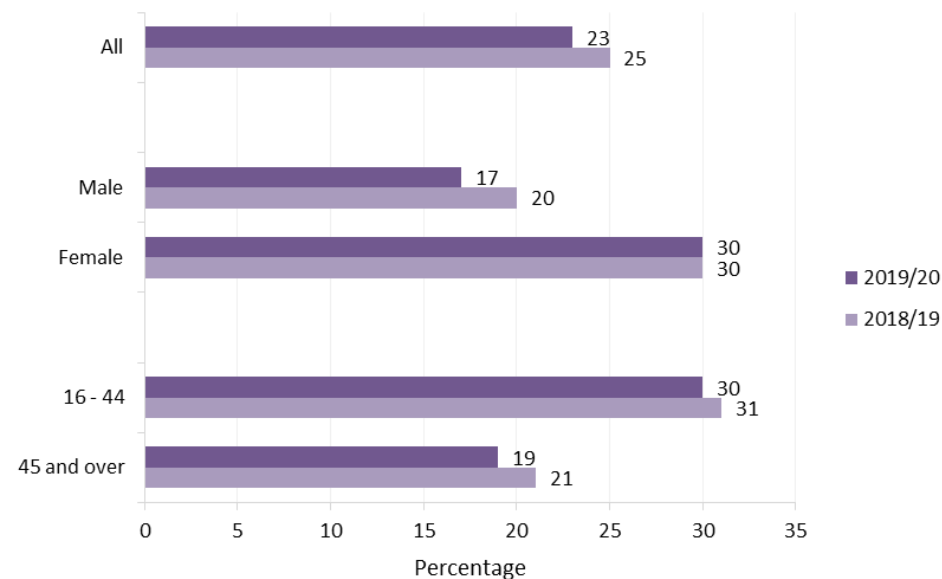
## Use of the public library service

Just under a quarter of adults in Northern Ireland (23%) had used the public library service at least once within the previous year, a decrease on the proportion in 2018/19 (25%).

Women were more likely to have used the public library service than men (30% and 17% respectively). Usage of the public library service decreased with age, with those aged 44 and under (30%) more likely to have used the service within the previous year than those aged 45 and over (19%).

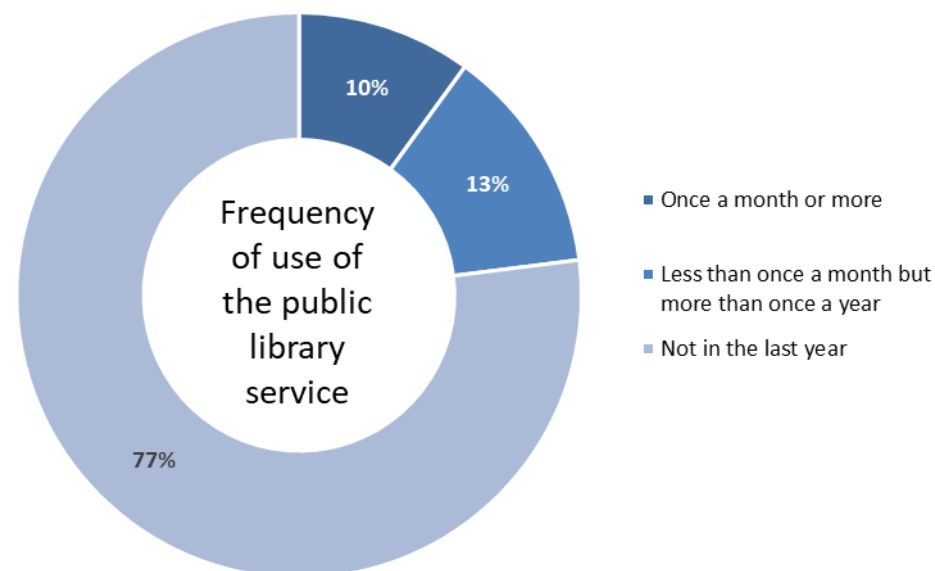
Adults who have dependants (31%) were more likely to have used the public library service compared to those who don't (18%).

There were no differences in the use of public library services when comparing the least deprived with the most deprived areas or urban and rural areas



## Frequency of use of the public library service

One in every ten of the adult population (10%) used the public library service once a month or more within the last year, while just over three quarters (77%) of all adults in Northern Ireland had not used the public library service at all within the last year.





# Libraries

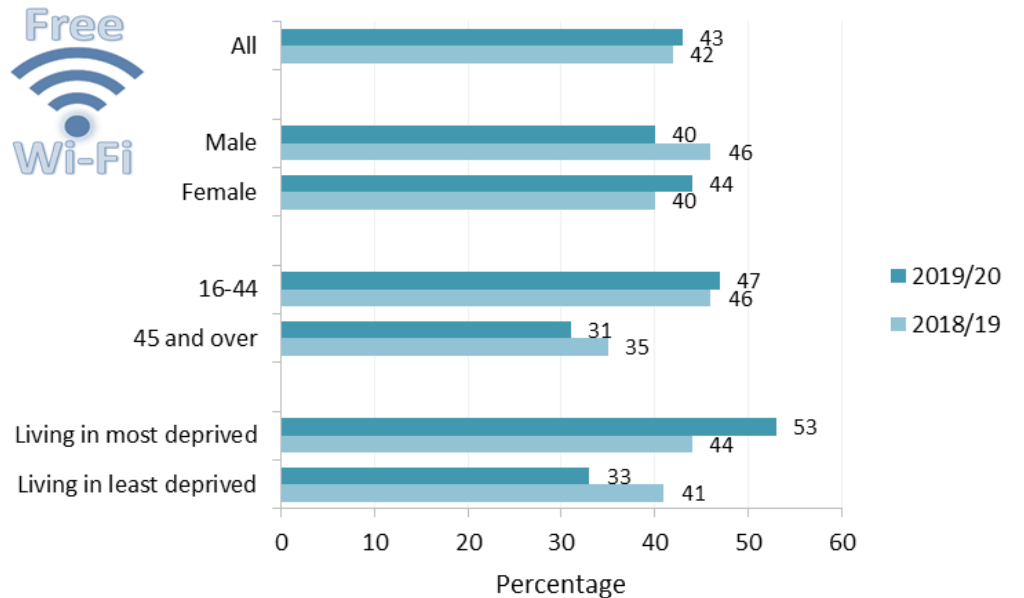
## Used public library service Wi-Fi

Of those adults who used the public library service within the last year just over four out of every ten (43%) used the free Wi-Fi, similar to the proportion in 2018/19 (42%).

Younger adults aged 44 and under were more likely to have used the free Wi-Fi than those aged 45 and over (47% and 31% respectively).

Adult public library users living in the most deprived areas were more likely to have used the free Wi-Fi than those living in the least deprived areas (53% and 33% respectively).

There are no differences in the use of the free Wi-Fi when comparing adults living in urban or rural areas.

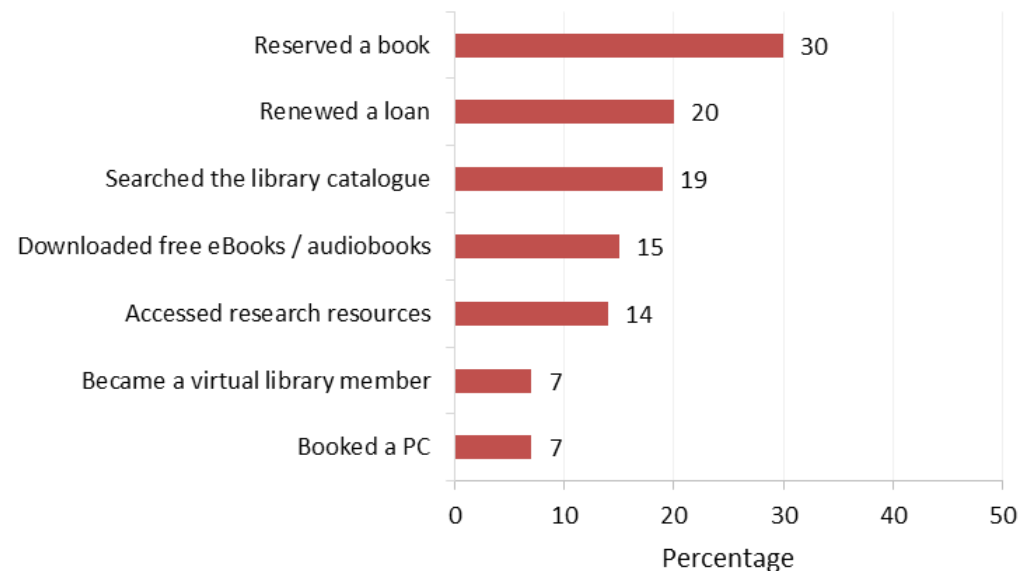


## Online services used

Of those adults who had used the public library service free Wi-Fi, three out of every ten (30%) had used the public library online services for the purposes of reserving a book. The second most popular use of online services was to renew a loan (20%).

Following this, almost a fifth (19%) of public library users used the online service to search the catalogue. Other popular online services used by respondents were downloading ebooks and audiobooks (15%) and accessing research resources (14%).

## Reasons for using public library online services



## Reasons for not using public library service Wi-Fi

Of those public library service users who didn't use the free Wi-Fi, just over a fifth (21%) stated that they didn't know it was available.

One in every ten adults who didn't use the free Wi-Fi stated that they didn't have a Wi-Fi device, 6% stated that the Wi-Fi was too slow and 5% cited having to log in every time they use it as a main reason for not using the free Wi-Fi.

# Libraries

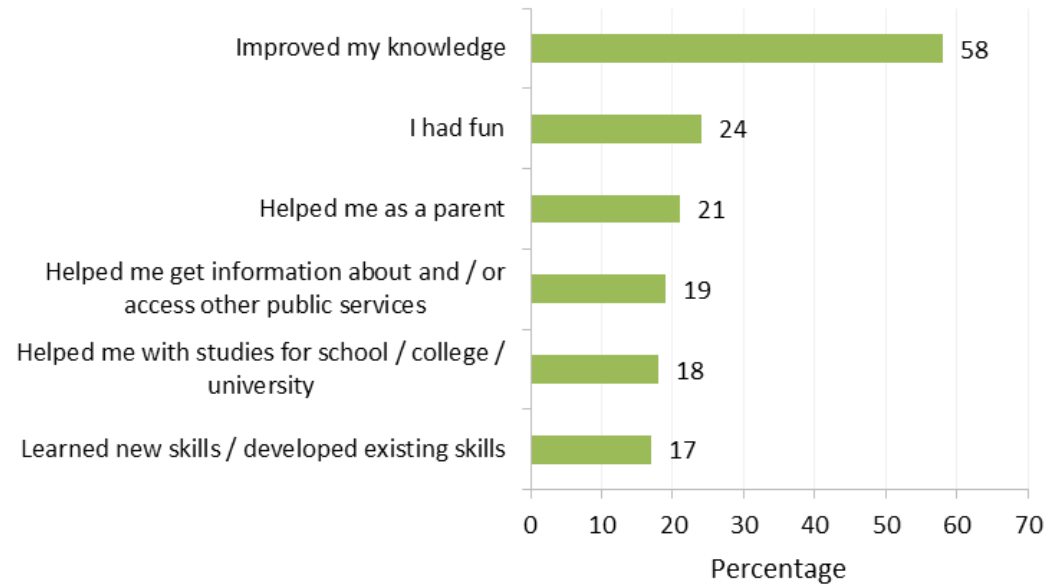
## Benefits of using the public library service

When asked what were the benefits of using the public library service, over half of all adults who had used the public library service (58%) cited “Improved my knowledge”.

Just under a quarter of adults (24%) said they had fun and just over a fifth (21%) stated that the public library service helped them as a parent.

Other popular benefits cited by respondents included “Helped me get information about and / or access other public services” (19%), “Helped with studies for school / college / university” (18%) and “Learned new skills / developed existing skills” (17%).

## Most frequently cited benefits

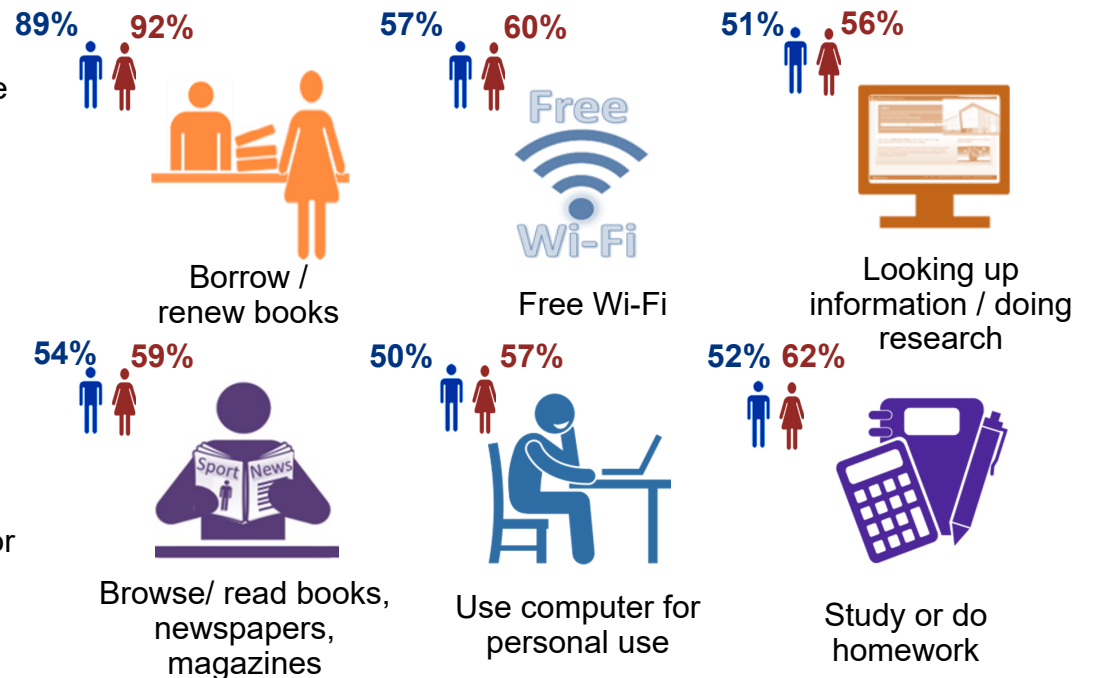


## Aware of services offered by the public library service

The majority of adults (91%) were aware of the ability to borrow/renew books, making this the most well known service offered by the public library by far. Following this, almost two-fifths (58%) of adults were aware of the free Wi-Fi in the public library.

Other popular services offered by the public library service that respondents were aware of included “Somewhere to study / do homework” and “Somewhere to browse / read books, newspapers, magazines” (57%), as well as “Use of computers for personal use” and “Looking up information / doing research” (both 53%).

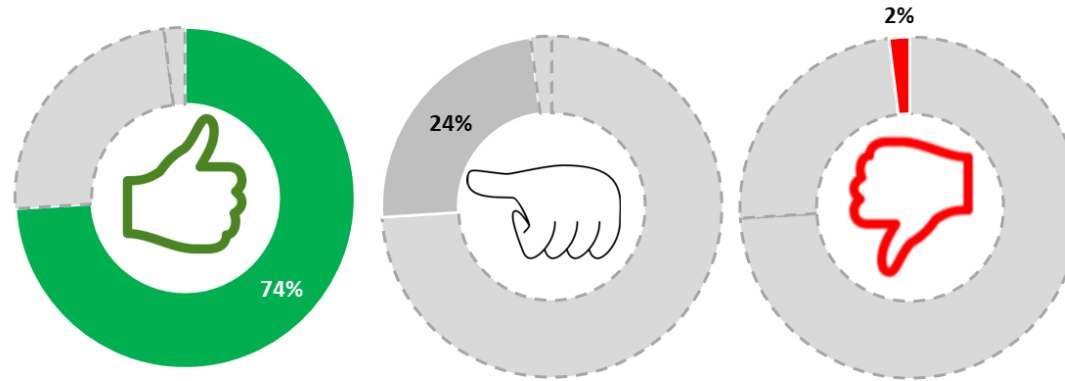
When analysing awareness of available services by gender, women were more likely than men to be aware of the public library as somewhere to study or do homework, somewhere to browse / read books, newspapers, magazines or being able to use the computer for personal use.



# Libraries

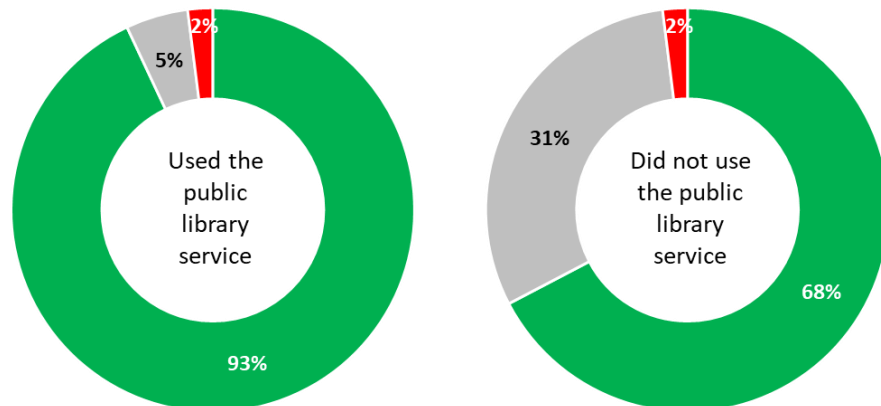
## Satisfaction with public library provision

Almost three-quarters of adults (74%) were satisfied with public library provision in Northern Ireland in 2019/20. This is an increase on the proportion who were satisfied with public library provision in 2018/19 (63%). Only 2% stated that they were dissatisfied, similar to the 2% in 2018/19. The remainder of the adult population (24%) stated that they were 'neither satisfied nor dissatisfied' with public library provision in Northern Ireland, a decrease on 2018/19 (35%).

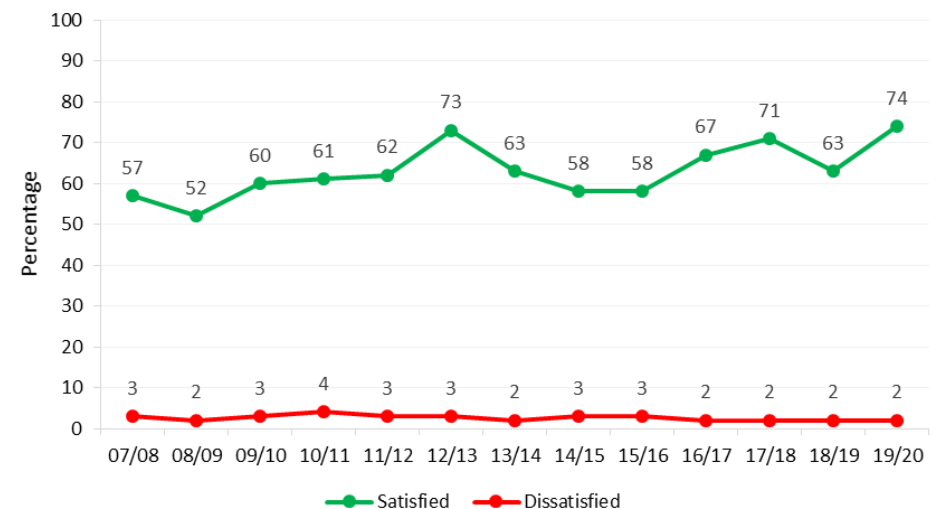


Satisfaction with public library provision was greater among adults who had used the public library service within the previous year (93%) than it was among adults who had not used the public library service within the previous year (68%).

Dissatisfaction levels remained low across both groups, with similar proportions of adults who had used the public library service and those who did not use the service reporting dissatisfaction.



Satisfaction with public library provision among adults in Northern Ireland has fluctuated over the trend period. The 2019/20 satisfaction level shows an increase following a dip in 2018/19.

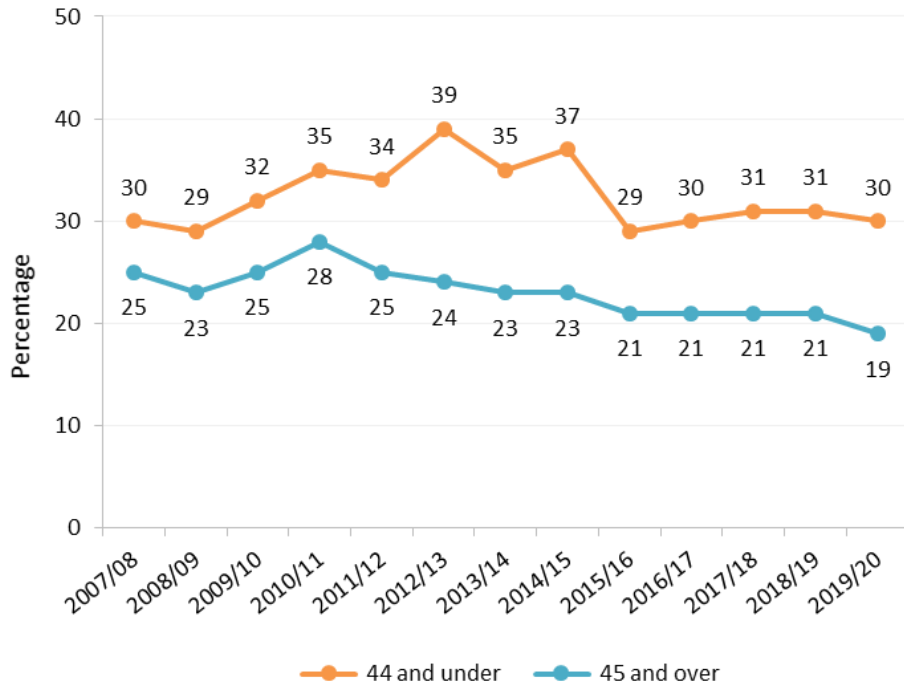
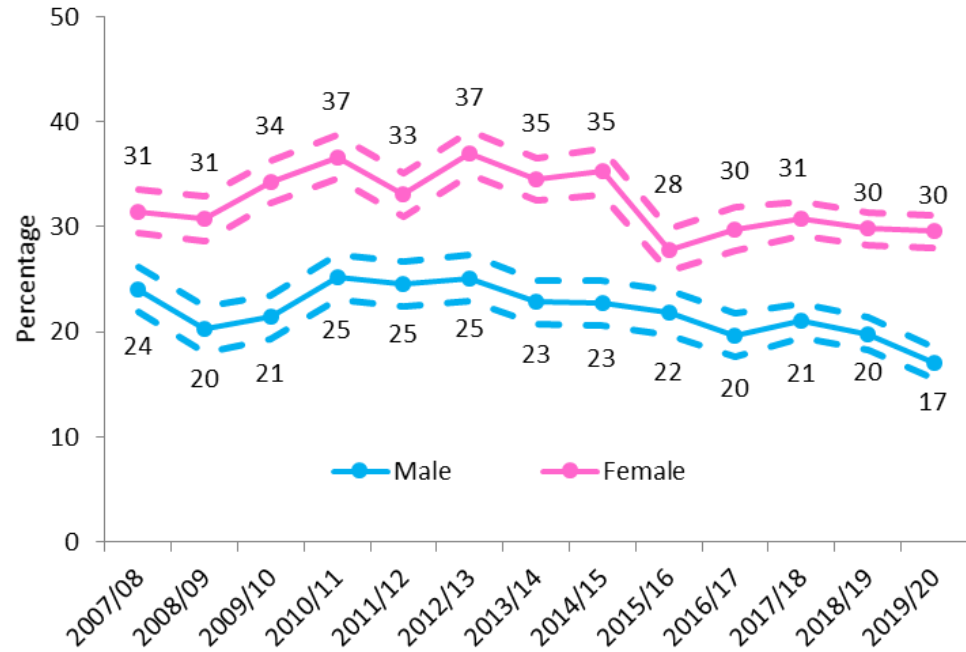


# Trends

## Gender and use of the public library service

Women were more likely to have used the public library service within the previous year (30%) than men (17%). Women have been more likely to have used the public library service over the entire trend period.

The 2019/20 figure for women using the public library service remains consistent with the previous three years (2016/17 to 2018/19) in being lower than the proportions recorded in 2014/15 and earlier.



## Age and use of the public library service

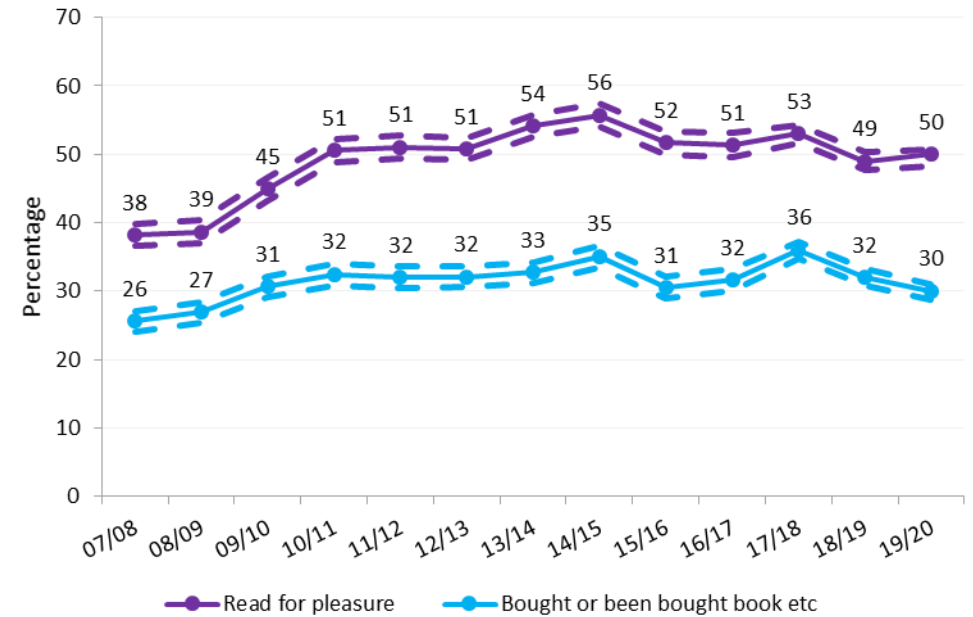
Considering the use of the public library service over the trend period in terms of two general age groups, a higher proportion of younger adults aged 44 and under have used the public library service each year than older adults aged 45 and over.

In 2019/20, 30% of younger adults aged 16-44 used the public library service within the previous year compared to 19% of those aged 45 years and over.

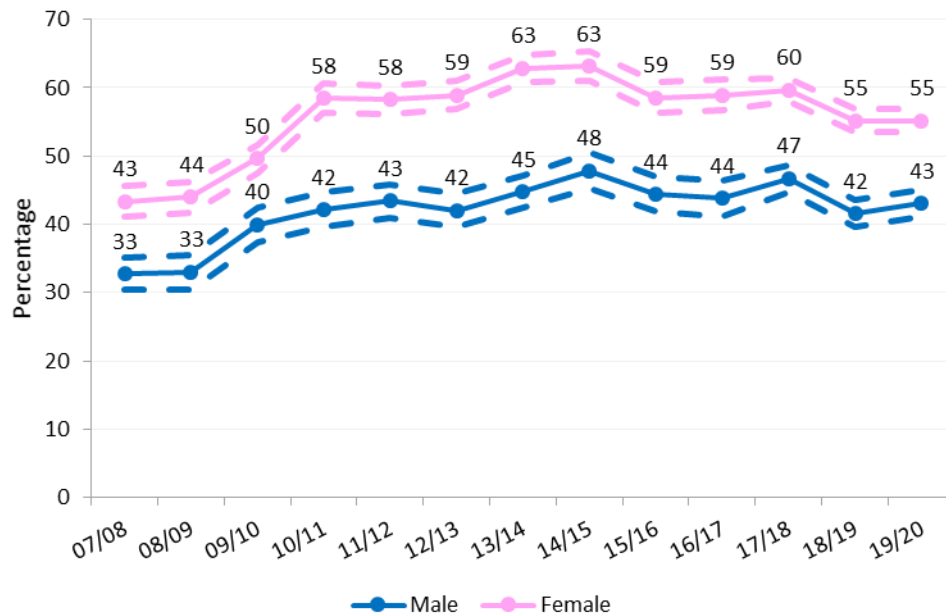
## Read for pleasure and buying books

Other questions included in the survey provide context on the proportion of adults in Northern Ireland reading for pleasure and buying books. Figures show that half of all adults (50%) had read for pleasure in the last year, similar to the 49% of adults who read for pleasure in 2018/19.

Three in ten adults in Northern Ireland (30%) had bought or been bought a novel, or book of stories, poetry or plays in the last year. This is a decrease to that recorded in 2018/19 (32%).



### Read for pleasure



### Read for pleasure and buying books by gender

Women were more likely to have read for pleasure within the previous year (55%) than men (43%). These proportions are similar to the 2018/19 figures (55% and 42% respectively). This difference between the sexes is seen across the whole trend period with women more likely to read for pleasure than men.

The proportions of both men and women reading for pleasure reached a peak in 2014/15, however they have generally declined in more recent years but are still above those of the start of the trend period.

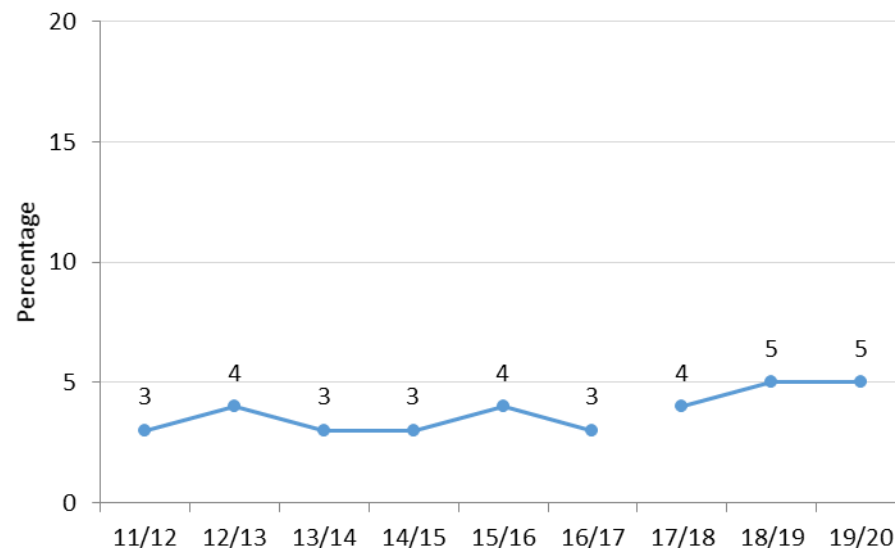
In 2019/20 a higher proportion of women had bought or been bought a novel, or book of stories, poetry or plays in the last year (35%) than men (24%). This has consistently been the case over the entire trend period.

# Visits to and use of Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) services

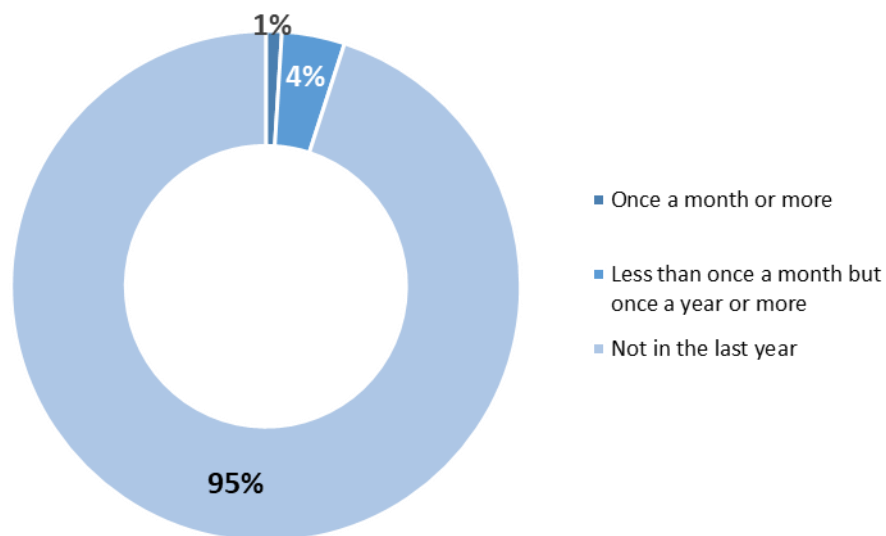
Five per cent of adults had visited PRONI or used PRONI services within the last 12 months, similar to the proportion in 2018/19.

Analysis by age shows that older adults aged 65 years and over (6%) were more likely to have visited PRONI or used their services than younger adults aged 16-24 (2%). Adults who lived in the least deprived areas were more likely to have visited PRONI or used PRONI services than those who live in the most deprived areas (8% and 4% respectively).

Given the change to the question from 2017/18 to capture full utilisation of PRONI services, figures from earlier in the trend period up to 2016/17 cannot be directly compared with more recent figures. The proportion of adults who have used PRONI services have slightly increased since the question was expanded in 2017/18.



In 2017/18, the PRONI question was extended to include contact with PRONI both online and by telephone as well as visiting PRONI.



## Frequency of use of PRONI services

In 2019/20, respondents were also asked how often they have used PRONI service over the previous year. Four per cent of adults visited PRONI or used PRONI services at least once in the previous year but not more than once a month and just one per cent used PRONI services at least once a month.

PRONI gathers information directly from their visitors. Statistics from this system are published each year on the DfC website in the [Digest of statistics for the Public Record Office](#).

## Definitions and technical notes

### Continuous Household Survey

The Continuous Household Survey is a Northern Ireland wide household survey administered by Central Survey Unit, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. The sample for this survey consists of a systematic random sample of 9,000 addresses selected from the Land and Property Service's list of private addresses. The findings reported for 2019/20 are based on 5,918 respondents, aged 16 and over, who answered the key questions required to measure progress against the Programme for Government indicator (arts, libraries, museums and PRONI questions) as well as the sport participation question on the survey.

### Weighting the Continuous Household Survey

Analysis of the culture, arts and sport modules of the CHS have been weighted for non-response. A chi square goodness-of-fit test showed that neither the larger CHS sample (5,918) nor the smaller sample (2,952) were representative of the population by age and sex when compared with the 2019 Mid Year Population Estimates for Northern Ireland ([NISRA 6 May 2020](#)). As a result, six separate weights were produced for age, sex and age and sex combined, three for each sample size.

Non-response weighting sometimes increases standard errors, although the impact tends to be fairly small, i.e. the adjustment may be less or greater than 1, but will generally be reasonably close to 1. In the case of the culture, arts and sport modules of CHS, the values of the adjustment for all three weighting systems are so close to one, it is not necessary to take account of this in the calculation of standard error and confidence intervals.

While weighting for non-response (also called post-stratification) should reduce bias, it must be acknowledged that it will not eliminate bias. The reasons individuals choose to take part in surveys are complex and depend on lots of factors specific to the individual. As a result, the non-response biases in surveys are likely to be complex. Post-stratification works on the assumption that, by aligning the survey to the population along a small number of dimensions such as age and gender, many of these complex biases will reduce. However, it would be misleading to suggest that they will be eliminated.

**Engaged in culture and arts** - Have done at least one of the following in the 12 months prior to the CHS:

- Engaged in the arts
- Used the public library service
- Visited a museum or science centre
- Visited PRONI

**Arts engagement** – Either participated in arts activities or attended arts events in the 12 months prior to the CHS.

**Arts participation** – Participated in at least one of the following arts activities in the 12 months prior to the CHS:

- Ballet
- Other dance (not for fitness)
- Sang to an audience or rehearsed for a performance (not karaoke)
- Played a musical instrument to an audience or rehearse for a performance
- Played a musical instrument for own pleasure
- Written music
- Rehearsed or performed in play/drama
- Rehearsed or performed in opera/opera
- Painting, drawing, printmaking or sculpture
- Photography as an artistic activity (not family or holiday snaps)
- Made films or videos as an artistic activity (not family or holiday)
- Used a computer to create original artworks or animation
- Textile crafts such as embroidery, crocheting or knitting
- Wood crafts such as wood turning, carving or furniture making
- Other crafts such as calligraphy, pottery or jewellery making
- Written any stories or plays
- Written any poetry

**Arts attendance** – Attended at least one of the following arts events in the 12 months prior to the CHS:

- Film at a cinema or other venue
- Exhibition or collection of art, photography or sculpture
- Craft exhibition (not a crafts market)
- Event connected with books or writing (such as poetry reading or storytelling)
- Circus
- Carnival
- An arts festival
- A community festival
- Play or drama
- Other theatre performance (such as a musical or pantomime)
- Opera/opera
- Classical music performance
- Rock or pop music performance
- Jazz performance
- Folk, or traditional or world music performance
- Other live music event
- Ballet
- An Irish dance performance
- Other dance event
- A museum

**Used the public library service** – Used the public library service at least once in the 12 months prior to the CHS, e.g. visited a public library or mobile library; used the Libraries NI website; attended a library event outside a library; downloaded free eBooks/eMagazines/audiobooks using a library membership on an app on a smartphone or tablet). Public library does NOT include school, college, or university libraries. A library event outside a library is an event run by Libraries NI which has taken place in a venue other than a library.



**Visited a museum or science centre** – Visited a museum or science centre in Northern Ireland in the last 12 months prior to CHS:

When did you last visit a museum in Northern Ireland?

- In the last 12 months

Or

Which, if any, of the following science centres have you visited in the last 12 months?

- W5
- Armagh Planetarium

### **Local museums**

- Andrew Jackson & US Rangers Centre
- Address House
- Argory
- Armagh County Museum
- Armagh Planetarium
- Armagh Public Library
- Ballycastle Museum
- Ballymoney Museum
- Barn Museum
- Carrickfergus Museum
- Castle Ward
- Coleraine Museum
- Craigavon Museum
- Down County Museum
- Downpatrick & County Down Railway Museum
- FE McWilliam Gallery and Studio
- Fermanagh County Museum
- Flame - the Gasworks Museum of Ireland
- Florencecourt
- Garvagh Museum & Heritage Centre
- Green Lane Museum
- Hezlett House
- Irish Linen Centre & Lisburn Museum
- Inniskillings Museum
- Limavady Museum, RVACC
- Linen Hall Library
- Mid Antrim Museum
- Milford House Museum
- Mount Stewart
- Museum at the Mill
- North Down Museum
- Newry & Mourne Museum
- Northern Ireland War Memorial
- Police Museum
- Railway Preservation Society of Ireland
- Royal Irish Fusiliers Museum
- Royal Ulster Rifles Museum
- Sentry Hill House
- Somme Museum
- Springhill
- Strabane Museum Service
- Tower Museum
- Ulster American Folk Park
- Ulster Folk & Transport Museum
- Ulster Museum
- W5, Odyssey Centre
- Some other museum not mentioned

**Visited a National Museum** – Visited one of the following museums in the 12 months prior to the CHS:

- Ulster Museum
- Ulster Folk & Transport Museum
- Ulster American Folk Park

**Used PRONI services** – Have done one of the following in the 12 months prior to the CHS:

- Visited the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) to carry out personal research
- Visited PRONI to carry out business research
- Visited PRONI for a talk/event or as part of a group
- Used the PRONI website to search the online catalogue
- Used the PRONI website to use another application (e.g. Will Calendars, Valuation Revision Books, etc.)

**Deprivation** – The data have been analysed by whether respondents are living in the 20% most deprived Super Output Areas (SOAs) or in the 20% least deprived SOAs. This is estimated using the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 which is a weighted combination of seven domains of deprivation. Rank 1 indicates the most deprived SOA, while rank 890 denotes the least deprived SOA.

<sup>1</sup> [Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Report 2017](#)

### **Statistical significance in this report**

Any statements in this report regarding differences between groups such as males and females, different age groups, religion, etc., are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. This means that we can be 95% confident that the differences between groups are actual differences and have not just arisen by chance. Both the base numbers and the sizes of the percentages have an effect on statistical significance. Therefore on occasion, a difference between two groups may be statistically significant while the same difference in percentage points between two other groups may not be statistically significant. The reason for this is because the larger the base numbers or the closer the percentages are to 0 or 100, the smaller the standard errors. This leads to increased precision of the estimates which increases the likelihood that the difference between the proportions is actually significant and did not just arise by chance.

### **Other notes**

The following should be noted when interpreting figures and tables:

- Percentages less than 0.5% are denoted by '0' and where there are no responses, they are denoted by '-'.
- Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
- Percentages may not add to 100% for questions where multiple responses are allowed.