

UK National Wellbeing Measures: Northern Ireland Data October 2015

Key:
Outside Circle: UK*
Inside Circle: NI



The dotted pattern indicates that the two sets of data are not directly comparable

This wheel is based on the ONS Well-being wheel at www.ons.gov.uk/well-being

*Mostly UK, some indicators relate to sub-UK geographies, as indicated in ONS releases



Wellbeing in Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland and international data for
ONS measures

Introduction

‘Wellbeing in Northern Ireland’ seeks to provide an overview of Northern Ireland across a range of economic, social and environmental indicators.

This publication updates a previous report published in [March 2015](#). This report contains the Northern Ireland data, where available, for the 41 headline measures of wellbeing identified by the ONS Measuring National Wellbeing Programme and published through a summary wheel and a series of static and interactive reports. Further information on the ONS programme can be found here (www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/user-guidance/well-being/index.html).

The NI data are presented alongside the UK data in a similar wheel format, together with further detail and commentary. The first 2015 report also incorporated international comparisons, where possible and these have also been updated where relevant. These data are often not directly comparable to the NI data but they can help to set the Northern Ireland position in a wider context.

Sources of data

All of the UK data and most of the NI data have been sourced from the ONS release [Measuring National Well-being, Domains and Measures, September 2015](#). Sources are not given throughout the report, but are detailed in Annex 1. There are some gaps in the data available for Northern Ireland. For example, a number of the wellbeing indicators use sources that are only available at the UK level. If possible, alternative data have been included for Northern Ireland. In other instances, the Northern Ireland source may not provide data that are exactly comparable to the UK or sub-UK data (where relevant). Where the two sets of data are not directly comparable, this is depicted in the NI wheel, and in the subsequent graphics of this publication, by a dotted pattern. The data included in this report have been identified on the basis of being suitable for comparisons with the UK. There may be alternative sources of some of the data that would be recommended for use when looking only at Northern Ireland. As far as possible, data from the same time period are used, but in some cases, newer data are available for Northern Ireland which are more recent than that for the UK.

Explanation of differences

Where relevant and possible, differences between NI and UK figures arising from sample surveys have been tested for statistical significance. The following key has been used:

- * denotes a statistically significant difference
- # the difference is not statistically significant
- ‡ not applicable.

Summary

Personal Wellbeing

Compared with the UK as a whole, a higher proportion of adults in Northern Ireland indicated that they were satisfied with their lives overall; felt that the things they do in life are worthwhile; and rated their happiness yesterday as very high. Similar proportions in Northern Ireland and the UK rated their anxiety yesterday as very low. Within the OECD, Iceland and Switzerland had the highest ratings of happiness.

Our Relationships

In Northern Ireland in 2014/15, the average rating of satisfaction with family life was 8.6 out of 10, while the average rating with their social life was 7.3 out of 10. In 2011, the UK average rating for family life was 8.2 out of 10 and 7.1 out of 10 for social life.

Health

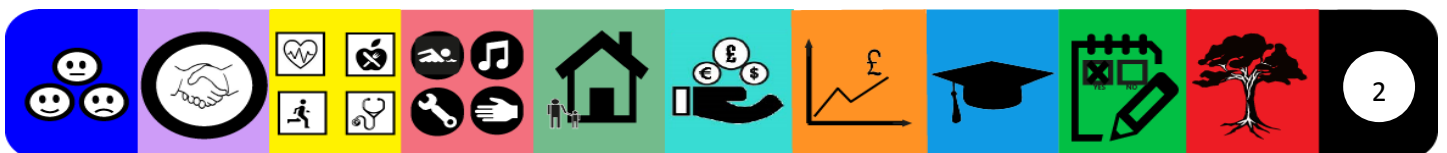
Males and females born in Northern Ireland have fewer expected years of living in good health than their counterparts in the UK. In the EU, Iceland had the highest healthy life expectancy for males, while Malta had the highest for females. Compared with the UK, a slightly higher proportion of adults in Northern Ireland were satisfied with their health.

What we do

The Northern Ireland unemployment rate is similar to the UK average, which are both below the EU-28 average. Regions in the EU with similar unemployment rates to Northern Ireland include Essex and Lancashire in the UK. Around 80% of adults in Northern Ireland and the UK were satisfied with their job. Compared with the UK generally, relatively more respondents in Northern Ireland were satisfied with the amount of their leisure time.

Where we live

In 2013/14, there were 36 crimes against the person per 1,000 adults in Northern Ireland, while in 2014/15 in England and Wales there were 57 crimes against the person per 1,000 adults. In 2013/14, 88% of males and 65% of females in Northern Ireland felt safe walking alone after dark. In 2014/15, in England and Wales, 86% of males and 62% of females felt safe walking alone after dark. Finland, the Netherlands and Ireland had similar proportions to the UK of adults feeling safe walking alone after dark, whilst Norway had the highest proportion in the EU of adults who felt safe on this measure. A higher proportion of adults in Northern Ireland felt they belonged to their neighbourhood, compared with the UK generally. The UK rate, together with that in Germany, was the lowest in Europe.



Personal Finance

Around one fifth of people in Northern Ireland live in households with less than 60% of median income. This is similar to the proportion in the UK as a whole. The proportion of the UK population that is considered at risk of poverty or social exclusion is similar to the EU average. Around 10% of adults in both Northern Ireland and the UK reported that they were finding it quite or very difficult getting by financially, while at 60%, a slightly higher proportion of households in Northern Ireland than in the UK were satisfied with their household income. The UK average proportion of households reporting difficulty making ends meet was lower than the EU average. The EU countries with the fewest proportions of households reporting financial difficulties were Finland, Norway and Sweden. The proportion of the UK population that is considered at risk of poverty or social exclusion is similar to the EU average.

The Economy

Gross Value Added per head in Northern Ireland in 2013 was £17,948 which as the third lowest of the 12 UK regions, was above the North East at £17,381 and Wales at £16,893, but below the UK average of £23,394. The Northern Ireland Composite Economic Index has shown an increase in NI economic activity between Quarter 1 2014 and Quarter 1 2015. There is evidence to suggest that the average annual rate of growth, however, is lagging behind the UK as a whole.

Education and Skills

A slightly higher proportion of pupils in Northern Ireland have 5 or more GCSEs A* to C, including English and Maths, compared to the average for the UK. However, among the population of working age, a higher proportion of people in Northern Ireland have no qualifications than in the UK as a whole.

Governance

Voter turnout in the UK General Election was 58% in Northern Ireland compared with 66% across the UK. Internationally, the UK turnout was similar to the turnout for parliamentary elections in Finland, Estonia, and India. Australia, Luxembourg and Malta all have had high turnout rates in recent years.

Natural Environment

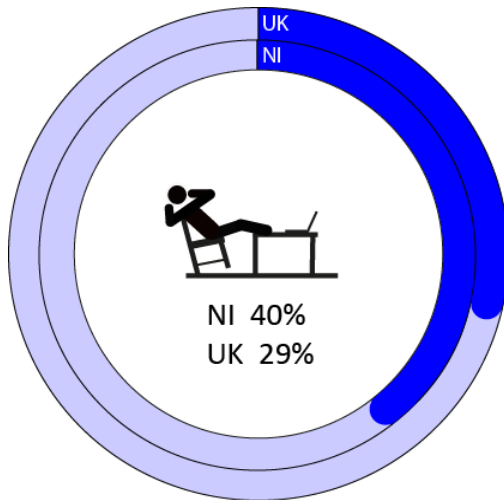
In 2013, greenhouse gas emissions in Northern Ireland totalled 22 million tonnes, while in 2014 there were 518.7 million tonnes in the UK as a whole. Looking at greenhouse gas emissions per capita, Northern Ireland had 12.2 tonnes per capita in 2013, while for the UK overall in 2014, there were 8.0 tonnes per capita. In Northern Ireland, greenhouse gas emissions increased by 1.2% between 2011 and 2013, but have decreased by 16% since the base year.





Personal Wellbeing

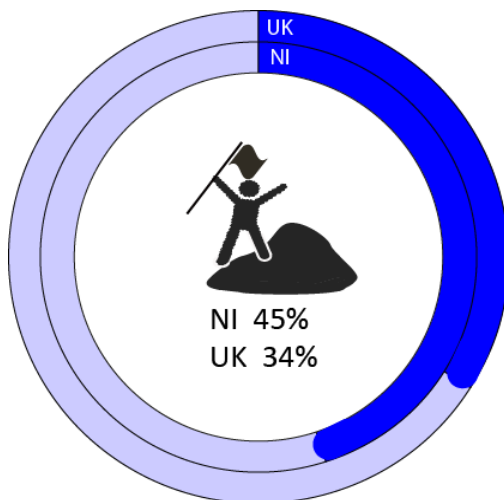
Very high rating of satisfaction with their lives overall (2014/15)*



In 2014/15, 40% of Northern Ireland adults aged 16 or over rated their satisfaction with their lives overall as 9 or 10 on a scale of 0-10, with 10 being the highest level of satisfaction. This was significantly higher than in the UK as a whole, where 29% provided ratings of 9 or 10.

Data from a Eurobarometer Survey in Spring 2015 asked how satisfied people were with the life they lead. 92% of respondents in the UK were either very or fairly satisfied with the life they lead, while the EU-28 average was 80%. Ireland, Malta, Germany and Finland all had similar levels of happiness to the UK. The lowest level of happiness was reported in Greece (42%).

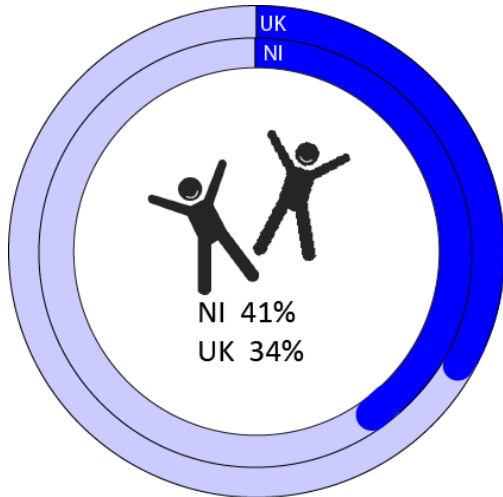
Very high rating of how worthwhile the things they do are (2014/15) *



Compared with the UK (34%), a higher percentage of respondents in Northern Ireland (45%) gave a very high rating (9-10) to how worthwhile the things they do are.

Data from the 2011/12 European Quality of Life Survey (EQLS) revealed that 82% of respondents in the UK agreed or strongly agreed that what they did in life was worthwhile, compared with the EU average of 78%. The UK rating was similar to Spain, Belgium, France and Romania (all 81%). Denmark, the Netherlands and Luxembourg (all 91%) were the highest ranked countries, while Greece was the lowest ranked (48%).

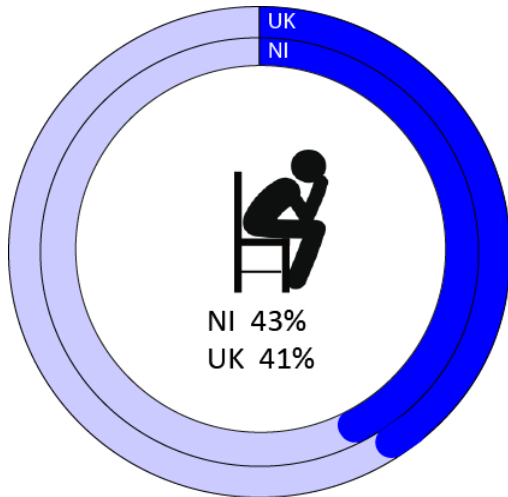




Rated their happiness yesterday as very high (2014/15)*

A higher proportion of respondents in Northern Ireland (41%) rated their happiness yesterday as very high compared to the UK (34%).

In 2012, data from the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP) found that 87% of respondents in Great Britain reported they were completely, very or fairly happy. The OECD countries reporting highest levels of happiness were Iceland (92%) and Switzerland (91%), while Korea had the lowest proportion of respondents reporting they were completely, fairly or very happy (63%).



Rated their anxiety yesterday as very low (2014/15) #

Similar proportions of respondents in Northern Ireland (43%) and the UK (41%) rated their anxiety yesterday as very low.

The World Gallup Poll asked respondents about stress and depression. 9% of UK respondents said that they felt depressed “during a lot of the day yesterday”, while 31% of respondents said they felt stressed. Of the US respondents, 12% said they had felt depressed and 47% had said they felt stressed. Yemen having the highest percentage of respondents feeling depressed with 37%, while Mauritania had the lowest with just 2%. Greece had the highest percentage of respondents who had felt stressed (69%), while Mali had the lowest with just 8%.

Population mental wellbeing (2012/13)#



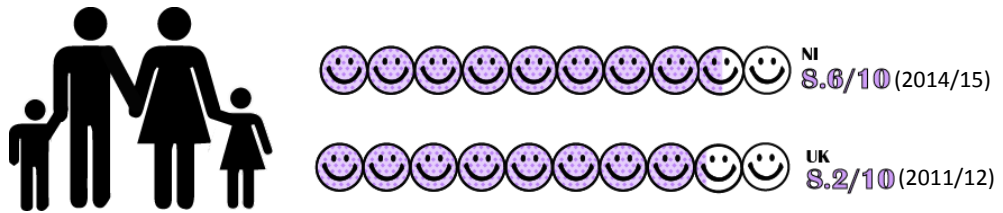
The population mental wellbeing score is based on a 7 question survey from the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale. Each question is given a score between 1 and 5 with the final result measured out of 35, a higher score indicates more positive mental wellbeing. In 2012/13 the average score for respondents in Northern Ireland was very similar to the UK average.



Our Relationships

UK data for two of the indicators in the 'Our Relationships' domain are sourced from the European Quality of Life Survey (EQLS) conducted by Eurofound, the latest available being 2011/12. Northern Ireland data in relation to satisfaction with family life and social life are now available from the Continuous Household Survey for 2014/15.

Average rating of satisfaction with family life ‡



The average rating of satisfaction with family life in Northern Ireland in 2014/15 was 8.6 out of 10 on a scale of 1-10. 8.2 was the average rating in the UK (2011/12).

Within the ISSP in 2012 the OCED country with the highest ratings of satisfaction with life was Iceland where 95% of respondents said that they were satisfied with their family life. 91% of GB respondents have said that they are satisfied with their family life. Korea was the lowest ranked OECD country with just 65% of respondents satisfied with family life.

Average rating of satisfaction with social life ‡

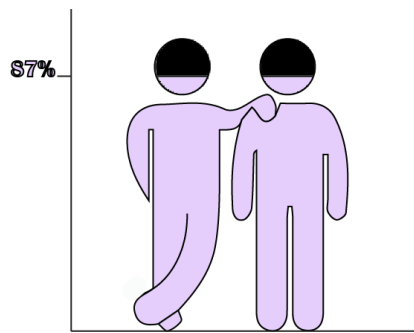


In 2014/15, respondents in Northern Ireland had an average rating of satisfaction with their social life of 7.3 out of 10. The average rating in the UK from the 2011/12 EQLS was 7.1 out of 10.

The rating of satisfaction with social life in the UK was 7.1 which was similar to Ireland and Greece, while the EU average was 7.3. The highest ranked country was Denmark (8.3) while Bulgaria was the lowest ranked (5.9).



Has a spouse, family member or friend to rely on if they have a serious problem (2010/11)



NI: 86.5%
UK: 86.7%

In 2010/11 similar proportions of respondents in Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom, indicated that they had a spouse, family member or friend to rely on if they had a serious problem (both 87%).

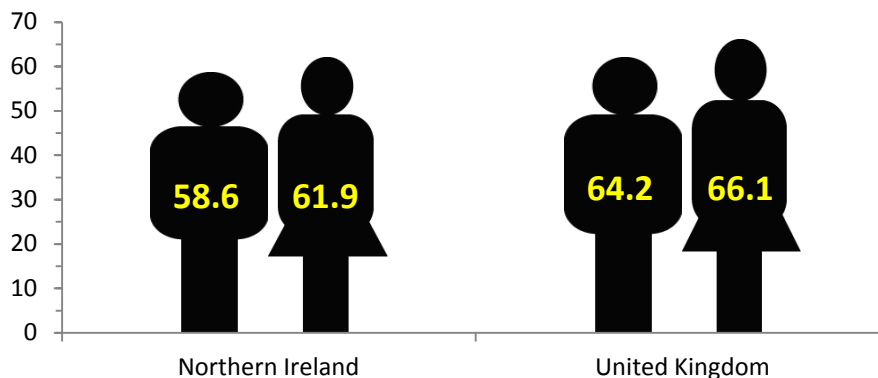
The EQLS data are not directly comparable to this as the question is slightly different. However that source shows that 89% of respondents in the UK said they had support from family, friends, neighbours or someone else. This was lower than the EU average which was 93%, but above the country with the lowest level of support, France (86%). Almost all of respondents in Slovakia (99%) indicated that they had such support. This was the highest amongst the EU countries.





Health

Healthy life expectancy at birth (male/female)(2009-2011) *



Males born in Northern Ireland between 2009 and 2011 can expect to have 58.6 years of healthy life compared with 64.2 years for males in the UK overall. For females born in Northern Ireland the expected number of years living in good health is 61.9 compared with 66.1 for females in the UK overall.

International comparisons are available from both Eurostat and the World Health Organisation (WHO). These figures differ slightly from the UK figures and each other due to the methodology used. Different surveys with differing levels of detail are used to collect the data. According to Eurostat data, the healthy life expectancy in the UK in 2013 for males was 64.4 and 64.8 for females, in both cases higher than the EU-28 average of 61.4 for males and 61.5 for females. Iceland was the highest ranked country for males (71.7), while Malta was the highest ranked country for females (72.7). Latvia had the lowest healthy life expectancy for both males (51.7) and females (54.2).

Looking at the WHO 2013 data for healthy life expectancy at birth, Singapore and Cyprus were the highest ranked countries for male healthy life expectancy (75 and 73 years respectively). The lowest male healthy life expectancy was recorded in Sierra Leone (39 years). For females, Japan and Singapore were the highest ranked countries (both 78). Sierra Leone also had the lowest healthy life expectancy for females (40 years). In the UK, healthy life expectancy for males was 69 and 72 for females.

Reported a long term illness and a disability (Apr - Jun 15)



A similar proportion of adults aged 16-64 in both Northern Ireland and the UK reported a long term illness and a disability.

Eurostat publish similar data for those aged 16-64. Using this measure, in 2013, 25% of the UK population reported having a long standing illness or health problem compared to the EU average of 24%. The UK figure was similar to Slovenia and Cyprus (both 24%), Denmark and Poland (both 25%) and Iceland (26%). The country reporting the highest proportion of people with a long standing illness or health problem was Finland (40%) while the lowest was Montenegro (10%).



Somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with their health (2012/13) *

NI: 65%
UK: 59%



Of those aged 16 and over, in Northern Ireland 65% were somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with their health compared with 59% in the UK overall.

In the 2015 OECD Better Life Index, the data for those who self-report good or better health show that New Zealand and Canada were ranked top (90% and 89% respectively). The comparative UK figure from this source was 74%. The lowest ranked countries were Japan (30%), Korea (35%) and Russia (37%).

Some evidence indicating depression or anxiety (2012/13)

NI: 17%
UK: 18%



In 2012 around one-fifth of respondents showed evidence of some mental ill health. This indicator is sourced from the Understanding Society Survey using the General Health Questionnaire, and responses are made on a scale of 0 to 12. Responses of 4 or more are regarded as indications of mental ill health. The UK and NI figures have remained relatively constant over recent years.



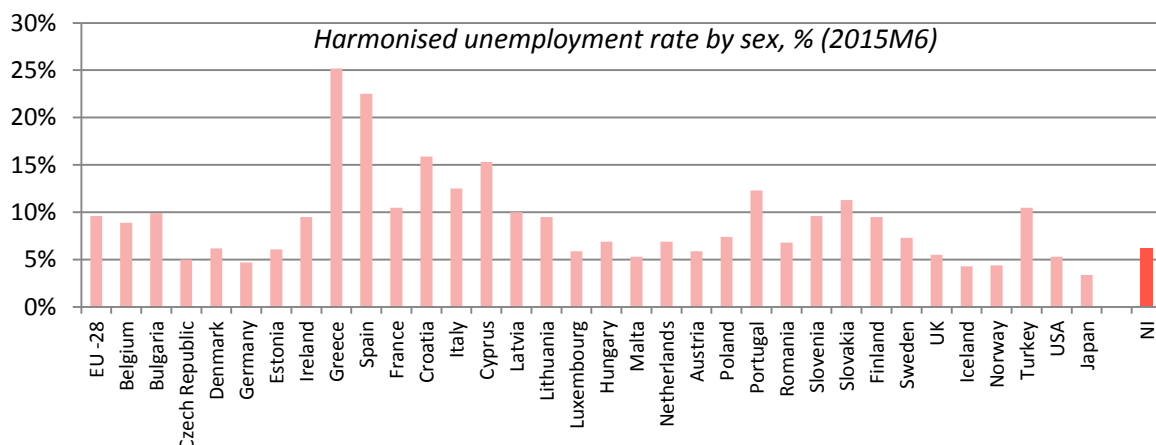


What we do

Unemployment Rate (May – July 15)

Since 2005, the unemployment rate in Northern Ireland has been similar to the UK average. This follows a number of years when unemployment had been generally lower in Northern Ireland.

NI: 6.2% UK: 5.5% (May- Jul 15)



For June 2015, Eurostat reported an EU-28 unemployment rate of 9.6%, while the UK rate was 5.5%. Greece and Spain had the highest rates of unemployment (25.0% and 22.5%). Iceland had the lowest unemployment rate in Europe at 4.3%. Eurostat also publish regional unemployment rates. In 2014, the Northern Ireland rate was 6.4%. Northern Ireland lay in the bottom half of the 37 UK regions, in 24th place. Regions with similar unemployment rates include Essex and Lancashire in the UK, Utrecht in the Netherlands, Severovýchod in Czech Republic and Nordjylland and Sjælland in Denmark.

The International Labour Organisation published a report on World Employment and Social Outlook Trends in 2015, which reported preliminary estimated unemployment rates for 2014. The world average was 5.9%, compared with a UK rate of 6.3%. This was a similar percentage as the United States (6.2%). The average for the European Union was 10.2%. Australia had an unemployment rate of 6% and Japan 3.7%.

Somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with their job (2012/13)



Compared with the UK generally, a similar proportion of respondents in Northern Ireland were satisfied with their job, 81% compared with 78%.

The 2012 ISSP asked respondents how satisfied they were with their main job. 76% of GB respondents said they were completely, very or fairly satisfied. Mexico was the highest rated country with 90% of respondents satisfied with their job. Japan was the lowest rated country with just 60% of respondents saying they were satisfied with their main job.



Somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with their amount of leisure time (2012/13) *



More respondents in Northern Ireland were satisfied with the amount of their leisure time (68%), compared with the UK generally (58%).

In a related question on the European Quality of Life Survey (EQLS), 37% of UK respondents said they seldom had time to do things they really enjoyed in daily life. This was similar to the EU average (36%). The country with the highest proportion of people who seldom had time to do things they really enjoyed in daily life was Romania (50%).

Volunteered more than once in the last 12 months (2012/13)



Similar proportions of respondents in Northern Ireland and the UK volunteered at least once a year (16% and 17% respectively).

According to the World Giving Index published in 2014, 29% of adults in the UK volunteered their time in the last month prior to interview in 2013. The same proportion volunteered in Austria and Iceland. Countries with high levels of volunteering included Canada, USA and New Zealand, while Turkey, Italy and Poland all had low levels of volunteering.

Engaged with/participated in arts or cultural activity at least 3 times in last year ‡



Exact comparisons for Northern Ireland and England are not currently available for the indicators relating to arts participation, as the Northern Ireland definition is not identical to that used in England. 83% of adults in England in 2013/14 participated in arts or cultural activities at least three times in the past year. In Northern Ireland, in 2014/15, 63% of adults engaged with the arts or cultural activities at least three times in the last year.

According to a Eurobarometer survey in 2013, 79% of adults aged 15 and over in the UK had a medium or higher level of cultural engagement. The UK score was higher than the EU-27 average of 66% and similar to France and Luxembourg (both 81%). In Sweden 92% of adults had a medium or higher level of cultural engagement, while Greece had the lowest proportion (37%).

Adult participation in 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport, once per week ‡



For the sports participation indicator, 36% of adults in England in 2013/14 participated in at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise each week. In Northern Ireland in 2014/15, 39% participated in at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week.

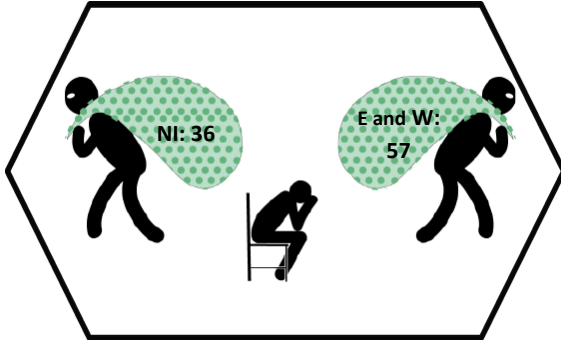
According to the 2011/12 EQLS, 47% of people aged 16 or over in the UK took part in sports or physical exercise at least once a week, higher than the EU-28 average of 40% and similar to Germany (48%). The countries with the highest proportions were Finland and Sweden (73% and 70% respectively), while the lowest participation was in Bulgaria (12%).





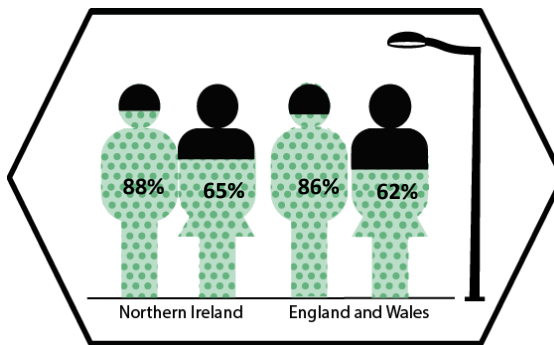
Where we live

Crimes against the person (per 1,000 adults) ‡



In 2013/14, there were an estimated 36 crimes against the person per 1,000 adults in Northern Ireland. In 2014/15, the England and Wales estimate was 57 crimes per 1,000 adults.

Felt fairly/very safe walking alone after dark (men/women) ‡



In comparison with the UK overall, a higher proportion of both men and women in Northern Ireland felt safe walking alone after dark. In 2013/14, 88% of males in Northern Ireland felt safe walking alone after dark. 86% of males in England and Wales felt safe walking alone after dark in 2014/15. In 2013/14, 65% of females in Northern Ireland felt safe walking alone after dark. 62% of females in England and Wales felt safe in 2014/15.

Similar data are available from the World Gallup Poll where in 2012 75% of adults in the UK reported feeling safe walking alone after dark. In Norway 87% of adults felt safe, but only 39% in Russia. Finland, the Netherlands (both 77%) and Ireland (74%) had similar proportions to the UK.

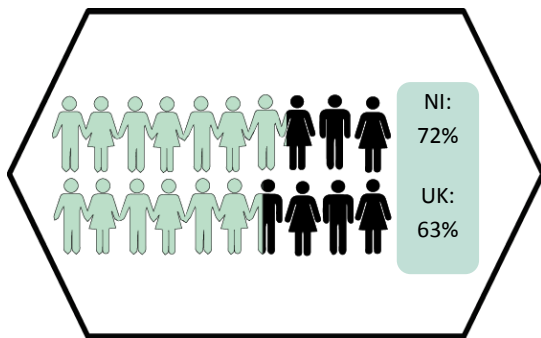
Accessed natural environment at least once a week in the last 12 months ‡



The UK figure is sourced from a survey conducted in England (2013/14) which found 58% had accessed the natural environment at least once a week in the last 12 months. The NI figure, sourced from the Continuous Household Survey in 2014/15, was 66%.



Agreed/agreed strongly that they felt they belonged to their neighbourhood (2011/12) *



A higher proportion of respondents in Northern Ireland (72%) agreed that they felt they belonged to their neighbourhood compared with the UK generally (63%).

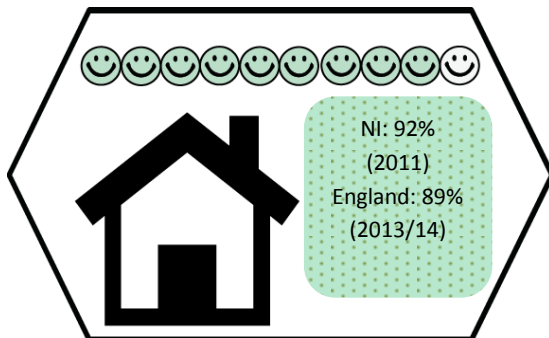
From the European Quality of Life Survey (EQLS) (2011/12), 58% of UK respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they 'feel close to people in the area where I live'. It, along with Germany (58%) was the lowest ranked countries in Europe. The European average for agreeing or strongly agreeing was 67%, while Cyprus was the highest ranked country (81%).

Households with good transport access to key services or work (2013) ‡

This indicator relates car ownership rate to the average public transport time to key services. The indicator is indexed (as a score of 100) to the England average for 2011. Northern Ireland data are not available for this ONS measure.

However, alternative comparable information shows that in the period 2011-2013, 68% of NI households lived within a six minute walk to a bus stop or place where they could get a bus. In 2012, the equivalent proportion of households in Great Britain was 85%.

Fairly/very satisfied with their accommodation ‡



Although the available data for this measure are from different sources and years, similar proportions of residents in Northern Ireland and in England were fairly or very satisfied with their accommodation.

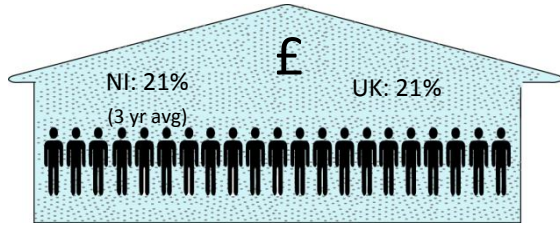
Among EU countries, four out of five respondents in the UK ranked their satisfaction with accommodation as 7 or more out of 10 (80%) in the EQLS. This was similar to Belgium and Spain (both 81%), compared with an average of 77% for Europe. Finland was the highest ranked country (91%) while Latvia was the lowest ranked country (55%).





Personal Finance

Individuals in households with less than 60% of median income after housing costs (2013/14) ‡



Around one-fifth of individuals in Northern Ireland live in households with less than 60% of median income (after housing costs). This is similar to the proportion in the UK as a whole.

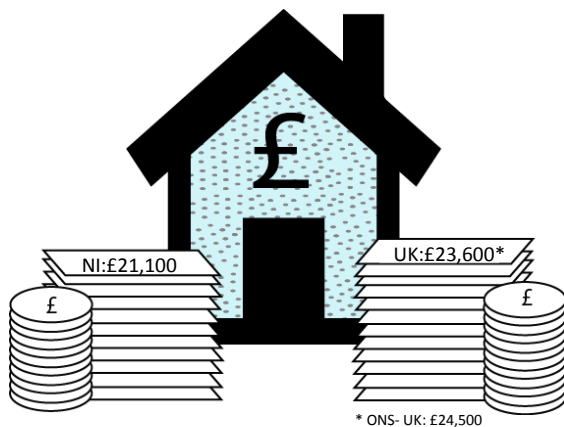
A similar measure, which is used to indicate risk of poverty or social exclusion, and is directly comparable with other European countries shows that the UK is similar to the EU average. In 2013, 25% of the population in the UK was considered at risk of poverty or social exclusion. The European average for this period was also estimated at 25%. FYR of Macedonia had the greatest proportion at risk of poverty or social exclusion at 48%, while Iceland had the lowest at 13%.

Median wealth per household, including pension wealth (2010/12) ‡

In Great Britain in 2010/12, median wealth per household data was £218,400. These data are sourced from the Wealth and Assets survey which is conducted in Great Britain only. There is no equivalent Northern Ireland source which includes wealth data.

The OECD Household net financial wealth statistics (2012) show that of the OECD countries, the UK was ranked 8th on \$60,778 dollars PPPs. The USA and Switzerland were ranked top on \$145,769 and \$108,823 respectively. Turkey and Estonia were at the bottom of the ranking.

Real median household income (2013/14) ‡



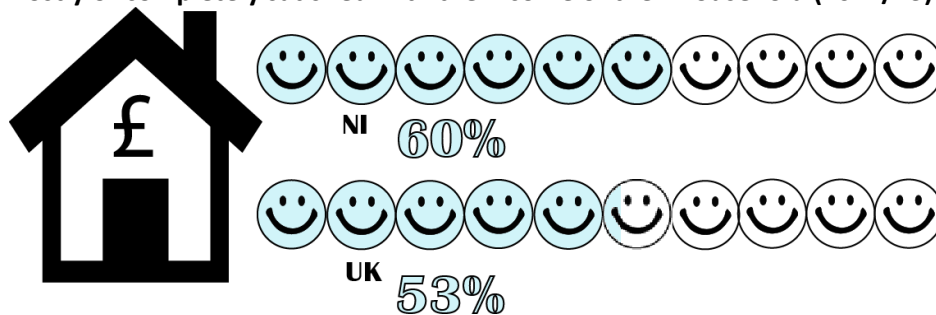
The UK estimate for Median Household Income is sourced from National Accounts (£24,500) and is not available on the same basis for Northern Ireland. However, comparable data from the Family Resources Survey shows that, in 2013/14, household income in Northern Ireland was £21,100 compared with £23,600 for the UK as a whole.

Although comparable figures for the median household income are not available, median equivalised net income (PPP Euros per person) data are available for European countries. In 2013, the UK equivalised net income was €16,826, while Luxembourg had the highest median equivalised net income (€28,030) and Romania had the lowest (€3,936). Comparisons of disposable income for private households show that in 2011 Northern Ireland had a disposable income of private households of 14,100 PPS per inhabitant. Regions with similar levels of disposable household income included Flevoland in the Netherlands, Pohjois- ja Itä-Suomi in Finland, Gelderland in the Netherlands, Abruzzo in Italy, Hovedstaden in Denmark, Galicia in Spain, and the Border, Midland and Western region of Ireland.



Internationally, for 2012, household net adjusted income data show that the USA had the highest disposable income at \$41,355. The UK was ranked 14th, while the estimated OECD average was \$25,908. Turkey and Mexico had the lowest levels of household disposable income amongst the OECD countries.

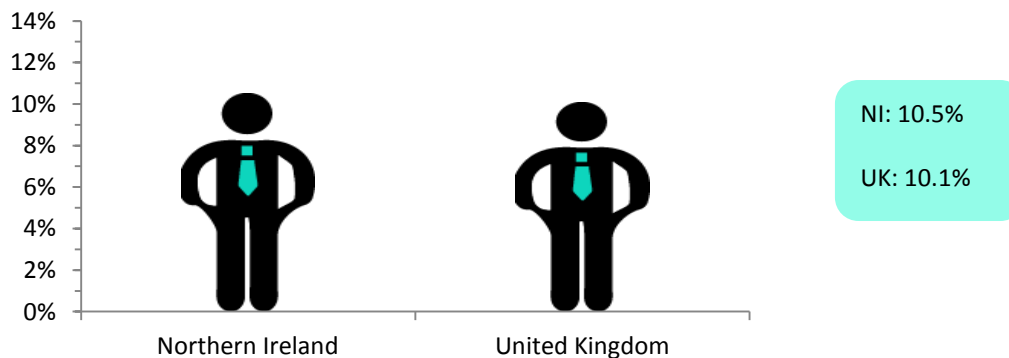
Somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with the income of their household (2012/13)*



A higher proportion of households in NI (60%) were satisfied with their household income than the UK (53%).

The Spring 2015 Eurobarometer asked respondents how they judge the financial situation of their household. 80% of UK respondents said they felt their financial situation was either 'rather good' or 'very good'. The EU-28 average was 68%. Denmark had the highest percentage of people who felt they had a good financial situation with 93% while Greece had the lowest number with just 27% thinking their financial situation is good.

Report finding it quite or very difficult to get by financially (2012/13) #



A similar proportion in Northern Ireland and the UK reported finding it quite or very difficult to get by financially. In 2013, data from Eurostat show that an average of 29% of EU households reported having difficulty making ends meet. The proportion in the UK, at 21%, was somewhat lower than the average. 78% of households in Greece reported difficulties compared with just under 7% in Norway, Sweden and Finland.



The Economy

Real net national disposable income
per head (2014) ‡

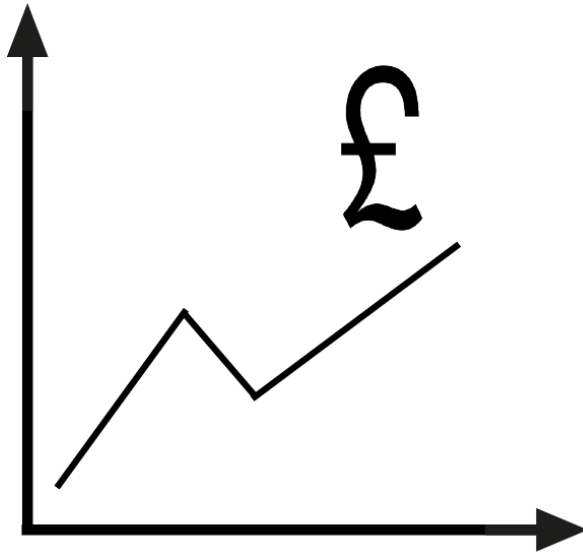
UK £22,065

UK public sector net debt as a percentage of Gross
Domestic Product (2014/15) ‡

UK 80.7%

Inflation rate (as measured by the Consumer
Price Index) (Jul 15) ‡

UK 0.1%



The measures in the ONS Economy domain are only reported at a UK level. In 2014, the real net national income per head for the UK was £22,065. In 2014/15, UK public sector debt was 80.7% of Gross Domestic Product. The UK inflation rate in July 2015, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, was 0.1%.

GVA per head (2013)

NI £17,948

Wales
£16,893

UK £23,394

North East
£17,381

Gross Value Added per head data are available from ONS Regional Accounts. In 2013, Northern Ireland had a GVA per head of £17,948. This was 4.4% higher than 2009, the lowest percentage increase of any of the 12 regions of the UK. The 2013 Northern Ireland figure was 76.7% of the UK GVA per head figure (£23,394), which was the lowest proportion recorded in the last 15 years. Other similar regions were the North East and Wales.

Regional GDP data are available from Eurostat. In 2013, Northern Ireland had a GDP PPS per inhabitant of 21,800. Regions with a similar GDP PPS per inhabitant were Picardie (France) and Devon. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Germany), and Comunidad Valencia (Spain) have a slightly



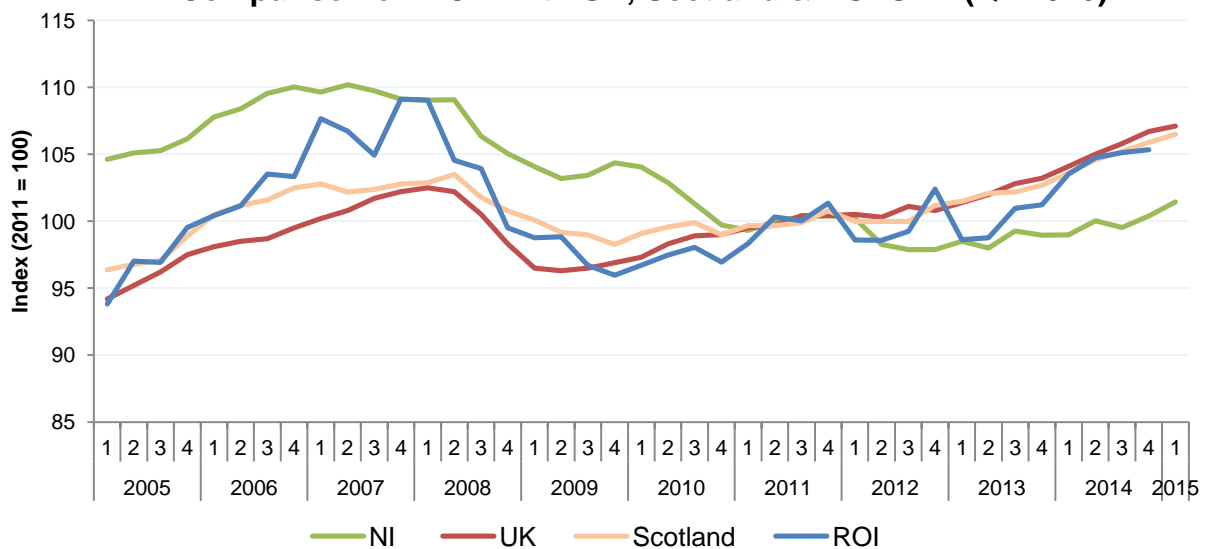
higher GDP PPS at 21,900 while Franche-Comte (France), Languedoc-Roussillon (France) and Merseyside have slightly lower GDP PPS at 21,700.

Northern Ireland Composite Economic Index (NICEI)

NISRA's experimental Northern Ireland Composite Economic Index (NICEI) is not a direct measure of GDP and comparisons with UK, Scotland and ROI GDP figures are therefore approximate.

From Quarter 1 2014 to Quarter 1 2015, the NICEI has increased by 2.5%, and it is currently 3.6% above the minimum level reached in Quarter 3 2012. UK GDP increased by 2.9% over the same period. The NICEI increased by 1.1% over the quarter to Quarter 1 2015, compared with a 0.4% increase in UK GDP over the same period. However, the NICEI remains 7.9% below the peak value recorded in Quarter 2, 2007, while UK GDP is estimated to be 4.5% higher than the peak reached in Quarter 1 2008.

Comparison of NICEI with UK, Scotland & ROI GDP (Q1 2015)



Source: Northern Ireland Composite Index, DETINI Q1 2015

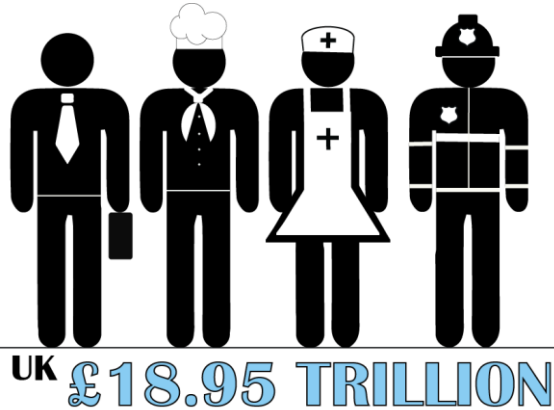
The UK and Scotland GDP figures have increased in each of the last 6 quarters, compared to ROI GDP which increased in the last 5 quarters until end of 2014 (2015 data not yet available). The NICEI has increased in 4 of the last 6 quarters.





Education and Skills

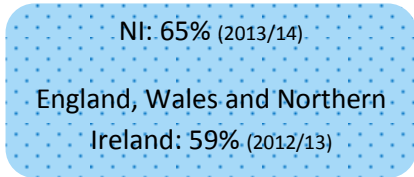
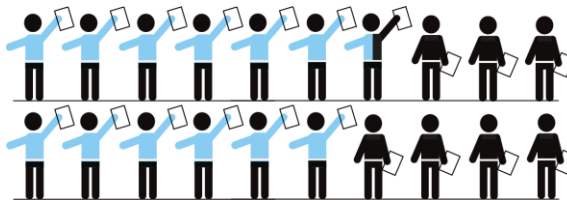
Human capital - the value of individuals' skills, knowledge and competences in the labour market (2014) ‡



The UK wellbeing measures include an indicator on human capital. Human capital is defined as the knowledge, skills, competences and attributes embodied in individuals that facilitate the creation of personal, social and economic wellbeing. This indicator is measured using the ONS Human Capital Estimates which cover the UK as a whole, and nothing comparable is currently available for Northern Ireland.

The World Economic Forum published in 2015 a Human Capital Report, which contains an Index including 124 countries. Finland tops the rankings for this Index. The UK is ranked 19th in the Index, while the lowest ranked are Chad and Yemen.

Five or more GCSEs A* to C including English and Maths ‡



In 2013/14, 65% of year 12 pupils in Northern Ireland have five or more GCSEs A* to C including English and Maths. In 2012/13 the average for England, Wales and Northern Ireland overall was 59%.

Comparative data across different countries is available from the Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA) figures in Maths, Reading and Science.

Mathematics

In 2012, Northern Ireland had a lower score in Mathematics than the UK and the OECD averages. Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Netherlands, Estonia and Finland were among the highest scores in Europe, while Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Italy and Spain were not significantly different from Northern Ireland. Sweden, Hungary, Croatia, Romania and Bulgaria all had lower scores than Northern Ireland.

Reading

In Reading the Northern Ireland score was not significantly different from the OECD average.



Finland, Ireland, Netherlands, Estonia and Germany were among the countries performing better than Northern Ireland in reading, while France, Norway, Denmark, Italy and Portugal all performed similarly to Northern Ireland. Sweden, Spain, Iceland and Slovakia had scores significantly below Northern Ireland.

Science

The Northern Ireland score was not significantly different from the OECD average. Finland, Estonia, Poland, Germany, the Netherlands and Ireland all had higher scores in Science than Northern Ireland. Countries with a similar level of performance to Northern Ireland included Switzerland, Slovenia, France and Denmark. Norway, Italy, Portugal, Sweden and Iceland were among the countries with lower scores than Northern Ireland.

Residents aged 16 to 64 with no qualifications (2014) *



Looking at the population of approximate working age (i.e. those aged 16 to 64) a notably higher proportion of people in Northern Ireland (17%) have no qualifications than in the UK as a whole (9%). The published figures differ slightly between Northern Ireland and the UK, as the NI figures exclude respondents who did not state their highest qualification level.



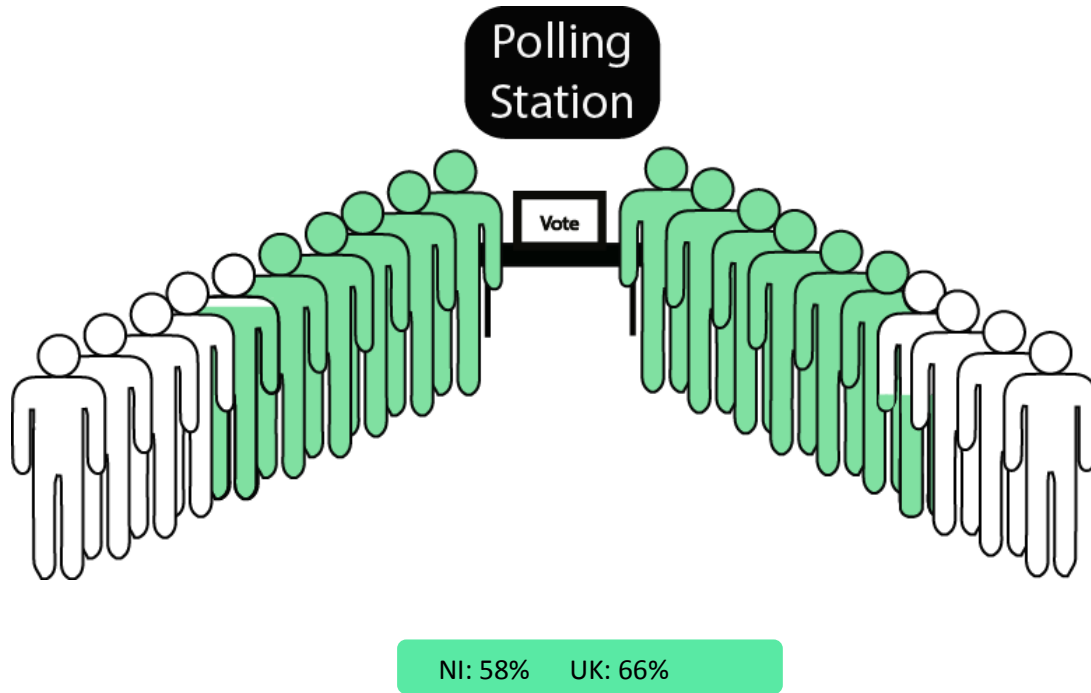
Data from the OECD Education database show that in the UK, in 2013, the highest qualification achieved by 21% of 25 to 65 year olds was below upper secondary level (this equates to a level below 5 GCSEs A*-C). This is slightly lower than the OECD average of 23%. Turkey had the greatest percentage of 25 to 65 year olds with an education below upper secondary level (65%), while the Czech Republic had the fewest with just 7%.





Governance

Voter turnout in UK General Elections (2015) †

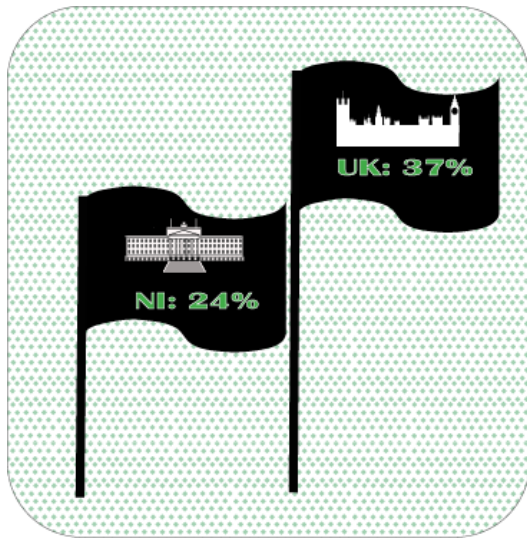


The UK wellbeing indicator relating to “registered voters who vote” is defined as the number of parliamentary election voters as a percentage of the voting age population. For the 2015 UK General Election, there was a 58% turnout in Northern Ireland compared with a 66% turnout across the UK. The Northern Ireland turnout was the lowest across any of the regions and countries of the UK.

Over the last 4 years in parliamentary elections internationally, Australia, Malta and Luxembourg all have high voter turnout rates. Finland, Estonia and India all had similar turnout rates to the UK.



Those who have trust in national Government ‡



The UK wellbeing indicator on trust in national government shows that in spring 2015 37% of the UK population aged 15+ trusted the National Government. In 2014/15, 24% of respondents from Northern Ireland reported that they had trust in government.

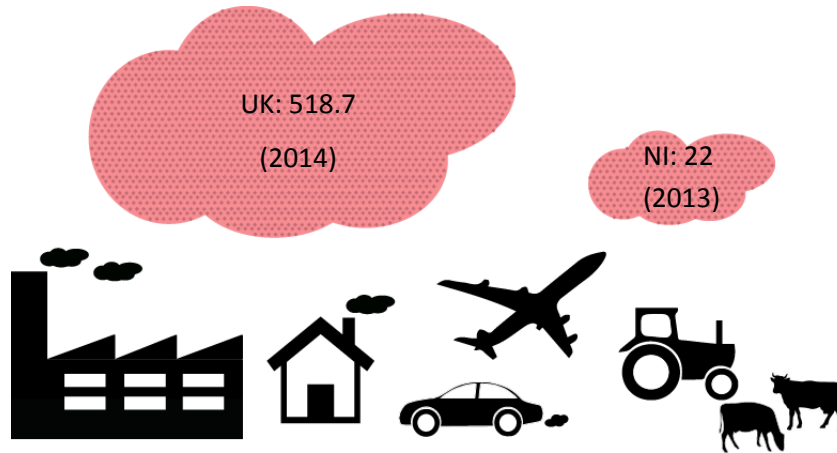
The Spring 2015 Eurobarometer survey reported that Finland was the highest ranked country for 'Trust in Government' with 60% of adults trusting their government. Spain was the lowest ranked at 12%. The UK, at 37%, was slightly above the EU-28 average of 31%.





The Natural Environment

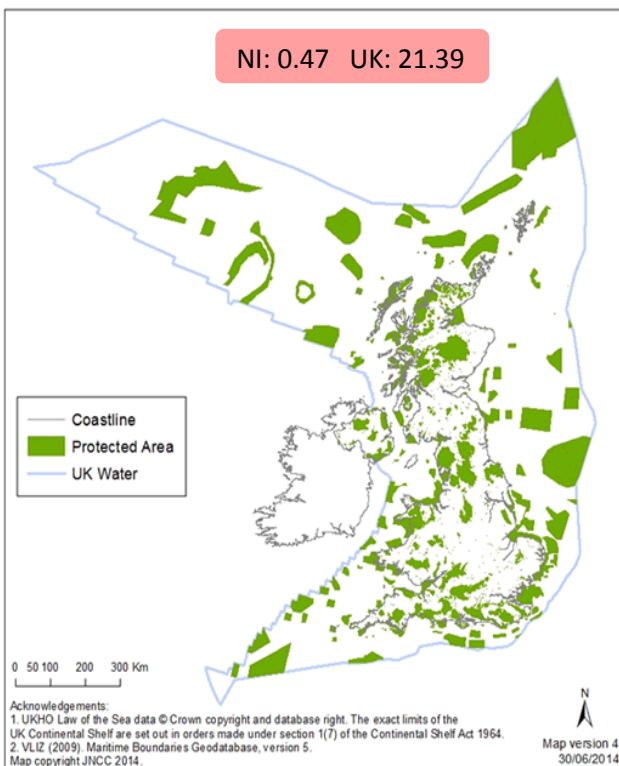
Total greenhouse gas emissions (millions of tonnes) ‡



In 2013, greenhouse gas emissions in Northern Ireland totalled 22 million tonnes, while in 2014 there were 518.7 million tonnes in the UK as a whole. In Northern Ireland greenhouse gas emissions increased by 1.2% between 2011 and 2013, but have decreased by 16% since the base year. Looking at greenhouse gas emissions per capita, Northern Ireland had 12.2 tonnes per capita in 2013, while for the UK overall in 2014, there were 8.0 tonnes per capita.

According to UN data, in 2012, UK greenhouse gas emissions totalled 579.4 million tonnes, emissions for the EU-28 as a whole totalled 4,240.7 million tonnes. Looking at this from a per capita perspective the UK is similar to the EU-28 average (9.1 and 8.3 tonnes per capita respectively). Austria and Denmark also have similar emissions per capita to the UK.

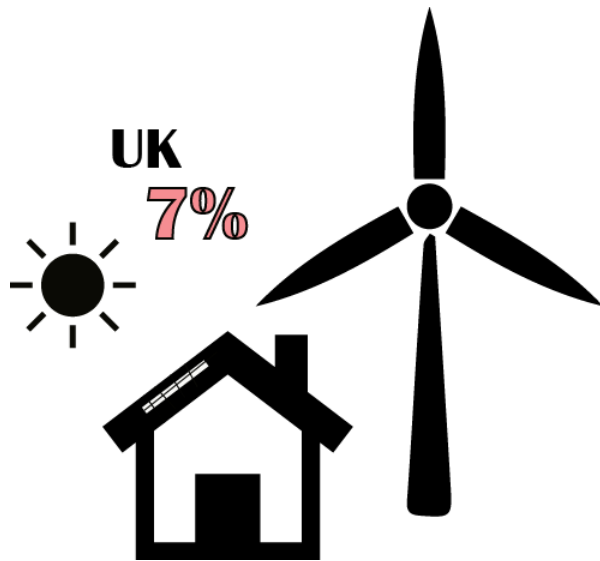
Protected areas in the UK (Millions hectares) (2014) ‡



This measure is classified by what are regarded as being nationally and internationally, important protected areas. Protected areas account for 28.4% of the land area of Northern Ireland, compared with 27.5% of the land area of the UK as whole. There is a bigger disparity in the marine protected areas, with 9.5% of NI waters designated as protected compared with 16.6% of UK waters. Protected areas cover 21% of the land territory of the European Environment Agency's member countries and collaborating countries.



Energy consumed within the UK from renewable sources (2014) ‡



Seven percent of energy consumed within the UK in 2014 was from renewable sources. No comparable figure is available for Northern Ireland.

However, looking at the percentage of total electricity generation accounted for by renewable generation, in 2013, this was 19.7% in Northern Ireland, compared with 14.9% in the UK as a whole.

Looking at the total energy market, the EU average for the share of consumed energy produced from renewable sources was 15% in 2013. Norway was the top ranked country at 66% followed by Sweden while Luxembourg and Malta had the least share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (4%). 5% of energy consumed in the UK in 2013 was produced from renewable sources.

Household waste that is recycled ‡

44% of household waste is recycled in the UK in 2012. In 2013/14, 41% of household waste was recycled in Northern Ireland.



Looking at municipal waste, 44% of the UK's municipal waste was recycled or composted in 2013 compared to an EU average of 42%. Germany recycled 65% of its waste. Serbia did not recycle any waste.



Further Information

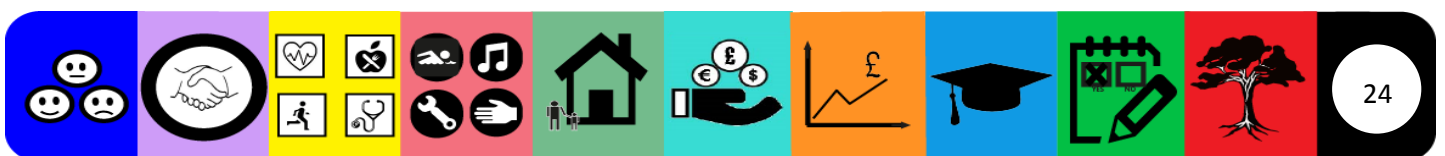
NISRA continue to participate in the UK ONS-led Measuring National Wellbeing programme. Developments made through that programme will be reflected as appropriate in future updates of this Northern Ireland wheel.

Any queries relating to the statistical or data content of this report or requests for further information should be addressed to Dave Rogers.

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This output remains under development. We would be keen to hear any feedback you may have. Please send any comments to Claire McCann:
Claire.McCann@dfpni.gov.uk



Glossary

DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DE	Department of Education (Northern Ireland)
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DfE	Department for Education
DfT	Department for Transport
DOE	Department of the Environment
LFS	Labour Force Survey
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development
UN	United Nations

* denotes a statistically significant difference

the difference is not statistically significant

‡ not applicable

n/a not available



Annex 1

The table below contains the full name of each indicator, the NI and UK values, relevant year and the name of the source of the data. This [link](#) provides access to the most recent UK and UK regional data in an Excel spreadsheet, for most of the indicators. Where the data are not available through this link, direct links are included in the table below. Links to international data are available [here](#).

		NI	Year	Source	UK	Year	Source
Personal Wellbeing							
	<i>Very high rating of satisfaction with their lives overall</i>	39.6%	2014/15	Personal Well-being Annual Population Survey Dataset	28.8%	2014/15	Personal Well-being Annual Population Survey Dataset
	<i>Very high rating of how worthwhile the things they do are</i>	45.0%	2014/15	Personal Well-being Annual Population Survey Dataset	34.4%	2014/15	Personal Well-being Annual Population Survey Dataset
	<i>Rated their happiness yesterday as very high</i>	41.0%	2014/15	Personal Well-being Annual Population Survey Dataset	34.1%	2014/15	Personal Well-being Annual Population Survey Dataset
	<i>Rated their anxiety yesterday as very low</i>	42.6%	2014/15	Personal Well-being Annual Population Survey Dataset	40.9%	2014/15	Personal Well-being Annual Population Survey Dataset
	<i>Population mental well-being</i>	24.9/35	2012/13	Understanding Society	24.6/35	2012/13	Understanding Society
Our Relationships							
	<i>Average rating of satisfaction with family life</i>	8.6/10	2014/15	Continuous Household Survey	8.2/10	2011	Eurofound, European Quality of Life Survey
	<i>Average rating of satisfaction with social life</i>	7.3/10	2014/15	Continuous Household Survey	7.1/10	2011	Eurofound, European Quality of Life Survey
	<i>Has a spouse, family member or friend to rely on if they have a serious problem</i>	86.5%	2010/11	Understanding Society	86.7%	2010/11	Understanding Society
Health							
	<i>Healthy life expectancy at birth (male/female)</i>	58.6 (m)/ 61.9 (f)	2009-11	ONS, HLE report	64.2 (m)/66.1 (f)	2009-11	ONS, HLE report
	<i>Reported a long term illness and a disability</i>	21.4%	Apr- Jun 15	Labour Force Survey, DETI	19.3%	Apr- Jun 15	ONS, Labour Market Statistics
	<i>Somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with their health</i>	64.5%	2012/13	Understanding Society	59.3%	2012/13	Understanding Society
	<i>Some evidence indicating depression or anxiety</i>	16.9%	2012/13	Understanding Society	18.3%	2012/13	Understanding Society

		NI	Year	Source	UK	Year	Source
What we do							
	<i>Unemployment rate</i>	6.2%	May- Jul 15	Labour Force Survey, DETI	5.5%	May- Jul 15	Labour Force Survey, ONS
	<i>Somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with their job</i>	80.5%	2012/13	Understanding Society	77.6%	2012/13	Understanding Society
	<i>Somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with their amount of leisure time</i>	68.0%	2012/13	Understanding Society	58.2%	2012/13	Understanding Society
	<i>Volunteered more than once in the last 12 months</i>	16.3%	2012/13	Understanding Society	17.3%	2012/13	Understanding Society
	<i>Engaged with/participated in arts or cultural activity at least 3 times in last year</i>	63%	2014/15	Continuous Household Survey	83.4% (Eng.)	2013/14	Taking Part Survey
	<i>Adult participation in 30 mins of moderate intensity sport, once per week.</i>	39%	2014/15	Continuous Household Survey	35.8% (Eng.)	2013/14	Active People Survey
Where we live							
	<i>Crimes against the person (per 1,000 adults)</i>	36	2013/14	Crime Survey for Northern Ireland	57 (Eng. & Wales)	2014/15	Crime Survey for England and Wales
	<i>Felt fairly/very safe walking alone after dark (men/women)</i>	88.0% (m)/64.5% (f)	2013/14	Crime Survey for Northern Ireland	85.8% (m)/61.7%(f) (Eng & Wales)	2014/15	Crime Survey for England and Wales
	<i>Accessed natural environment at least once a week in the last 12 months</i>	66%	2014/15	Continuous Household Survey	58% (Eng.)	2013/14	Natural England
	<i>Agreed/agreed strongly they felt they belonged to their neighbourhood</i>	72.3%	2011/12	Understanding Society	62.8%	2011/12	Understanding Society
	<i>Households with good transport access to key services or work (2011 = 100)</i>	NA			106 (Eng.)	2013	Department for Transport
	<i>Fairly/very satisfied with their accommodation</i>	92	2011	NI House Condition Survey	89.2% (Eng.)	2013/14	English Housing Survey
Personal Finance							
	<i>Individuals in households with less than 60% of median income after housing costs</i>	21%	2011/12-2013/14 3 yr avg	Family Resources Survey	21%	2013/14	Family Resources Survey
	<i>Median wealth per household, including pension wealth</i>	NA			£218,400 (GB)	2010/12	Wealth and Assets Survey
	<i>Real median household income</i>	£21,100	2013/14	Family Resources Survey	£24,500	2013/14	National Accounts, ONS
	<i>Somewhat, mostly or completely satisfied with the income of their household</i>	59.9%	2012/13	Understanding Society	53.4%	2012/13	Understanding Society
	<i>Report finding it quite or very difficult to get by financially</i>	10.5%	2012/13	Understanding Society	10.1%	2012/13	Understanding Society

		NI	Year	Source	UK	Year	Source
Economy							
	<i>Real net national disposable income per head</i>	NA			£22,065	2014	National Accounts, ONS
	<i>UK public sector net debt as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product</i>	NA			80.7%	2014/15	National Accounts, ONS
	<i>Inflation rate (as measured by the Consumer Price Index)</i>	NA			0.1%	July 15	Consumer Price Index, ONS
Education and skills							
	<i>Human capital - the value of individuals' skills, knowledge and competences in labour market</i>	NA			£ 18.95 trillion	2014	Human Capital Estimates
	<i>Five or more GCSEs A* to C including English and Maths</i>	65.2%	2013/14	Department of Education	58.9% (Eng., Wales and NI)	2012/13	Department for Education, Welsh Assembly, Department of Education
	<i>UK residents aged 16 to 64 with no qualifications</i>	17.0%	2014	Labour Force Survey, DETI	8.6%	2014	Labour Force Survey, ONS
Governance							
	<i>Voter turnout in UK General Elections</i>	58.1%	2015	House of Commons Library	66.2%	2015	House of Commons Library
	<i>Those who have trust in national Government</i>	24%	2014/15	Continuous Household Survey	37%	Spring 15	Eurobarometer
Natural environment							
	<i>Total green house gas emissions (millions of tonnes)</i>	22	2013	Department of the Environment	518.7	2014	Department of Energy and Climate Change
	<i>Protected areas in the UK (Millions hectares)</i>	0.47	2014	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs	21.39	2014	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
	<i>Energy consumed within the UK from renewable sources</i>	N/A			7%	2014	Department of Energy and Climate Change
	<i>Household waste that is recycled</i>	41.3%	2013/14	Department of the Environment	43.9%	2012	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs