

INFORMATION
ANALYSIS
DIRECTORATE



Statistics on Community Care for Adults in Northern Ireland (2023 – 2024)



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

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Main uses of document	Data presented in this publication helps to meet the information needs of a wide range of internal and external users. Within DoH these figures are used to monitor community services activity, to help assess HSC Trust performance, for corporate monitoring, to inform and monitor related policy, for Ministerial briefing and to respond to Private Office enquiries or parliamentary/assembly questions. As a compendium report, this publication presents trend analysis of a variety of adult social care activity. While trends support contextual understanding of the service activities, readers should be mindful of individual caveats as noted.
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A National Statistics Publication

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) has accredited these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#). National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of Trustworthiness, quality and public value, and it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards. These accredited statistics were independently reviewed by the Office for Statistics Regulation and the assessment report 220 was published on 28 June 2012 and can be found on the [UKSA website](#).

The continued accreditation of these statistics as National Statistics was confirmed in March 2019 following a [compliance check](#) by the Office for Statistics Regulation.

Since the latest review by the Office for Statistics Regulation, we have made the following improvements while maintaining compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics:

- a) The introduction of new topics into the publication, such as audiology, domiciliary care, and re-ablement. While previously reported for internal service performance management, key high level metrics have been deemed to be of robust quality for wider publication.
- b) Improved graphic presentation of data to improve the user experience.

National & Experimental Statistics

National Statistics are produced to high professional standards as set out in the [National Statistics Code of Practice](#). They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. All statistics in this publication, with the exception of re-ablement data, have been assessed as meeting National Statistics standards. Re-ablement statistics are labelled as official statistics in development, this is new terminology and previously would have been termed experimental statistics. These are series of statistics that are in the testing phase, and while considered robust and of sufficient quality to be reliable, they should be treated with caution as ongoing evaluation may mean they are subject to future methodological change. Both National and Official Statistics in development are produced free from any political interference.

If you have any comments on this publication, please send these to cib@health-ni.gov.uk or contact Louise Walker (Tel: 028 90255162).

About Us

Title



[Department of Health -Topics page.](#)

Description

Statistics and research for the **Department of Health** is provided by the Information and Analysis Directorate (IAD). IAD is responsible for compiling, processing, analysing, interpreting and disseminating a wide range of statistics covering health and social care.

The statisticians within IAD are outposted from the Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA) and the statistics are produced in accordance with the principles and protocols set out in the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).

IAD comprises four statistical sections: Hospital Information, Community Information, Public Health Information & Research and Project Support Analysis.

This publication is produced by Community Information Branch.

Our Vision and Values

- *Provide up-to-date, quality information on children and adult social services and community health;*
- *to disseminate findings widely with a view to stimulating debate, promoting effective decision-making and improvement in service provision; and*
- *be an expert voice on social care information.*

About Community Information Branch

The purpose of Community Information Branch (CIB) is to promote effective decision making in children and adult social services by providing quality information and analysis.

We collect, analyse, and publish a wide range of community information that is used to help monitor the delivery of personal social services policy. Information collected by CIB is used to assess HSC Trust performance, for corporate monitoring, policy evaluation, and to respond to parliamentary/assembly questions.

Information is widely disseminated through a number of regular key statistical publications and ad hoc reports, details of which are available online.

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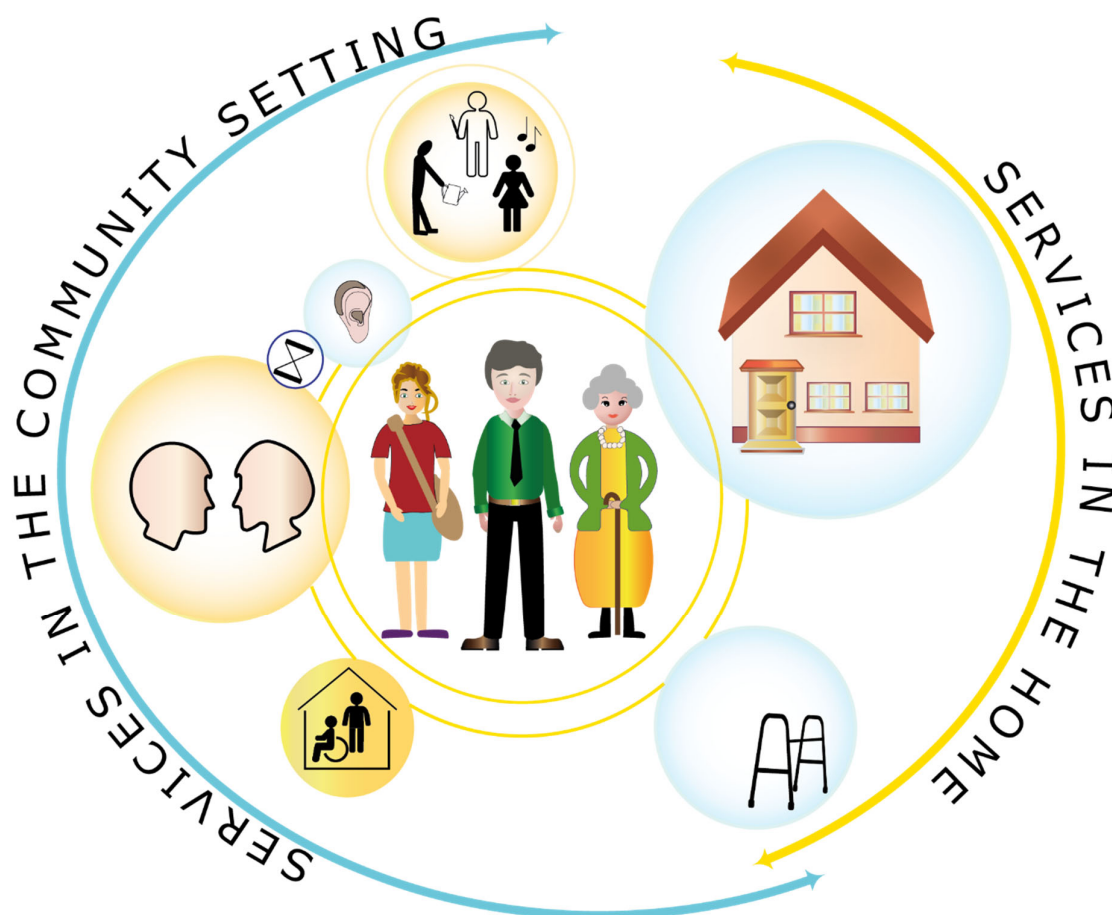
1. Introduction - What is Community Care?

Community care describes the wide range of services and support which enable individuals to live in their own home or in community settings. It is designed to maintain and promote the independence and well-being of disabled and older people, and has as its overriding objective, the aim to enable people to live as full a life as possible, in whatever setting best suits their needs.

Community care services should respond flexibly and sensitively to the needs of individuals as well as the relatives and friends who care for them. Wherever practicable it should offer users a range of options and intervene no more than is necessary to foster independence.

What is included in this publication?

This is the annual publication of Statistics on Community Care for Adults in Northern Ireland. It presents analyses on a range of community activity gathered from HSC Trusts including: domiciliary care, re-ablement, audiology service, daycare, and accommodation services.



Health & Social Care Northern Ireland (NI)

KEY STATISTICS

1 **23,249**

persons receive domiciliary care, on average, each week in 2023



2

294,353



domiciliary care hours delivered, on average, each week in 2023

3

1 in 2 persons (50%) discharged from the reablement services required no ongoing care package / occupational therapy across NI in 2023/24



4

300

persons, on average, were starting reablement service each month across NI in 2023/24

5

272

hearing aids for adults, on average, were fitted each week across NI in 2023/24 by the statutory health services



6

5,467

registered day care attendance across NI at 31st March 2024



7

465

care homes registered in NI at 30th June 2024



8

8,423

nursing packages in effect in NI as at 30th June 2024



9

3,753

residential packages in effect in NI as at 30th June 2024



COVID-19 impact on Community Care Services for Adults

Health & Social Care (HSC) Trusts reported changes to their provision of a range of services in 2020 and 2021 due to the impact of COVID-19. The following list of points indicate the background to these changes and may apply to all, or only a single HSC Trust. It is not possible to apportion specific issues to specific changes in reported provision.

Domiciliary Care:

Domiciliary care continued to be provided during the COVID-19 pandemic, however some domiciliary care packages were suspended at various stages to reduce the risk of contact and transmission of the virus.

Where possible, and where deemed safe, some service users were taken to stay and be cared for in family homes during the course of the pandemic.

Some domiciliary care providers have experienced COVID-19 related staffing shortages, which led to changes in service provision. For example, in some cases reconfiguring service provision across geographical areas, prioritising service users or amalgamating visits was needed.

Statutory and independent sector domiciliary care providers have liaised closely with the HSC Trusts to maintain service provision and some independent providers have taken on increased provision. In other instances HSC Trusts have taken on packages normally dealt with by the independent sector to ensure coverage was met.

Re-ablement:

Re-ablement continued to be provided during the COVID-19 pandemic, however Belfast HSC Trust's service was temporarily re-configured to support COVID/ palliative care in the community during March 2020. From March 2020 until July 2020, the re-ablement Service in Belfast HSC Trust was suspended temporarily.

Community Audiology:

The HSC Trusts reported a temporary suspension of normal audiology services at mid-March 2020 to reduce the risk of contact and transmission of the virus.

While some audiology services continue to be provided during the COVID-19 pandemic, including essential paediatric services, and paediatric hearing aid fittings, service provision and capacity has varied by HSC Trust.

While hearing aid services did recommence, the capacity of the service has varied across the HSC Trusts due to a number of factors, including the following points:

- Staff shortages due to a number of reasons including: COVID-19 illness and shielding, redeployment to essential services due to COVID-19 service reconfiguration, and additional precautionary guidelines around pregnancy leave.
- Restricted access to previous audiology facilities, particularly within hospital sites, or where rooms were repurposed for more essential services, lack of PPE equipment and admin staff due to COVID-19 measures.
- Changes in working practices due to COVID-19, including reduced appointments with longer appointment times needed in order to allow for 15 mins downtime between appointments for cleaning, and to allow for safe working and social distancing.
- The Northern HSC Trust hearing aid service work an 'access and fit' model, where the majority of new hearing aid fittings are carried out at the diagnostic appointment.

Day Care Services:

While the number of registered Day Care centres for adults in Northern Ireland remained similar to previous years, some HSC Trusts reported that the numbers of adults registered to attend Day Care services has reduced due to COVID-19 and temporary closure of some facilities. As a result, while some service users would have been discharged from the registration, during periods of closure there were fewer service users newly registering to access the service.

Residential and Nursing Services:

Residential and Nursing care continued to be provided during the COVID-19 pandemic, with relatively little change to the number of beds, homes and care packages. However, some HSC Trusts reported that the average number of places occupied during the year decreased due to COVID-19, and social distancing guidelines.

Persons with Disability in Contact with HSC Trusts:

HSC Trusts noted that contact between social workers, or other member of statutory social services staff, and persons with disabilities reduced due to COVID-19. This particularly affected face-to-face activity and group work.

Virtual contact was possible between some HSC staff and service users, however this was outside the scope of the definitions for the persons in contact information in the current publication.

2. Home Services

Domiciliary Care – September Survey Week

Domiciliary care is defined as the range of services put in place to support an individual in their own home. Please see below for an overview of key domiciliary care trends observed during the domiciliary care survey week 2019 - 2023. Domiciliary Care statistics, for a survey week in September 2024, was published on 11th December 2024 in table format as the roll out of Encompass in the Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Trust meant that data was unavailable for 2 trusts at time of publication. It is expected, in 2025, that the tables will be revised to include all trusts once the data becomes available. Source: 'DoH CC7b Survey'

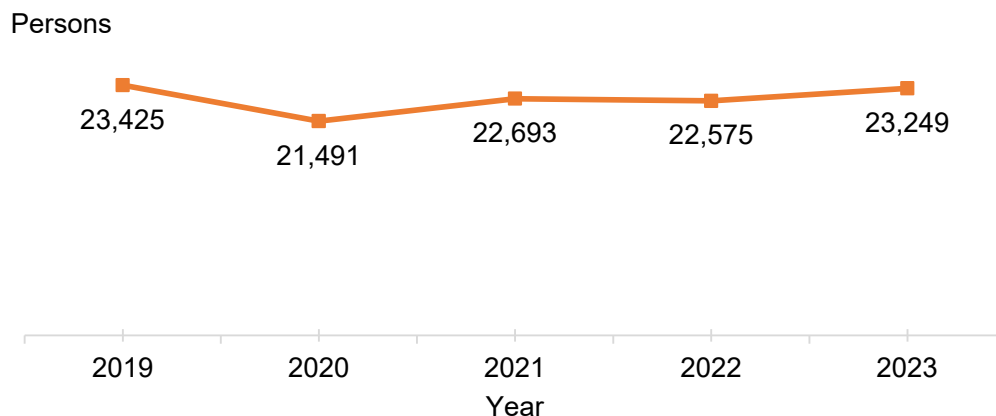
Number of Domiciliary Care Recipients (2019-2023)

An estimated 23,249 clients, received domiciliary care during the survey week in 2023. This represented a 3% (674) increase in the number of clients who received domiciliary care in the survey week in 2022 (22,575), and a decrease of less than 1% (-176) over the five year period from 2019 (23,425).

Figure 1 below shows that the number of clients decreased from 23,425 in 2019 to 21,491 in 2020. In 2023, the number of clients has increased to close to the pre 2020 level.

Figure 1 Number of Domiciliary Care Recipients 2019-23

Source: DoH CC7b Survey



Number of Visits Delivered (2019-23)

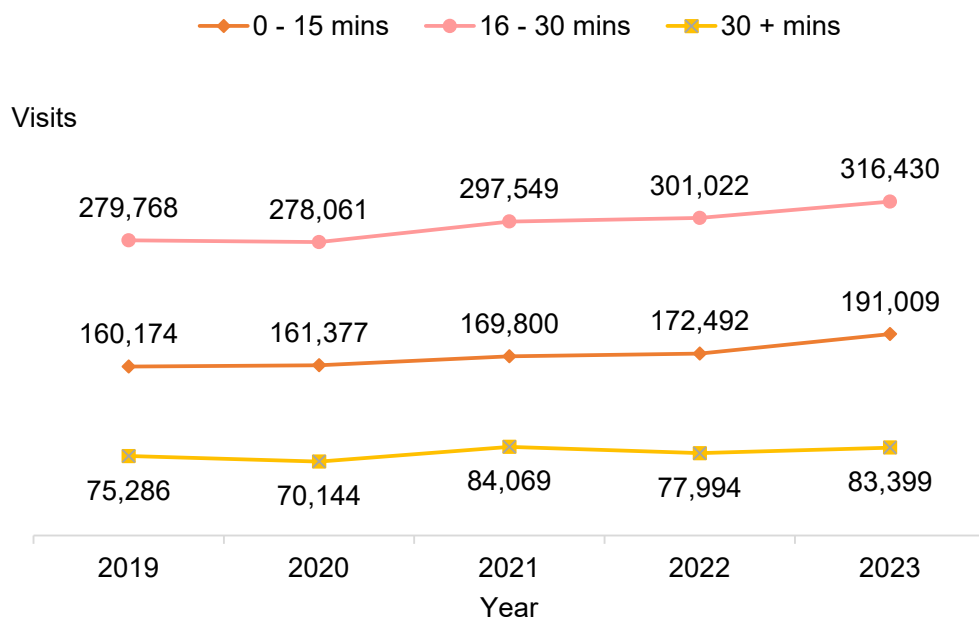
A total of 590,838 domiciliary care visits were provided in 2023. The five year trend analysis shown in Figure 2 presents an increasing trend in number of '0-15' min visits. There was a 19% (30,835) increase in the number of '0-15' min visits from the survey week in 2019 (160,174) when compared to the survey week in 2023 (191,009).

There has also been an increasing trend in the number of '16-30' min visits. There was a 13% (36,662) increase in the number of '16-30' min visits from the survey week in 2019 (279,768) when compared to the survey week in 2023 (316,430).

There has been a 11% (8,113) increase in the number of '30+' visits during the survey week in 2019 (75,286) compared to the survey week in 2023 (83,399). There has not been a consistent year-on-year increase, however, with '30+' visits peaking at 84,069 in 2021.

Figure 2 Number of Visits Delivered 2019-23

Source: DoH CC7b Survey

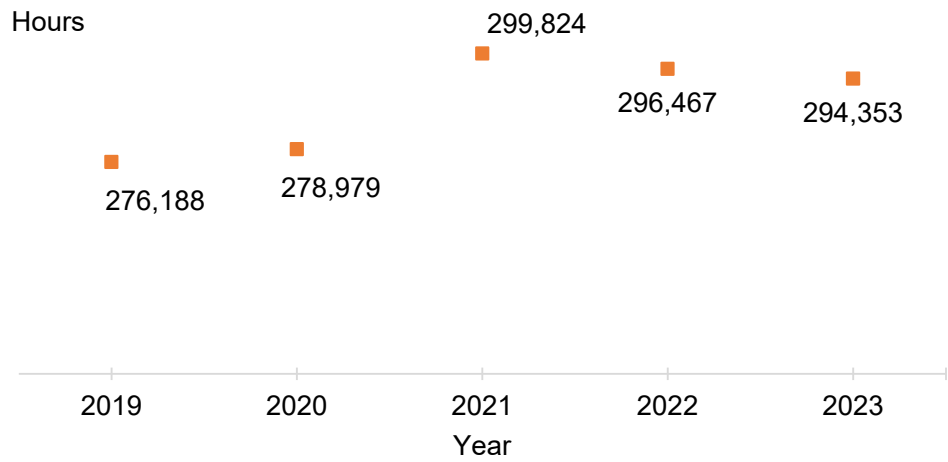


Number of Hours Delivered (2019-23)

On average, 294,353 domiciliary care hours were delivered during the survey week in 2023. This represented a 1% (-2,114) decrease in the number of hours that were delivered in the survey week in 2022 (296,467), and a 7% (18,165) increase over the 5 year period from 2019 (276,188), as shown in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3 Number of Hours Delivered During Survey Week 2019-23

Source: DoH CC7b Survey



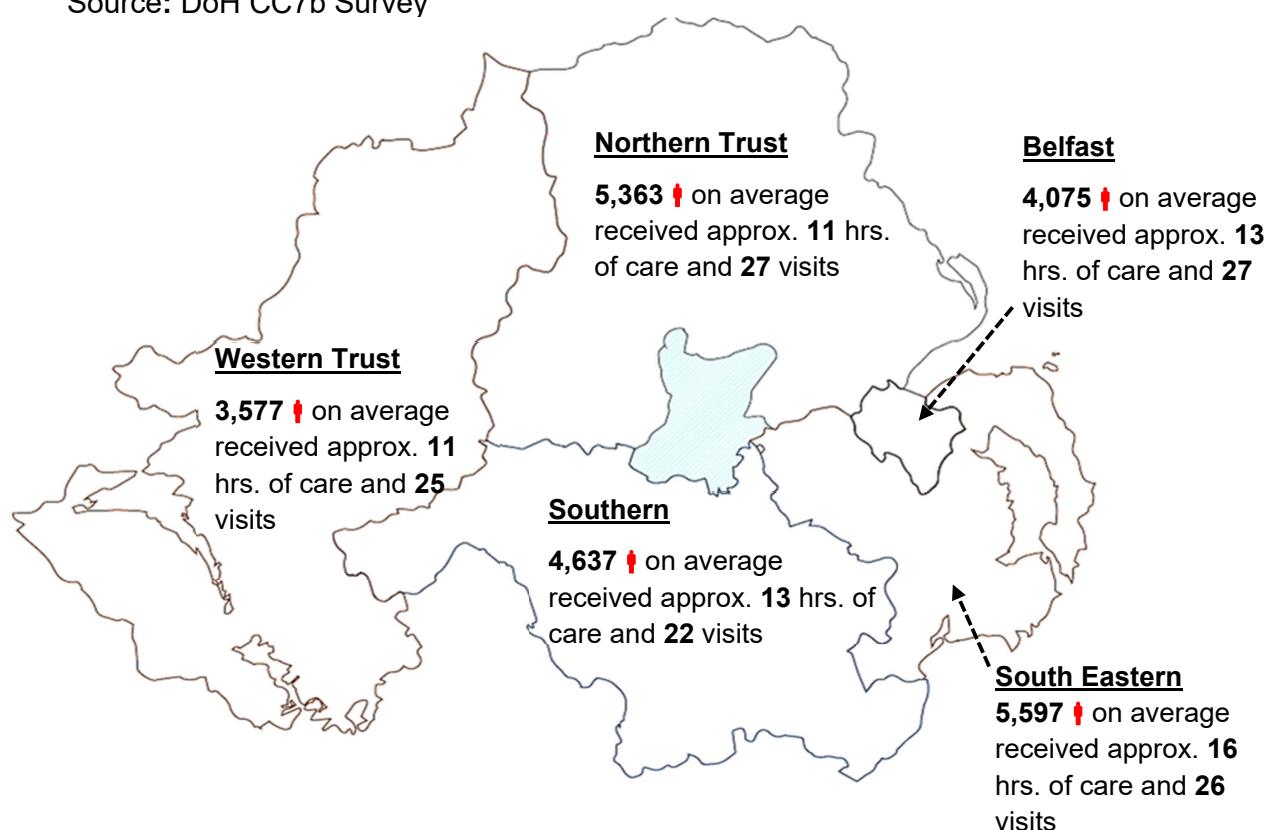
Domiciliary Care – September Survey Week, by HSC Trust

During the 2023 September survey week 23,249 clients were estimated to receive domiciliary care, ranging from 5,597 in the South Eastern HSC Trust to 3,577 recipients in the Western HSC Trust. An average of 13 domiciliary care contact hours and 25 domiciliary care visits were provided per client.

Figure 4 and the table of values below show the breakdown of Domiciliary Care delivered for each of the five HSC Trusts during the 2023 September survey week.

Figure 4 Domiciliary Care Delivered in a Survey Week, 3rd – 9th September 2023, across Northern Ireland by HSC Trusts

Source: DoH CC7b Survey



HSC Trust	Number of clients	Average contact hours provided per client	Average visits provided per client
Belfast	4,075	13	27
Northern	5,363	11	27
South Eastern	5,597	16	26
Southern	4,637	13	22
Western	3,577	11	25

Further detail is available in the '[Domiciliary care services for adults in Northern Ireland 2023](#)' publication.

Re-Ablement

Re-ablement is a planned and time-limited service, lasting 6 weeks or less, designed to enable people aged 65+ to gain or regain their confidence, ability, and necessary skills to live independently within their own home, after experiencing a health or social care crisis, such as illness, deterioration in health or injury.

Persons Starting Re-ablement

During 2023/24, 3,734 persons started reablement. On average 4,407 persons have availed of re-ablement service each year between 2019/20 and 2023/24. The re-ablement service has not returned to pre-pandemic levels in 2023/24, and may also be lower due to a revised screening protocol in South Eastern HSC Trust since 2019/20. Northern Trust also advised of a revised screening protocol in 2022/23 which reduced the numbers of persons starting reablement, as shown in Figure 5, and which subsequently reduced the number of discharges.

Figure 5 Persons Starting Re-ablement 2019/20^{^*} – 2023/24^{*}

Source: SPPG regional re-ablement template

[^] Belfast HSC Trust had no activity during March 2020, as the service was temporarily re-configured to support COVID/ palliative care in the community. From March 2020 until July 2020, the re-ablement Service in Belfast Trust was put on a temporary hiatus.

^{~*} South Eastern HSC Trust presented lower figures for 2019/20 due to a revised screening protocol, as did Northern HSC Trust in 2022/23.

^{*} Data for South Eastern HSC Trust was rolled forward from October 2023 as data was unavailable from November 2023 onwards due to the roll out of Encompass.

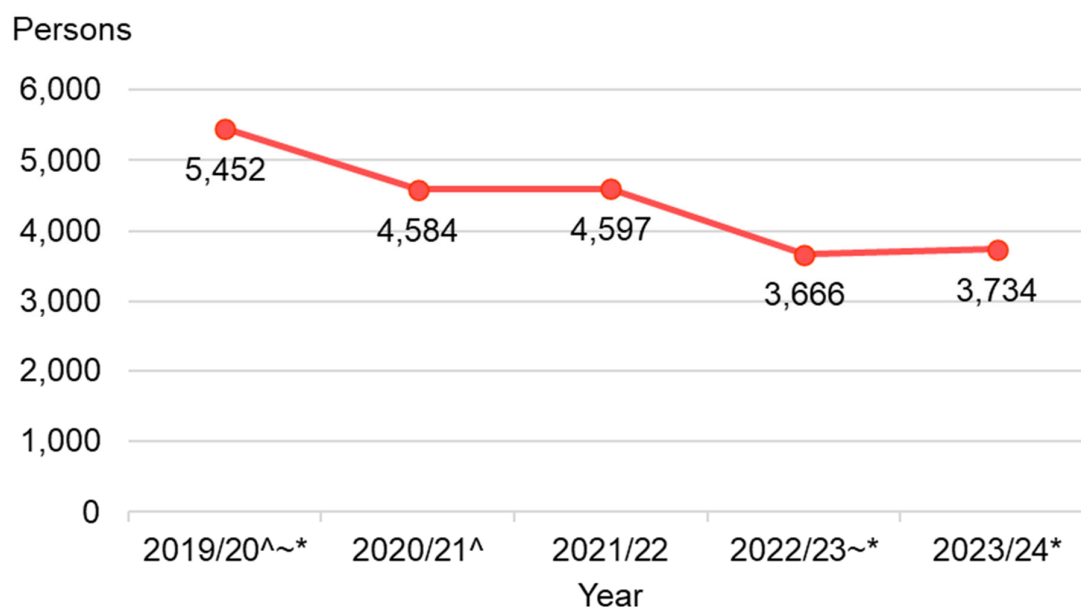
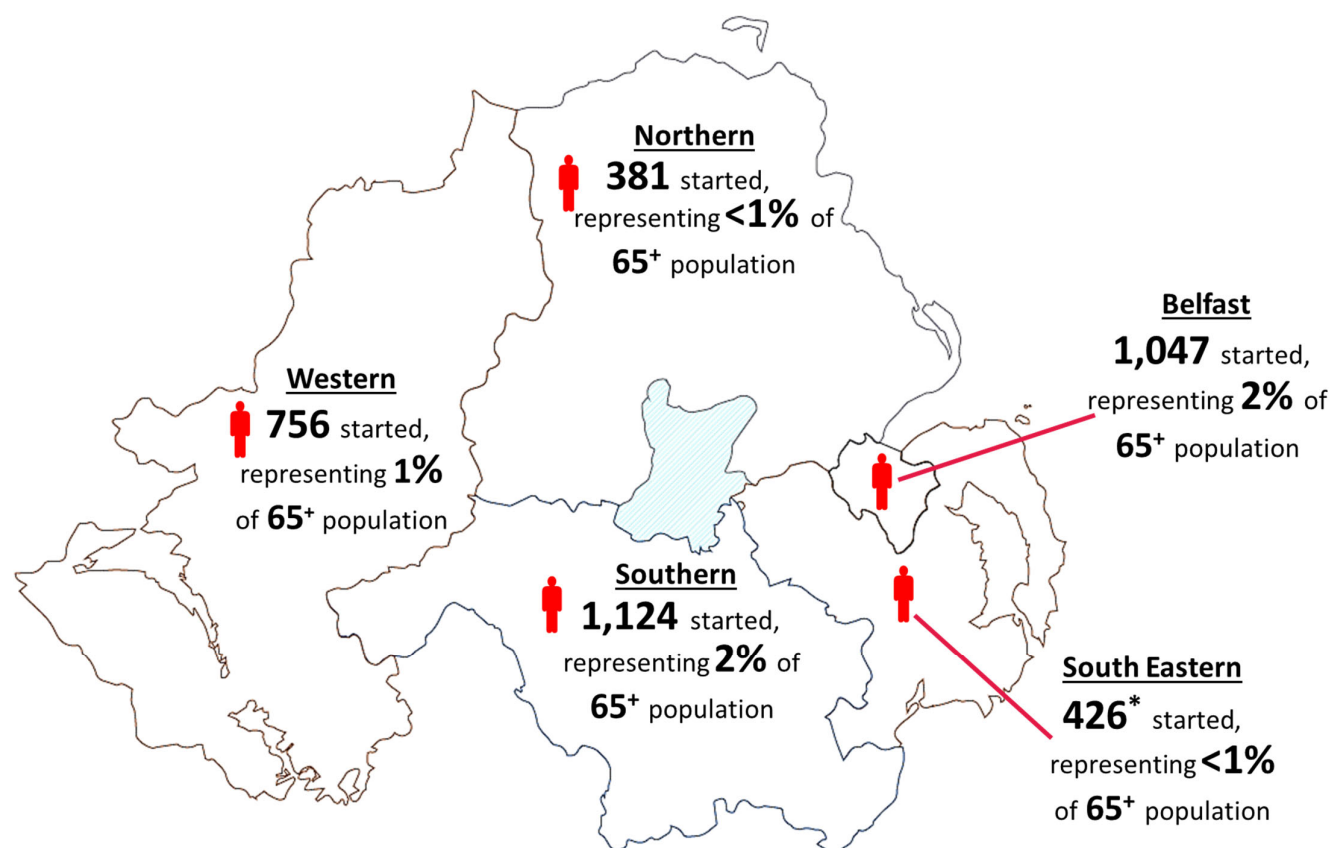


Figure 6 Persons Aged 65+ Starting Re-ablement across Trusts in 2023/24*

Source: SPPG regional re-ablement template

Census 2022 population age breakdown can be found on page 48.

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust was rolled forward from October 2023 as data was unavailable from November 2023 onwards due to the roll out of Encompass.



HSC Trust	Number of persons starting re-ablement	65+ age group mid-year population estimates 2022	Percentage of 65+ age group starting re-ablement
Belfast	1,047	56,806	2%
Northern	381	89,665	<1%
South Eastern	426*	73,315	<1%
Southern	1,124	62,814	2%
Western	756	52,849	1%

Figure 6 and the table of values show the breakdown of persons starting re-ablement for each of the five HSC Trusts during 2023/24. In 2023/24, around 300 persons each month started the service. A similar rate of uptake was observed across each of the HSC Trusts, representing around 1-2% of the 65+ population within each Trust. Re-ablement figures for South Eastern Trust were rolled forward from October 2023 as data was unavailable from November 2023 onwards due to the roll out of Encompass.

Persons Discharged from Re-ablement

Activity for re-ablement services, and associated client outcomes was an important component of the Programme for Government 2016-21 Indicator 9, Outcome 8. It is expected that this indicator will continue in the next PfG cycle. An overview of the performance of Indicator 9 is published on the [Departmental website](#).

The regional average in 2023/24 for clients discharged with no ongoing care, or with Occupational therapy (OT) only, was 50%. This has remained consistent with the previous year, as illustrated in Figure 7.

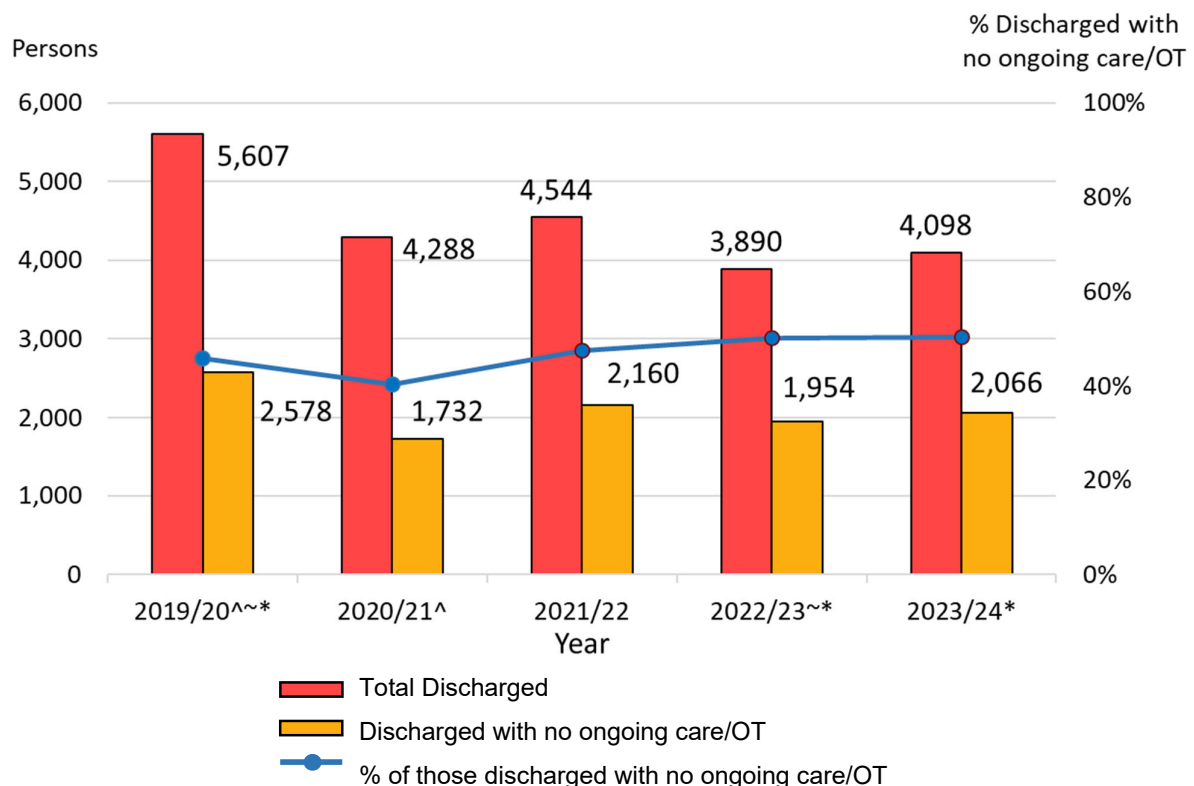
Figure 7 Overview of Regional Client Outcomes on Discharge 2019/20-2023/24*

Source: SPPG regional re-ablement template

^ Belfast HSC Trust had no activity during March 2020, as the service was temporarily re-configured to support COVID/ palliative care in the community. From March 2020 until July 2020, the re-ablement Service in Belfast Trust was put on a temporary hiatus.

~* South Eastern HSC Trust presented lower figures for 2019/20 due to a revised screening protocol, as did Northern HSC Trust in 2022/23.

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust was rolled forward from October 2023 as data was unavailable from November 2023 onwards due to the roll out of Encompass.



As Figure 8 below shows, the rate of clients discharged with no ongoing care package/Occupational Therapy ranged from 49-59% in most Trusts and was similar to the Northern Ireland average (50%). The lowest rate of 25% was observed in the Northern Trust. It is important to recognise that the Northern Trust has a higher proportion of service users admitted to hospital or passing away during a period of re-ablement.

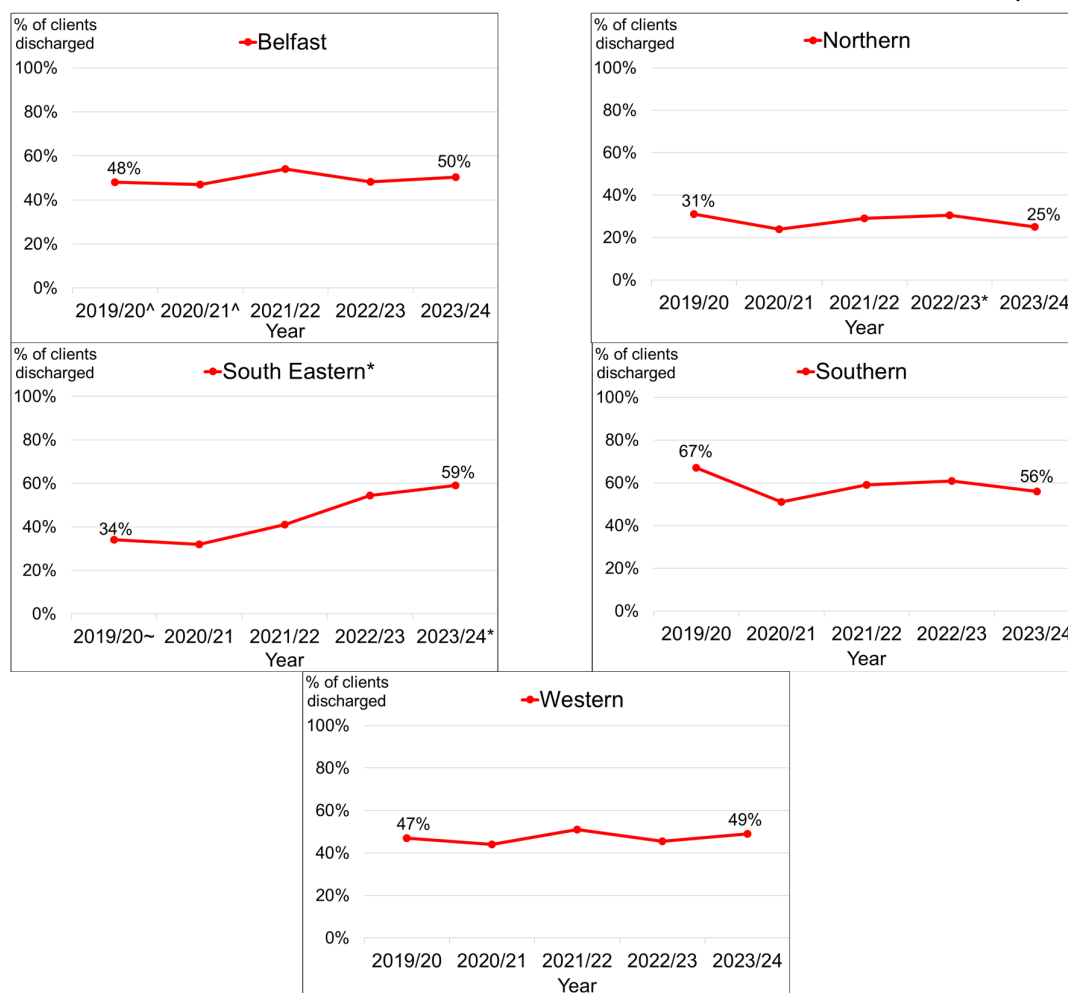
Figure 8 Client Outcomes on Discharge by Trust 2019/20-2023/24*

Source: SPPG regional re-ablement template

^ Belfast HSC Trust had no activity during March 2020, as the service was temporarily re-configured to support COVID/ palliative care in the community. From March 2020 until July 2020, the re-ablement Service in Belfast Trust was put on a temporary hiatus.

~* South Eastern HSC Trust presented lower figures for 2019/20 due to a revised screening protocol, as did Northern HSC Trust in 2022/23.

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust was rolled forward from October 2023 as data was unavailable from November 2023 onwards due to the roll out of Encompass.



3. Community Services

Audiology

Community audiology services provide treatment and equipment in a community setting for people with hearing defects. For example, the provision of hearing aids, a small amplifying device that fits on the ear and is worn by a person who is hard of hearing. Please note technical guidance on page 45 when interpreting these data.

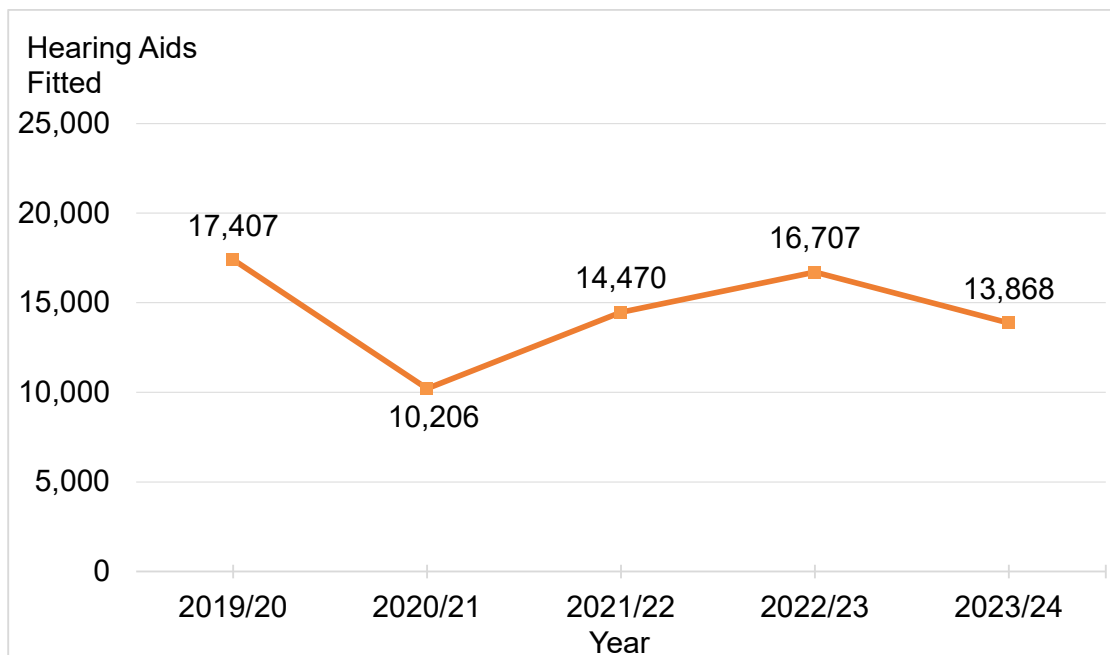
Statutory Adult Hearing Aids Fitted from 2019/20 to 2023/24

A 17% decrease is observed in the total number of adults fitted with a hearing aid by the statutory sector between 2022/23 (16,707) and 2023/24 (13,868), as presented in Figure 9 below. 2023/24 figures are not directly comparable to those of previous years, however, as South Eastern HSC Trust data are not available after September 2023 due to the roll out of Encompass.

Please note that in recent years there has been an increase in persons availing of “see and fit” diagnostic assessment appointments to have a hearing aid fitted, and they would not be reflected in these figures. In addition, persons may be utilising the growing number of independent retailers offering hearing aid testing/fitting services.

Figure 9 Statutory Adult Hearing Aids Fitted 2019/20 to 2023/24

Source: Health and Social Care Trusts' Monthly Completed Waits Return



Statutory Adult Hearing Aids Fitted by Trust 2023/24

In 2023/24, there were 13,868 hearing aids fitted by the statutory sector, representing 0.9% of the adult Northern Ireland population[^].

^ Population figures for 2022 can be found on page 48

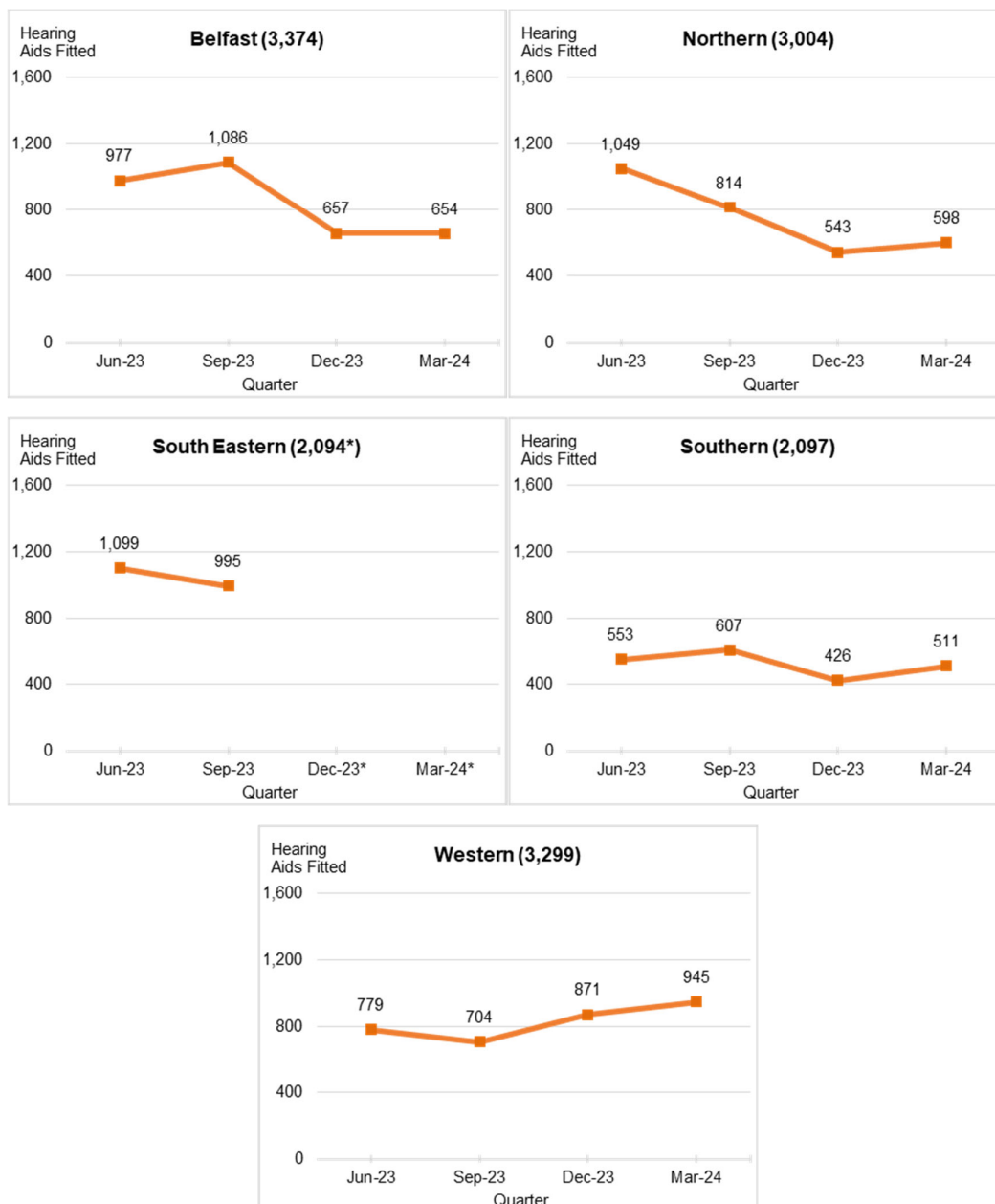
The number of adult statutory hearing aids fitted by the statutory sector in 2023/24 ranged from 3,374 in Belfast HSC Trust to 2,097 in Southern HSC Trust (see Figure 10, below). Note, the total of 2,094 given for South Eastern HSC Trust does not include data after September 2023 due to the roll out of Encompass.

Figure 10 Statutory Adult Hearing Aids Fitted by HSC Trust 2023/24^

Source: Health and Social Care Trusts' Monthly Completed Waits Return

^ Figures quoted in the title represent the yearly totals for each HSC Trust.

* South Eastern HSC Trust data for quarters ending December 2023 and March 2024 are not available due to the roll out of Encompass.



Day Care Services

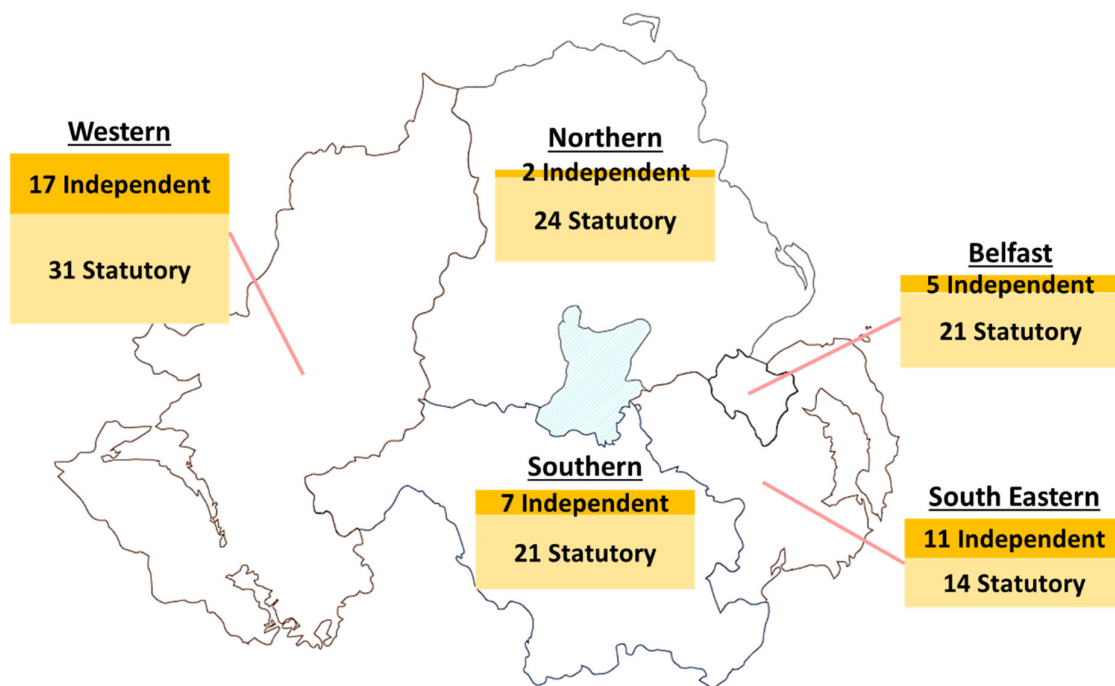
Day care services are designed to meet the assessed needs of individuals for care, support, supervision or rehabilitation, providing social stimulation for the individual, and respite for their carers.

Registered Day Care Centres in 2024

At 31 March 2024 there were 153 day centres across Northern Ireland, of which approximately three quarters (111, 73%) were statutory facilities, and around one quarter (42, 27%) were independent facilities. Figure 11 below illustrates the number of statutory and independent homes in each HSC Trust.

Figure 11 Registered Day Care Facilities across HSC Trusts at 31 March 2024

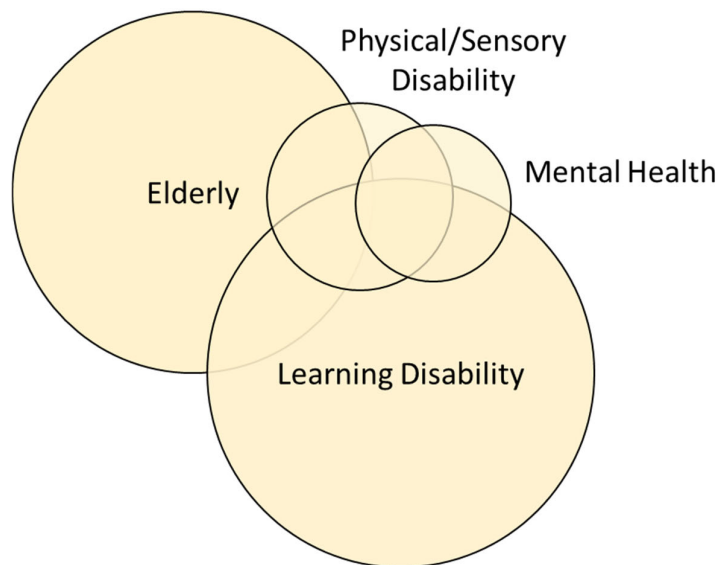
Source: RQIA



Based on RQIA registration data and HSC Trust websites, day centres have been assigned a 'primary' client group which they provide support services for, as shown in Figure 12. Please note that this is not exclusive, as day centres often offer services for a range of groups, and is only intended to provide an illustrative indication of the proportion of day centre facilities for different client groups across the region. This exercise was last carried out in 2021, however the overall number of day centres only slightly decreased in 2024, so the proportions are likely to have also remained similar.

Figure 12 Proportion of Registered Day Care Facilities by Client Group at 31 March 2021.

Source: RQIA



Persons registered to attend Day Care centres in 2024

5,467 persons were registered to attend Day Care Services at 31 March 2024. This was 349 (7%) more than the number registered at the end of the previous year and 1,085 (17%) less than the number registered five years ago. Of these, the client group was known for 5,372 service users.

As Figure 13 illustrates, nearly half (45%) were registered in the learning disability group, with a third (32%) in the elderly group. Around 1 in 10 (11%) were registered in the mental health group, and nearly 1 in 14 (7%) were registered in the physical/sensory disability group. A small proportion, approximately 1 in 25 (4%), were registered in the no material disablement group. See page 46 for definitions.

Over the past five years, with the exception of those in the no material disablement group, the number of persons registered to attend Day Care centres has decreased across all client groups.

Figure 13 Client Groups Registered to attend Day Care Services at 31 March 2024*

Source: DoH KDC2(i-iv) Return

* Of 5,372 persons whose client group was known.

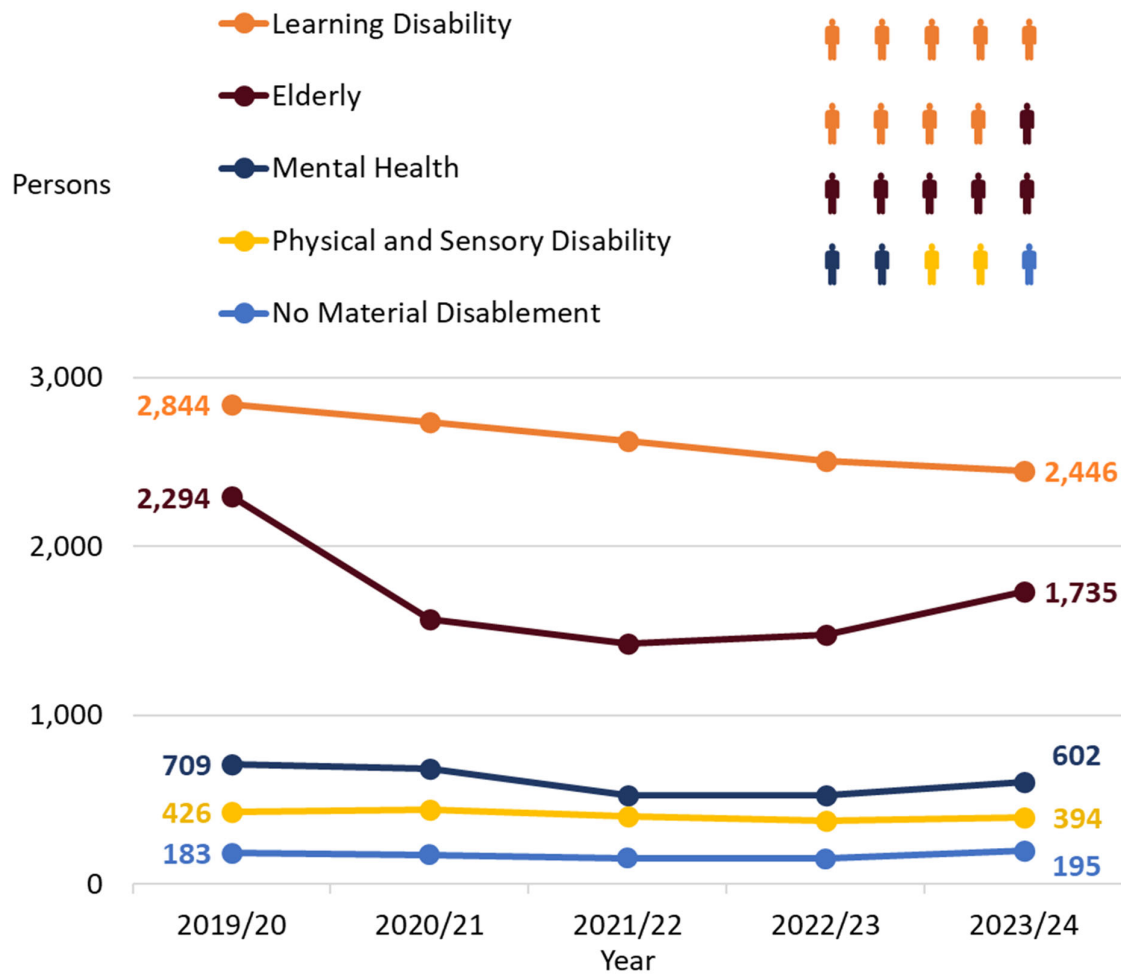
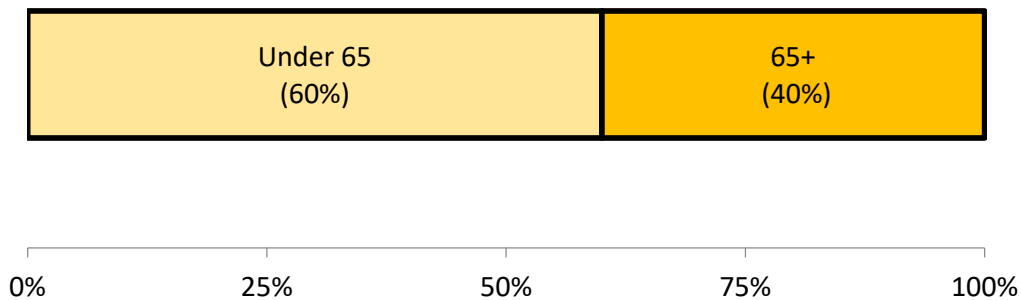


Figure 14 below shows that there was a higher proportion of registered day care users aged under 65 (60%), than aged 65+ (40%), where age was known.

Figure 14 Day Care Service Users by Age Group at 31 March 2024*

Source: DoH KDC2(i-iv) Return

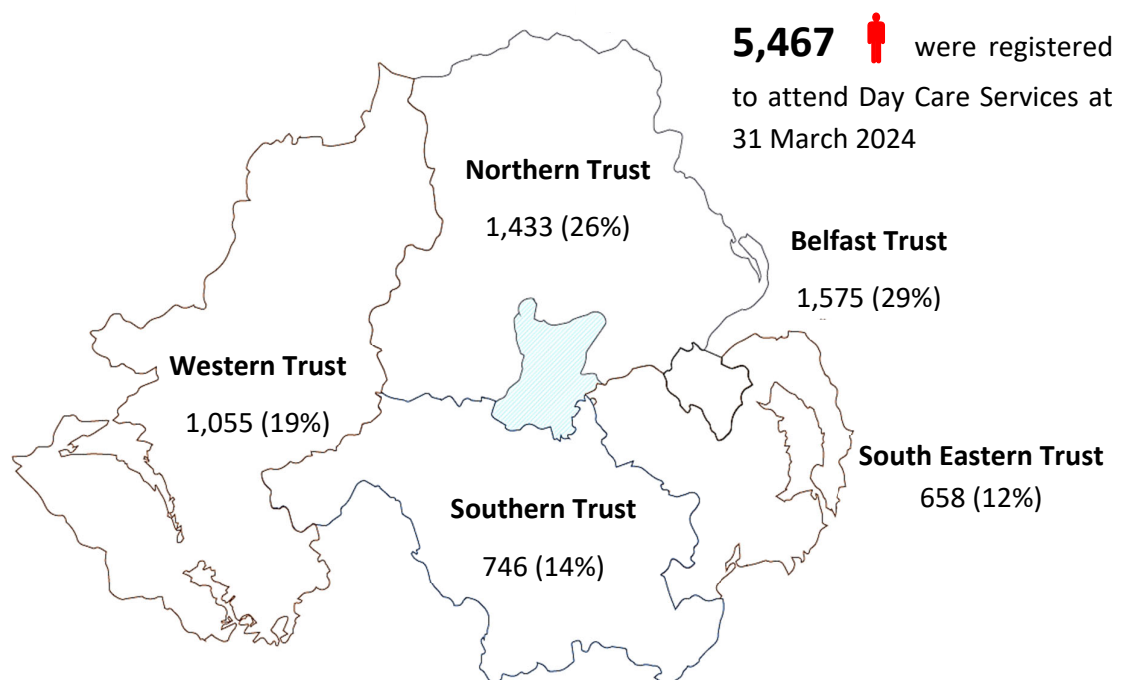
* Of 5,159 persons whose age was known. There were 308 persons in Western HSC Trust whose age was not known.



As at 31 March 2024, the highest proportions (around a quarter each) of persons registered at statutory day care facilities were in the Belfast HSC Trust (29%), and Northern HSC Trust (26%), while the lowest proportions were in the Southern HSC Trust (14%), and South Eastern HSC Trust (12%), as shown in Figure 15 below.

Figure 15 Persons Registered to attend Day Care Services at 31 March 2024

Source: DoH KDC2(i-iv) Return



At 31 March 2024, nearly four fifths (78%) of all registrations at statutory day care facilities were in Day Centres and approximately one fifth (22%) were in Adult Training/Social Education Centres and Workshops.

Figure 16 below shows that in both Adult Training/ Social Education Centres and Workshops there were a higher proportion of persons registered aged under 65, than aged 65+ (where age was known).

Figure 16 Persons Registered to attend Day Care Services at 31 March 2024, by age group and setting*

Source: DoH KDC2(i-iv) Return

* Of 5,159 persons whose age was known. There were 308 persons in Western HSC Trust whose age was not known.

Adult Training/ Social Education Centres & Workshops	Under 65 (1,017)	65+ (129)
Day Centres	Under 65 (2,062)	65+ (1,951)

Residential & Nursing Care

Residential home care takes place in either statutory, voluntary or private residential care homes. They are staffed 24 hours a day, providing board and general personal care to the residents. Such premises are provided for those who require ongoing care and supervision in circumstances where nursing care would normally be inappropriate.

Nursing home care takes place in nursing homes. They are residential facilities providing nursing care 24 hours per day.

Source: *Article 10 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland)*

To note, the RQIA recently led on a process to address historically recognised 'dual' categorised care homes, i.e. a care home with nursing home registration status, but carrying both residential and nursing care beds. 'Dual' nursing homes were asked to action one of the three options below:

- Discontinue their residential places;
- Retain a temporary registration for named residents who are already accommodated in the home on the condition that these beds will eventually revert to nursing;
- Register their residential care beds under a separate residential care home registration.

This may have resulted in:

- A decrease in the number of nursing homes with residential beds;
- A rise in the overall number of independent residential care homes;
- In real terms, a negligible change in the number of registered residential and nursing beds, as the process affected classification of the facility that houses the beds, rather than the type of bed they are.

A **care package** is the form of care recommended through care management. The term care management is used to describe the whole concept which embraces the key functions of assessing need; care-planning; and managing, co-ordinating and reviewing services. HSC Trusts carry out care management assessments to identify a person's needs and determine the best form of care to meet those needs i.e. a care package. The services provided in each care package for each individual client differ in terms of intensity and length.

Residential & Nursing Care Snapshot as at 30 June 2024 - Facilities



465 Facilities were registered at 30 June 2024. Similar proportions of residential (224, 48%) and nursing (241, 52%) care homes were registered at June 2024.

This is similar to numbers registered at June 2020 for both residential (234, 49%) and nursing (248, 51%) care homes. 2020 figures can be found in [Statistics on Community Care for Adults in Northern Ireland 19/20](#).

Of the 224 residential care homes registered in 2024, just over four fifths (181, 81%) were in the independent sector and about one fifth (43, 19%) were in the statutory sector.

Of the 241 nursing care homes registered in 2024, almost all (236, 98%) were in the independent sector with just 2% (5) in the statutory sector.

In June 2024, Belfast HSC Trust had 44 nursing homes (41 independent and 3 statutory) and 43 residential care homes (32 independent and 11 statutory).

Northern HSC Trust had 64 nursing homes (all independent) and 61 residential care homes (51 independent and 10 statutory).

South Eastern HSC Trust had 55 nursing homes (all independent) and 58 residential care homes (50 independent and 8 statutory).

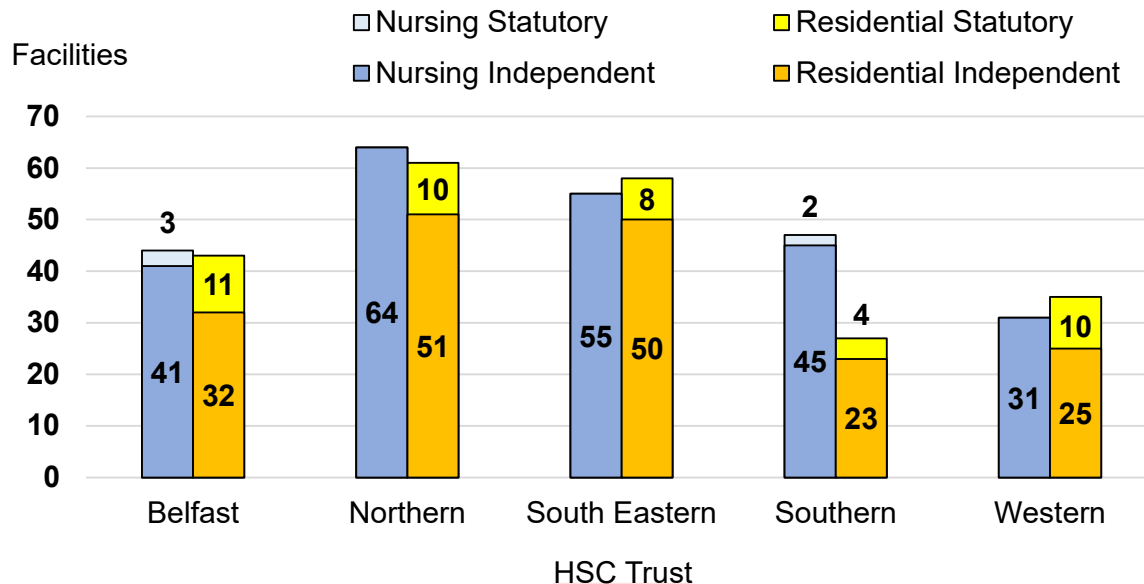
Southern HSC Trust had 47 nursing homes (45 independent and 2 statutory) and 27 residential care homes (23 independent and 4 statutory).

Western HSC Trust had 31 nursing homes (all independent) and 35 residential care homes (25 independent and 10 statutory).

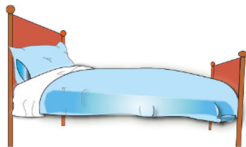
Figure 17 illustrates the number of Residential and Nursing Care facilities by sector and by HSC Trust.

Figure 17 Number of Residential & Nursing Care facilities as at 30 June 2024

Source: RQIA



Residential & Nursing Care Snapshot as at 30 June 2024 – Care Home Beds



15,794 Care home beds were registered at 30 June 2024.

2 in 3 of these were registered as nursing, with 10,550 available as nursing and 5,244 available as residential.

Of the 5,244 residential places in registered residential homes, four in five (82%) were in independent residential homes while almost one in five were in statutory residential homes (18%).

Of the 10,550 nursing care beds available in nursing homes, almost all (99%) were in the independent sector, and only a small number (1%) were in the statutory sector.

At 30 June 2024, South Eastern HSC Trust had the highest number of residential beds (1,487) available while Southern HSC Trust had the lowest (548).

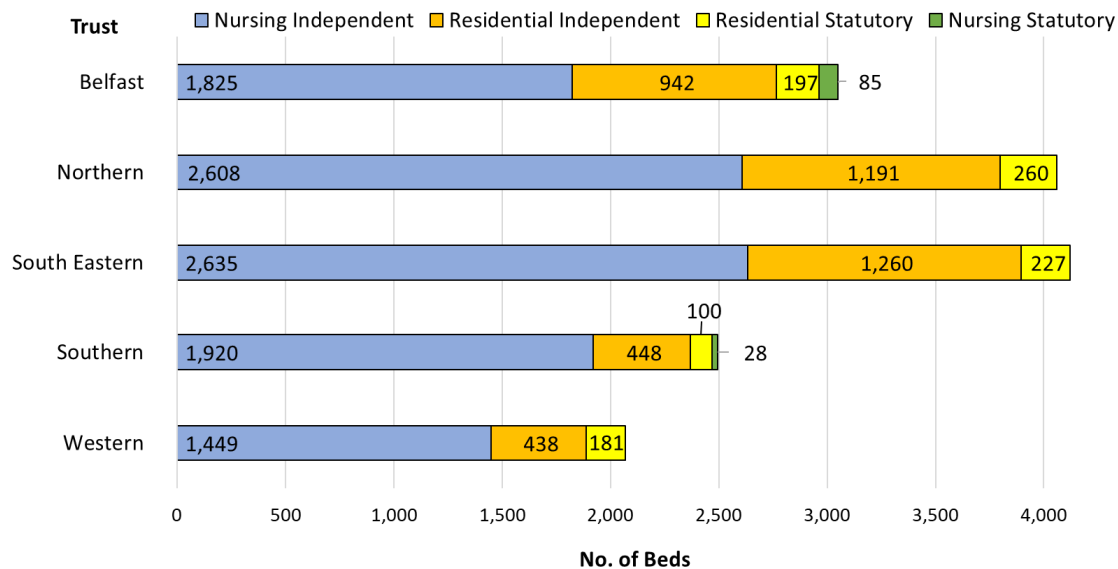
South Eastern HSC Trust had the highest number of nursing care beds (2,635) available, while Western HSC Trust had the lowest number (1,449).

Figure 18 illustrates the number of Residential and Nursing Care beds by sector and by HSC Trust.

Figure 18 Number of Residential & Nursing Care beds as at 30 June 2024

Source: RQIA

Please see Tables 13 and 14 (pages 59 and 60) for further detail.



Residential & Nursing Care Snapshot as at 30 June 2024* – Care home packages

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust relates to September 2023 as that is the most recent data available at time of publication due to the roll out of the Encompass computer system.

12,176 Care packages were in effect with 97% of those delivered by the independent sector (11,776), and 3% were delivered by the statutory sector (400). Over two thirds of all care packages are Nursing (8,423, 69%) and about one third are residential (3,753, 31%).

At 30 June 2024*, four fifths (80%, 9,696) of care packages in effect were in the Elderly Care POC. Of these, 70% (6,826) were nursing care packages, and 30% (2,870) were residential care packages.

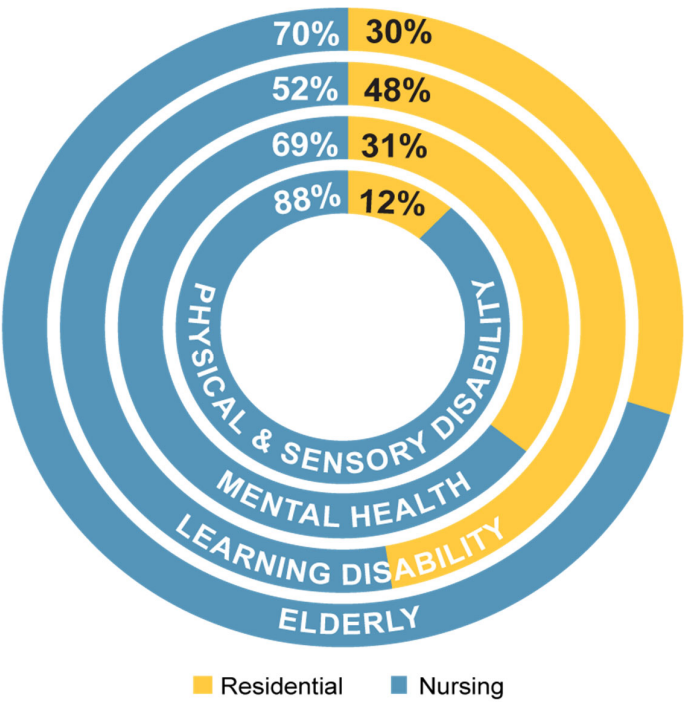
In the Learning Disability POC, 10% (1,237) of care packages were in effect. Of these, just over half (52%, 648) were nursing care packages, and 48% (589) were residential care packages.

Mental Health and Physical/Sensory Disability accounted for 6% (756) and 4% (487), respectively, of care packages in effect at 30 June 2024*.

Figure 19 illustrates the proportion of Residential and Nursing Care packages by client group.

Figure 19 Number of Residential & Nursing Care packages as at 30 June 2024

Source: Health and Social Care Trust CC7 Returns



Residential Facilities 2020 – 2024

Note, the following trends must be interpreted with care, as trend changes of registered facilities, as recent figures will be impacted by the RQIA led process outlined at the start of the topic chapter.

Over the last five years, the number of residential facilities has decreased from 234 in June 2020* to 224 in June 2024. This is due to the decrease in independent residential facilities, which decreased from 191 facilities in June 2020 to 181 facilities in June 2024. The number of statutory residential facilities remained constant at 43 facilities in June 2020 and June 2024.

Three of the five HSC Trusts have shown a decrease in the number of independent residential facilities, while there was no change for Belfast HSC Trust, and South Eastern HSC Trust increased the number of independent homes by 1. The largest decrease was in Northern HSC Trust, where the number of independent residential facilities has decreased from 56 in June 2020 to 51 in June 2024.

Between June 2020 and June 2024, the number of statutory residential facilities has remained the same across three of the five HSC Trusts. The number of statutory residential facilities in Belfast HSC Trust decreased by 1, and increased by 1 in Northern HSC Trust.

Figure 20 compares the number of Residential Care facilities between 2020 and 2024, by HSC Trust.

Figure 20 Residential Facilities - Five year comparison by HSC Trust*

Source: RQIA

* 2020 figures can be found in [Statistics on Community Care for Adults in Northern Ireland 19/20](#)

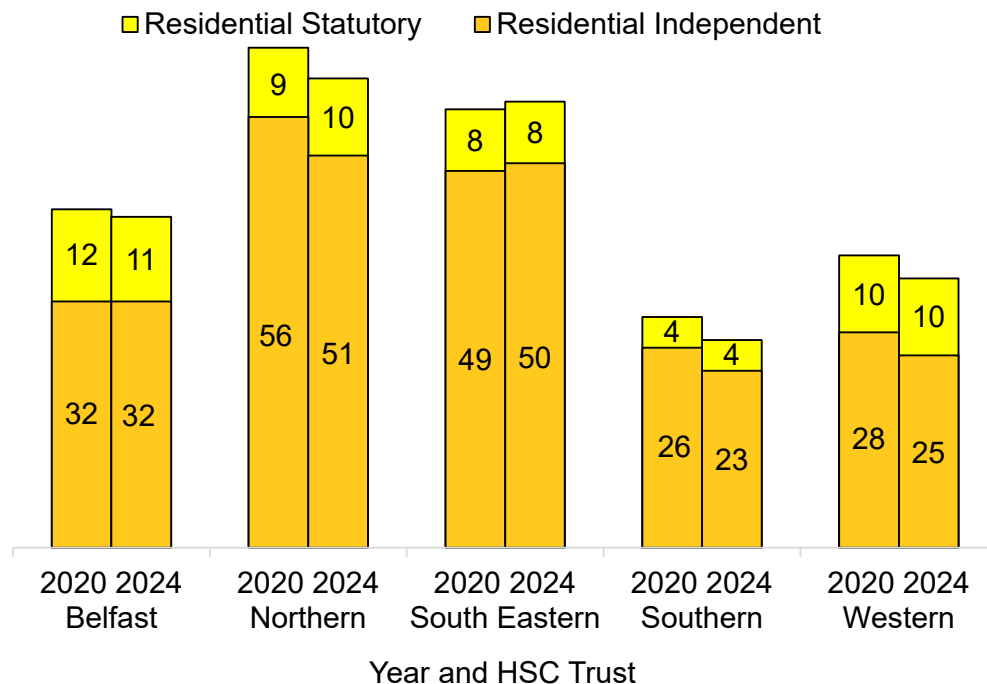


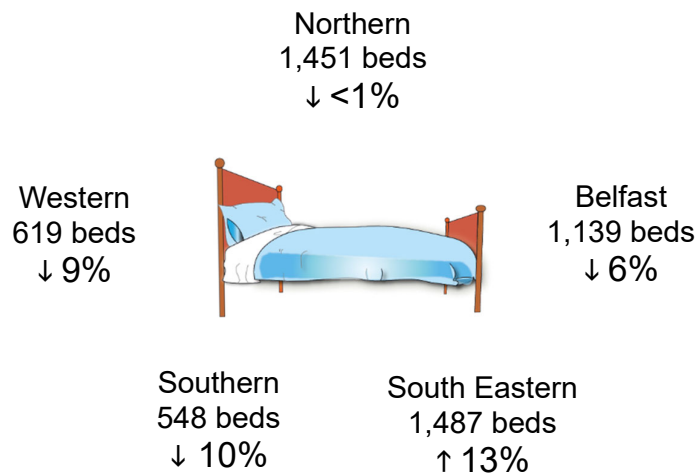
Figure 21, below, shows that in the last five years, the number of residential beds in Northern Ireland has increased by <1% (from 5,278 beds in June 2020* to 5,244 beds in June 2024).

South Eastern HSC Trust showed the only increase in the number of residential beds between June 2020 and June 2024, a 12% increase from 1,322 beds in June 2020 to 1,487 beds in June 2024. The largest decrease in the number of beds in residential homes from June 2020 to June 2024 was seen in Belfast HSC Trust (-6%, from 1,213 to 1,139). The number of residential beds also decreased over this period in Western HSC Trust (-9%, from 681 to 619), Southern HSC Trust (-10%, from 607 to 548). In Northern HSC Trust, the number of beds in residential facilities remained relatively constant (<1%, from 1,455 to 1,451).

Figure 21 Residential Beds - Five year comparison by HSC Trust *

Source: RQIA

* 2020 figures can be found in [Statistics on Community Care for Adults in Northern Ireland 19/20](#)



HSC Trust	Residential Beds 2020	Residential Beds 2024
Belfast	1,213	1,139
Northern	1,455	1,451
South Eastern	1,322	1,487
Southern	607	548
Western	681	619

Nursing Facilities 2020 – 2024

Note, the following trends must be interpreted with care, as trend changes of registered facilities, as recent figures will be impacted by the RQIA led process outlined at the start of the topic chapter.

Over the last five years, the number of nursing facilities has decreased from 248 in June 2020* to 241 in June 2024. The 248 nursing facilities, registered in 2020 were made up of 5 statutory facilities and 243 independent facilities. In 2024, the 241 nursing facilities were made up of 5 statutory facilities and 236 independent facilities.

Between June 2020 and June 2024, the number of independent nursing facilities has increased by 1 (from 54 to 55) in South Eastern HSC Trust, and has remained the same in Western HSC Trust (31). Each of the other three HSC Trusts decreased their registered number of independent nursing facilities over this 5 year period by 1 to 4 homes.

Between June 2020 and June 2024, the number of statutory nursing facilities has increased by 1 in both Belfast HSC Trust, and in Southern HSC Trust. The number of statutory nursing facilities in Western HSC Trust has reduced from 2 in 2020 to 0 in 2024. There were no statutory nursing facilities registered for the Northern, and South Eastern HSC Trusts in 2020 and in 2024.

Figure 22 compares the number of Nursing Care facilities between 2020 and 2024, by HSC Trust.

Figure 22 Nursing Facilities - Five year comparison by HSC Trust*

Source: RQIA

* 2020 figures can be found in [Statistics on Community Care for Adults in Northern Ireland 19/20](#)

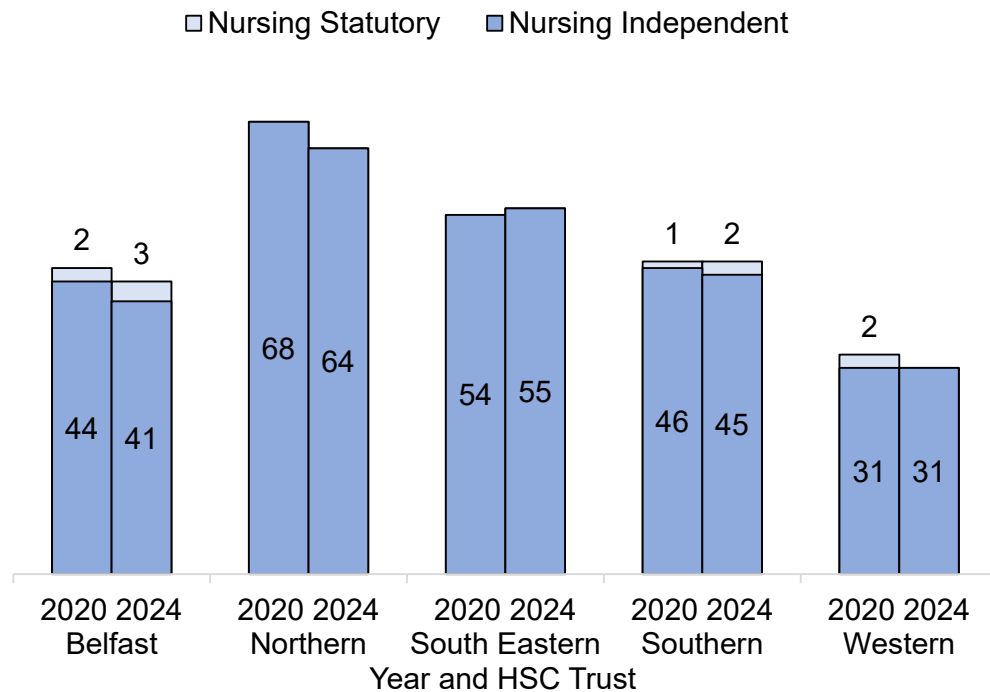


Figure 23 below shows that over the last five years there has been a decrease (-2%) in the number of nursing beds in Northern Ireland, 10,802 beds in June 2020* and 10,550 beds in June 2024.

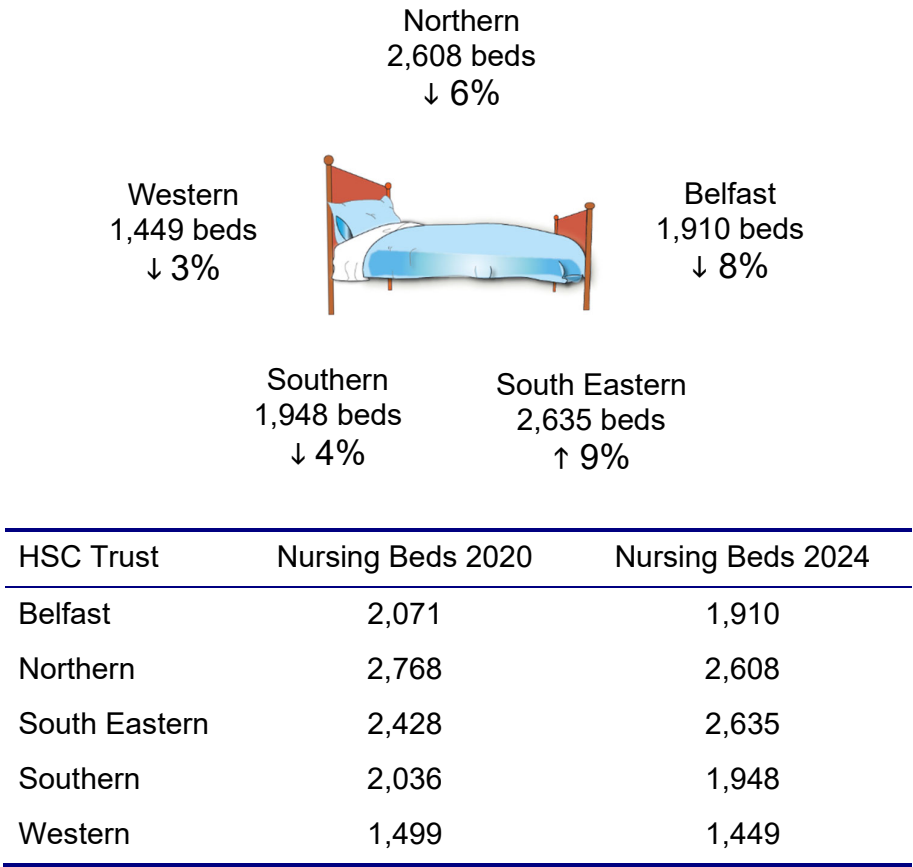
The largest decreases in the number of nursing beds, from June 2020 to June 2024, were observed in Belfast HSC Trust (-8%, from 2,071 to 1,910), and Northern HSC Trust (-6%, from 2,768 to 2,608). The number of nursing beds also decreased in Southern and Western HSC Trusts, by -4% and -3%, respectively.

South Eastern HSC Trust increased their number of nursing beds by 9%, from 2,428 to 2,635.

Figure 23 Nursing Beds - Five year comparison by HSC Trust

Source: RQIA

* 2020 figures can be found in [Statistics on Community Care for Adults in Northern Ireland 19/20](#)



Care Packages in Effect at quarter ending June 2024*

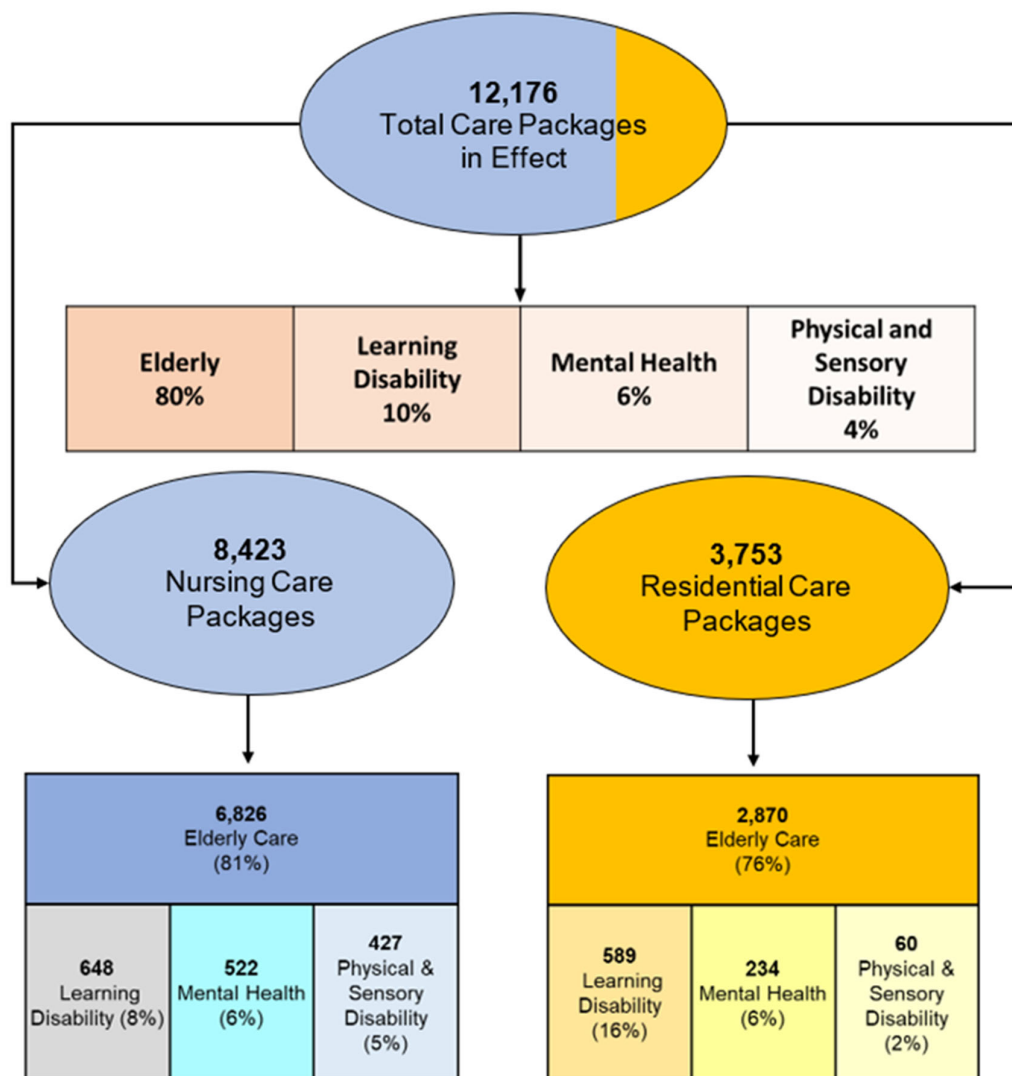
* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust relates to September 2023 as that is the most recent data available at time of publication due to the roll out of the Encompass computer system.

Figure 24 shows that of the 12,176 care packages in effect, over two thirds (69%, 8,423) were nursing home care packages and about one third (31%, 3,753) were residential care packages.

Four fifths (80%, 9,696) of care packages were in effect in the Elderly Care POC. The break down for the other Programmes of Care can be seen below.

Figure 24 Care Packages in Effect by POC and Type

Source: Health and Social CC7 returns



The table below shows the breakdown of Nursing and Residential care packages in effect at June 2024*, for different client groups.

Client Group	Nursing	Residential	Total
Elderly	6,826	2,870	9,696 (80%)
Learning Disability	648	589	1,237 (10%)
Mental Health	522	234	756 (6%)
Physical/Sensory Disability	427	60	487 (4%)
Total	8,423	3,753	12,176

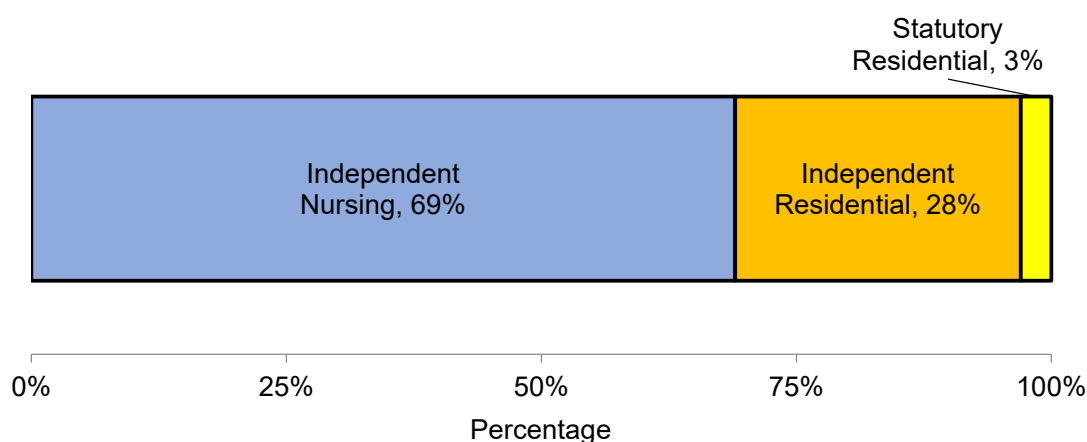
Care Packages in Effect, by Sector, at quarter ending June 2024*

At 30 June 2024*, almost all (97%, 11,776) of residential and nursing home care packages were provided by the independent sector. Only 3% (400) of all home care packages were provided by the statutory sector.

Figure 25 below shows that at the end of June 2024*, over two thirds of home care packages were delivered by independent nursing homes (69%, 8,423), over a quarter (28%, 3,353) of home care packages were delivered by independent residential homes, and 3% (400) were delivered by statutory residential homes. The statutory sector did not provide any nursing home care packages.

Figure 25 Statutory and Independent Care Packages as at 30 June 2024*

Source: Health and Social Care Trust CC7 Returns



Care Packages in Effect, at quarters ending June 2020 – June 2024*

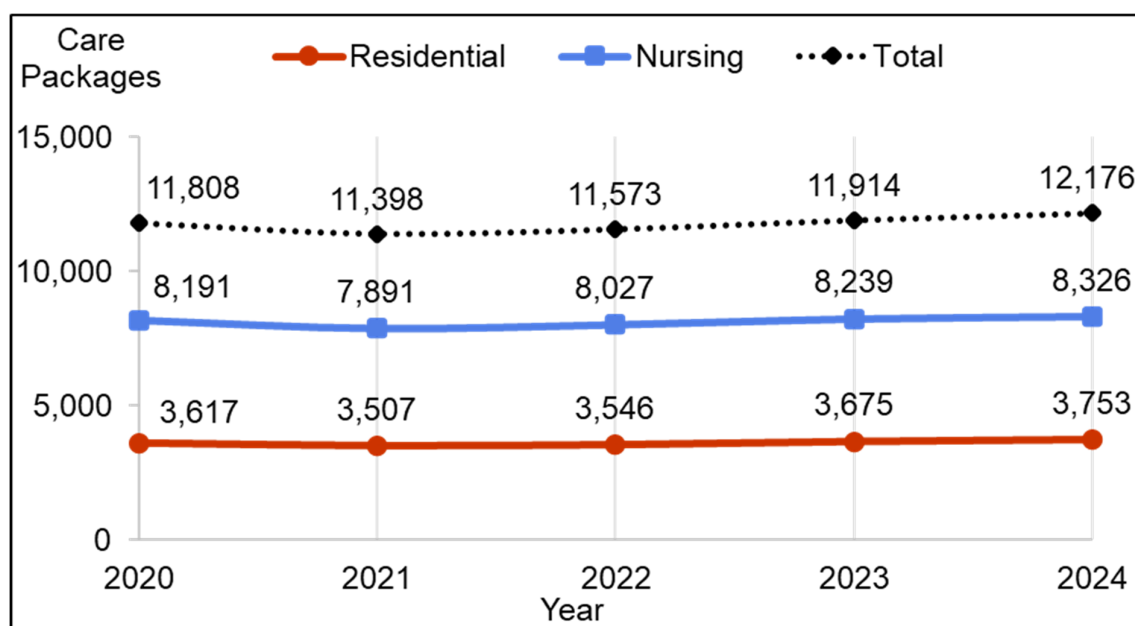
At 30 June 2024*, 12,176 residential and nursing home care packages were in effect in Northern Ireland. This represents an increase of 2% since 30 June 2023 (11,914),

and an increase of 3% since 30 June 2020 (11,808). Figures can be found in Table 20 in Appendix C.

There has been an increase (2%, 135) in the number of nursing home care packages in effect between 2020 (8,191) and 2024 (8,326). There has also been an increase (4%, 136) in the number of residential home care packages in effect between 2020 (3,617) and 2024 (3,753) as shown in Figure 26.

Figure 26 Northern Ireland Care Packages in Effect 2020 – 2024

Source: Health and Social Care Trust CC7 Returns



Care Packages in Effect, by HSC Trust, at quarters ending June 2020 – June 2024*

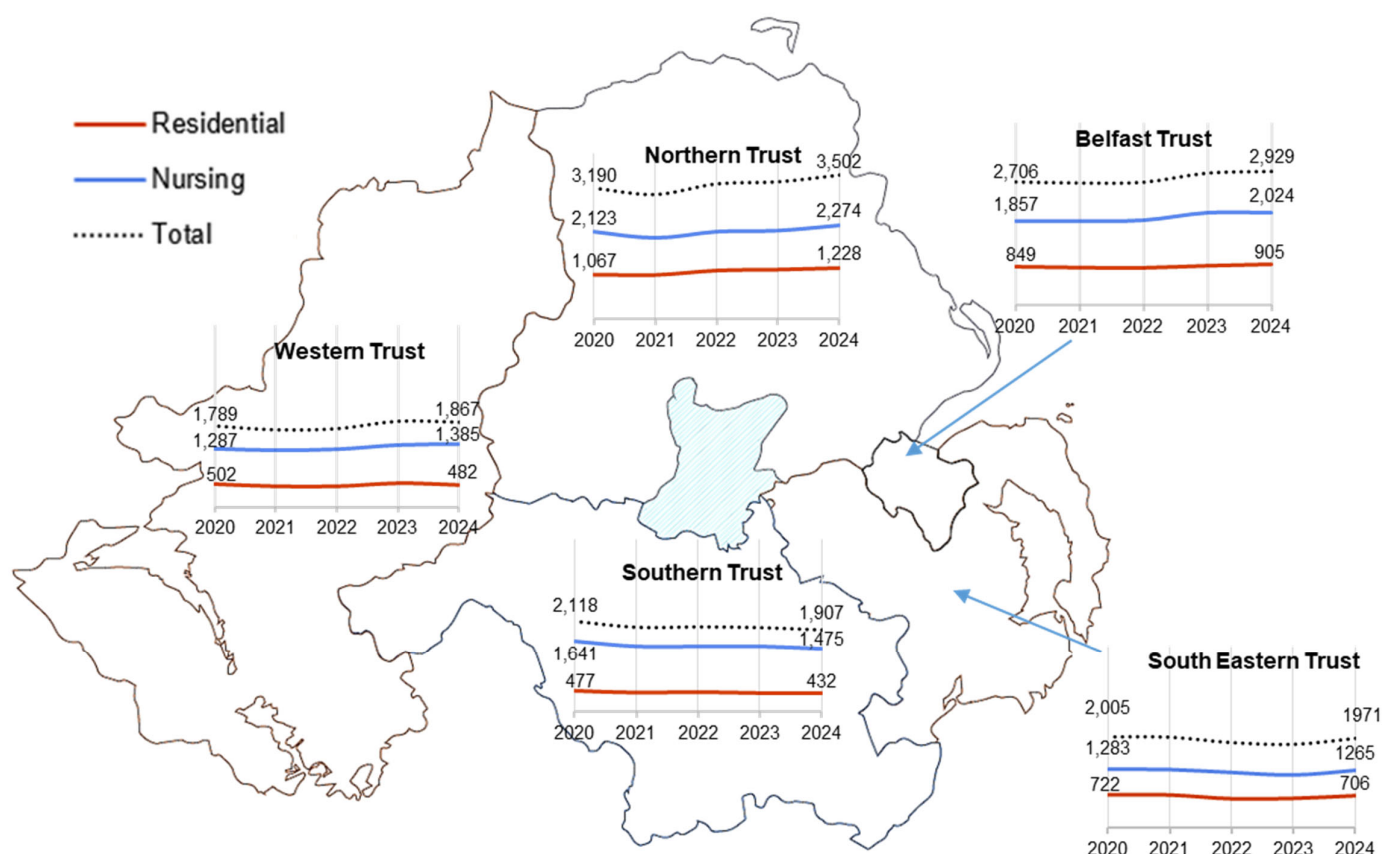
Figure 27 and the table of values below show the trend in the number of residential and nursing home care packages in effect between 2020 and 2024 for each of the five HSC Trusts.

The number of nursing home care packages in effect between 2020 and 2024 has decreased in Southern (-10%, 166) HSC Trust. There were increases in nursing home care packages over the same period in Belfast (9%, 167), Northern (7%, 151) and Western (8%, 98) HSC Trusts.

Similarly, the number of residential care packages in effect between 2020 and 2024 increased in Northern (15%, 161), and Belfast (7%, 56) HSC Trusts. The number of residential care packages in effect decreased in Southern (-9%, 45), South Eastern (-2%, 16) and Western (-4%, 20) HSC Trusts during this time.

Figure 27 Northern Ireland care packages in effect 2020 – 2024*

Source: Health and Social Care Trust CC7 Returns



HSC Trust	Residential 2020	Residential 2024	Nursing 2020	Nursing 2024	Total 2020	Total 2024
Belfast	849	905	1,857	2,024	2,706	2,929
Northern	1,067	1,228	2,123	2,274	3,190	3,502
South Eastern*	722	706	1,283	1265	2,005	1971
Southern	477	432	1,641	1,475	2,118	1,907
Western	502	482	1,287	1,385	1,789	1,867

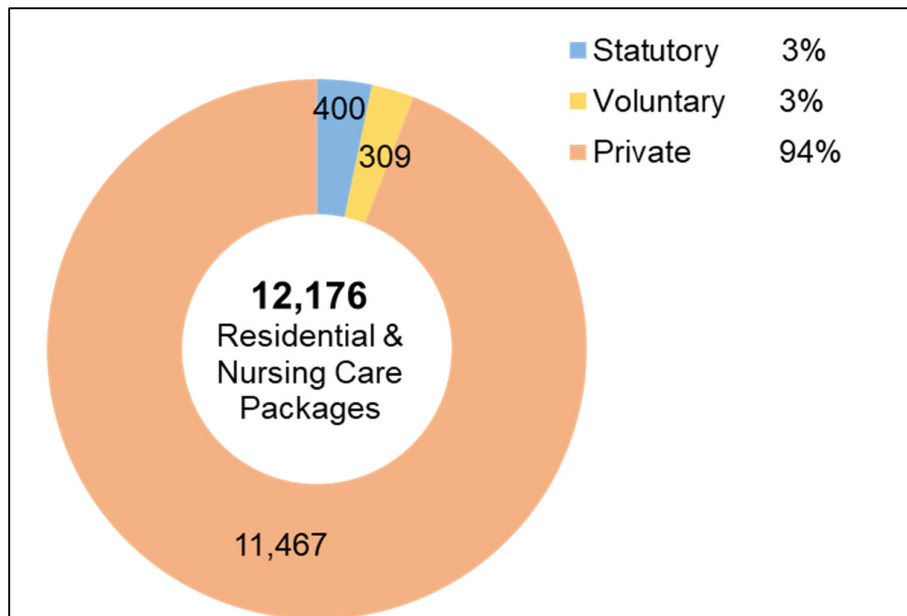
* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust relates to September 2023 as that is the most recent data available at time of publication due to the roll out of the Encompass computer system.

Residential & Nursing Home Care Packages as at 30 June 2024*, by Sector

Figure 28 below shows that, at 30 June 2024*, there were 12,176 residential and nursing care packages. Over nine tenths (94%, 11,467) of residential and nursing home care packages were provided by the private sector. The statutory and voluntary sectors provided much smaller proportions of residential and nursing home care packages (3%, 400 and 3%, 309 respectively).

Figure 28 Residential & Nursing Home Care Packages as at 30 June 2024*, by Sector

Source: Health and Social Care Trust CC7 Returns



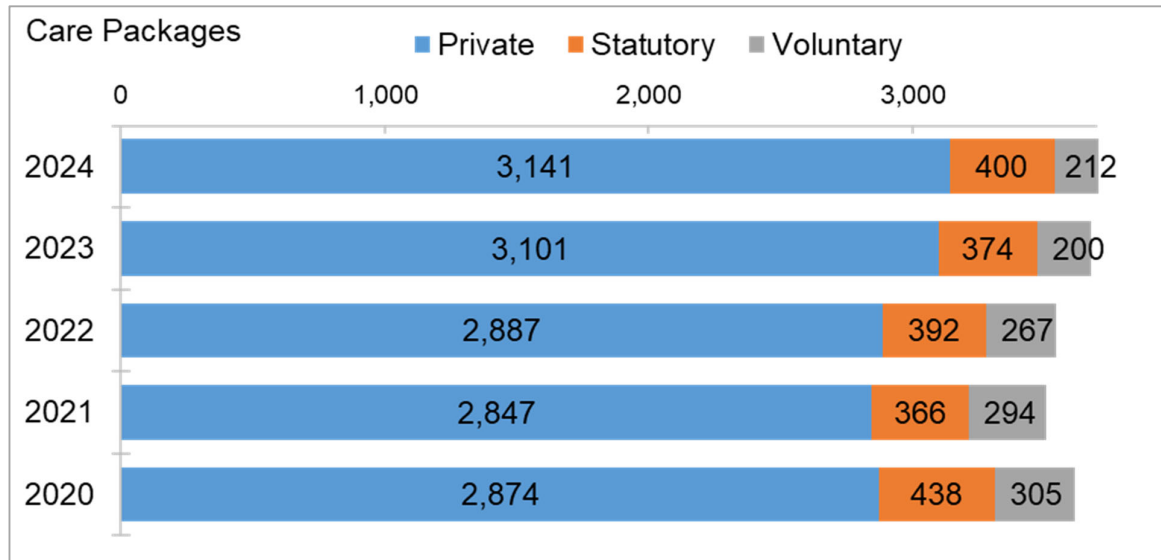
Residential Home Care Packages in Effect as at 30 June 2020 – 2024*, by Sector

Since 30 June 2020, the number of residential care packages in the private sector has increased by 9% (267), but those in the statutory and voluntary sectors have decreased by 9% (-38) and 30% (-93) respectively. These trends can be seen in Figure 29 below.

From 2023 to 2024, there is a slight increase in private sector numbers (1%, from 3,101 to 3,141). There are also increases in both statutory (6%, from 200 to 212), and voluntary (7%, from 374 to 400) sector numbers.

Figure 29 Residential Care Packages in Effect 2020 – 2024*

Source: Health and Social Care Trust CC7 Returns

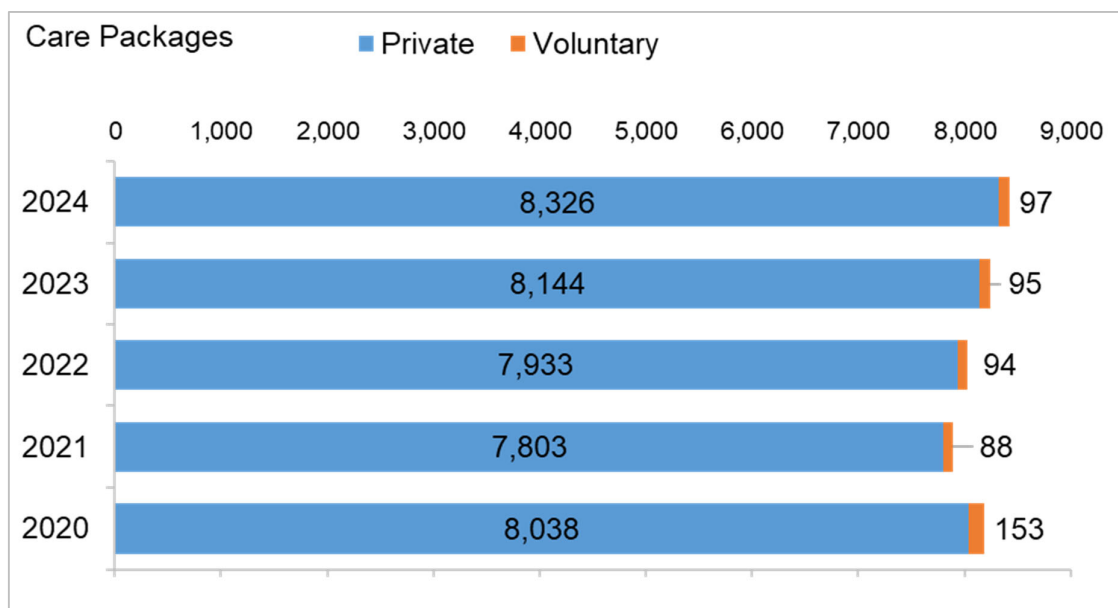


Nursing Home Care Packages in Effect as at 30 June 2020 – 2024*, by Sector

Since 30 June 2020, the number of nursing home care packages has increased in the private sector by 4% (288) while decreasing in the voluntary sector, as shown in Figure 30 below. A similar trend can be seen in the number of residential care packages, as shown in figure 29.

Figure 30 Nursing Care Packages in Effect 2020 – 2024*

Source: Health and Social Care Trust CC7 Returns



Appendix A: Definitions of Terms

Financial Year - a year defined with respect to accounting/ financial purpose, and runs 1st April to 31st of the following year. For example 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

Calendar Year – the period of 365 days defined from 1st January to the 31st December.

Health Social Care (HSC) Trusts – authorities which manage and administer integrated health and social care services across Northern Ireland: They are Belfast HSC Trust, Northern HSC Trust, South Eastern HSC Trust, Southern HSC Trust, and Western HSC Trust. It is important to note that in a minority of cases the community service provided by the HSC Trust may have taken place in a hospital setting. When comparing data at HSC Trust level with earlier years it is important to note that due to a reorganisation of facilities within some HSC Trusts the comparison may not be on a like with like basis.

Sector – describes the type of organisation delivering the service. Three sector types are referenced in this publication: **statutory**, **independent**, or **voluntary**. Services delivered by the HSC Trust are described as statutory. Services provided by private organisations are described as independent. The voluntary sector describes **non-profit organisations and non-governmental**.

Client Groups are categories into which persons are classed dependent on their disability / impairment.

Client Group	Definition
Elderly	<p>Refers to persons who are aged 65 years or more on the Physical & Sensory and No Material Disablement returns.</p> <p>For 'Persons Receiving Meals on Wheels', the elderly client group is defined as the sum of the persons aged 65+, within the registrable physical disability and not materially handicapped groups, on the KMW2 return.</p> <p>For 'Persons Registered to attend Daycare Facilities', the elderly client group is defined as the sum of the persons aged 65+ on the KDC2(iii) and KDC2(iv) returns, respectively.</p>
Designated Mentally Ill	<p>Refers to persons who in the professional opinion of a doctor - GP or Psychiatrist - are suffering from a mental or psychiatric illness. Mental illness means a state of mind which affects a person's thinking, perceiving, emotion or judgement to the extent that he/ she requires care or medical treatment in his/ her own interests or in the interests of other people.</p>

Client Group	Definition
Learning Disabled	Refers to persons who have a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind which includes significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning. To be included in this group a person must be on the Trust's register of learning disabled people.
Physically Disabled / Sensory Impaired	Refers to persons who are substantially and permanently disabled by illness, or otherwise, including the chronically sick. This group will include the following groups: blind, partially sighted, deaf with speech, deaf without speech, hard of hearing and general classes (i.e. those whose primary disablement is neither visual nor auditory).
Severely Sight Impaired	Describes persons in receipt of a Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) - Severely sight Impaired.
Sight Impaired	Describes persons in receipt of a Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) - Sight Impaired.
Visually Impaired	Describes persons who have not met a diagnostic clinical threshold of sight impairment/ are not in receipt of Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI), but require support from the sensory team to navigate their daily life.
Deaf	Persons who are culturally Deaf i.e. persons who use British Sign Language.
deaf	Persons who cannot hear.
Hard of hearing	Persons with mild-to-moderate hearing loss, not including tinnitus.
Without Material Disablement	Refers to those persons, without a physical or mental impairment or learning disability, who have not been included in other client groups.

Programmes of Care (POC's) are divisions of health care, into which activity and finance data are assigned, as to provide a common management framework to support strategic planning. While there are 9 POC groups, only 5 are set out below which fall within the community setting.

PoC	Group	Definition
4	Elderly	<p>Include all community contacts to those aged 65 and over except where the reason for the contact was because of mental illness or learning disability.</p> <p>Include all community contacts where the reason for the contact was dementia, regardless of the client's age. (However, Down's syndrome clients who develop dementia should remain in POC 6 for any dementia related care or treatment).</p> <p>Include all physical and/or sensory disabled clients aged 65 and over.</p> <p>Include all work relating to homes for the elderly, including those for the Elderly Mentally Infirm.</p>
5	Mental Health	<p>Exclude all community contacts where the reason for the contact was dementia. (Dementia activity should be allocated to POC 4.</p> <p>However, Down's syndrome clients who develop dementia should remain in POC 6 for any dementia related care or treatment).</p> <p>Exclude all activity relating to residential accommodation for the Elderly Mentally Infirm. (This activity should be included in POC 4).</p>
6	Learning Disability	<p>Include all community contacts where the primary reason for the contact was learning disability, regardless of age.</p> <p>Include community contacts with Down's syndrome clients who develop dementia.</p>
7	Physical & Sensory Disability	<p>Include all community contacts where the primary reason for the contact was physical and/or sensory disability, except those aged 65 and over. (These contacts should be allocated to POC 4 upon reaching 65).</p>
9	Primary Health & Adult Community	<p>Include community clients aged between 16 and 64, for whom the primary reason for the contact is other than mental illness, learning disability, dementia or physical and sensory disablement should be allocated to POC 9 i.e. clients aged 16 to 64 with no material disablement.</p>

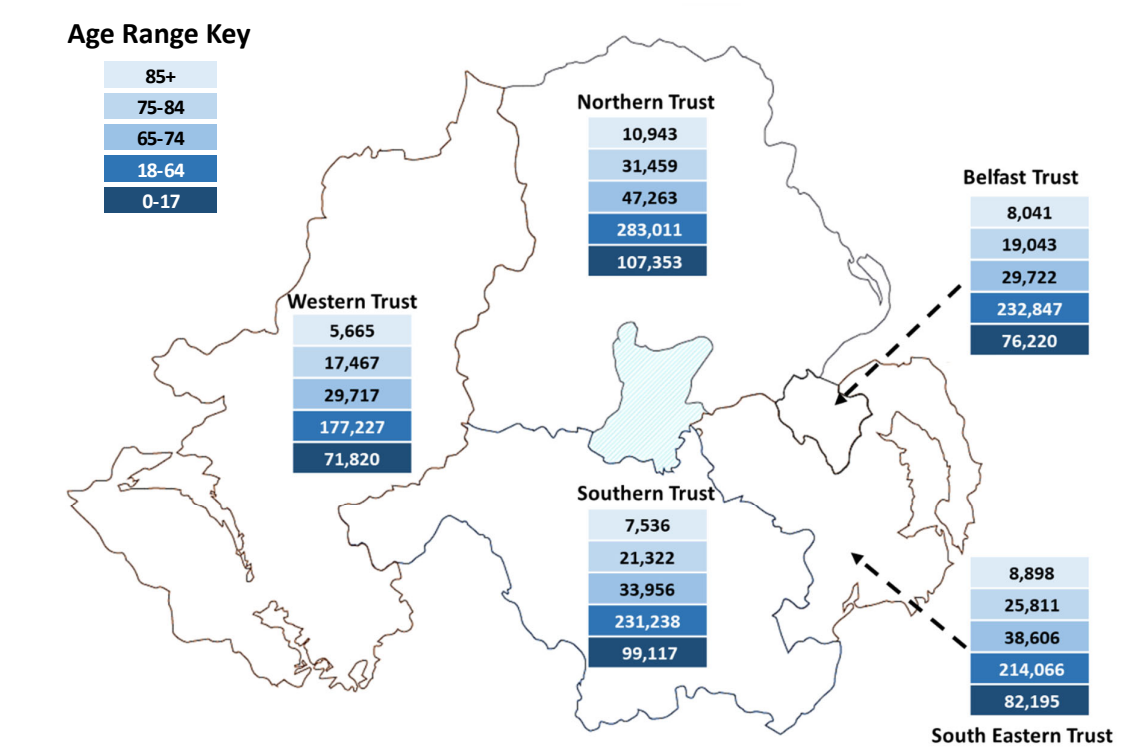
Day Care Settings – Three different types of daycare setting are described in the publication, a description of each is set out below.

Day Care setting	Definition
Adult Training/ Social Education Centres	These are establishments mainly for people over 16 years of age with a disability in which social and occupational training is provided with the objective of preparing those, who have the ability, to progress into workshops.
Workshops	This is where industrial therapy and contract work is undertaken, aimed at preparing those who are suitable for placement in open or sheltered employment in the community.
Day Centres	These are centres which have a full-time organiser and where professional staff are employed. They are open five or more days each week and provide a variety of activities for members and facilities for meals.

Appendix B: Geographical Area of HSC Trusts and Age-Profile of Population 2022

Source: Northern Ireland Mid-Year Population Estimates 2022 - Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency

Northern Ireland's population (30 June 2022) was 1,910,543.



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Section 1: Home Services

Table 1: Number of Domiciliary Care Recipients during September Survey Week

Reported figures exclude double counting i.e. clients receiving domiciliary care from both the Independent and the statutory sectors.

HSC Trust	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Belfast	4,274	4,218	4,251	4,275	4,075
Northern	5,384	4,898	5,103	4,979	5,363
South Eastern	5,220	5,076	5,322	5,279	5,597
Southern	4,872	4,026	4,654	4,603	4,637
Western	3,675	3,273	3,363	3,439	3,577
Northern Ireland	23,425	21,491	22,693	22,575	23,249

Table 2: Number of Domiciliary Care Visits during September Survey Week

HSC Trust	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Belfast	96,001	103,391	109,318	111,063	111,829
Northern	130,836	127,552	137,117	135,239	147,469
South Eastern	119,048	126,308	135,198	131,229	144,321
Southern	90,707	77,963	91,350	96,912	99,448
Western	78,636	74,368	78,435	77,065	87,771
Northern Ireland	515,228	509,582	551,418	551,508	590,838

Table 3: Number of Domiciliary Care Contact Hours during September Survey Week

HSC Trust	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Belfast	41,010	45,763	49,145	51,126	50,844
Northern	60,609	59,528	62,857	61,186	56,490
South Eastern	75,194	79,045	86,318	87,313	89,088
Southern	58,508	57,133	61,244	58,666	59,242
Western	40,867	37,510	40,260	38,176	38,689
Northern Ireland	276,188	278,979	299,824	296,467	294,353

Further detail on the figures in the above three tables is available in the '[Northern Ireland Domiciliary Care Services for Adults 2023](#)' publication.

Table 4: Number of Persons Starting Re-ablement Services during the financial years 2019/20 - 2023/24

Source: SPPG

^In March 2020, the Belfast HSC Trust re-ablement service was reconfigured on a temporary basis to accommodate the management and care of COVID and/or end of life patients in the community, as a result no re-ablement activity took place during this month. Until July 2020, the re-ablement Service in Belfast Trust was put on a temporary hiatus.

~* South Eastern HSC Trust presented lower figures for 2019/20 due to a revised screening protocol, as did Northern HSC Trust in 2022/23.

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust was rolled forward from October 2023 as data was unavailable from November 2023 onwards due to the roll out of Encompass.

HSC Trust	2019/20 ^{^~*}	2020/21 [^]	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 [*]
Belfast	1,483	941	1,177	927	1,047
Northern	1,291	997	997	396	381
South Eastern	582	686	489	518	426
Southern	1,139	1,203	1,160	1,092	1,124
Western	957	757	774	733	756
Northern Ireland	5,452	4,584	4,597	3,666	3,734

Table 5: Number of persons discharged from Re-ablement Services during the financial years 2019/20 - 2023/24*

Source: SPPG

^ In March 2020, the Belfast HSC Trust re-ablement service was reconfigured on a temporary basis to accommodate the management and care of COVID and/or end of life patients in the community, as a result no re-ablement activity took place during this month. Until July 2020, the re-ablement Service in Belfast Trust was put on a temporary hiatus.

~* South Eastern HSC Trust presented lower figures for 2019/20 due to a revised screening protocol, as did Northern HSC Trust in 2022/23.

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust was rolled forward from October 2023 as data was unavailable from November 2023 onwards due to the roll out of Encompass.

HSC Trust	2019/20 ^{^~*}	2020/21 [^]	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24 [*]
Belfast	1,472	874	1,123	1,164	1,373
Northern	1,366	885	1,042	419	357
South Eastern	617	674	479	549	529
Southern	1,159	1,141	1,159	1,083	1,093
Western	993	714	741	675	746
Northern Ireland	5,607	4,288	4,544	3,890	4,098

Table 6: Number of persons discharged from Re-ablement Services with no ongoing care package / Occupational Therapy during the financial years 2019/20 - 2023/24*

Source: SPPG

^ In March 2020, the Belfast HSC Trust re-ablement service was reconfigured on a temporary basis to accommodate the management and care of COVID and/or end of life patients in the community, as a result no re-ablement activity took place during this month. From March 2020 until July 2020, the re-ablement Service in Belfast Trust was put on a temporary hiatus.

~* South Eastern HSC Trust presented lower figures for 2019/20 due to a revised screening protocol, as did Northern HSC Trust in 2022/23.

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust was rolled forward from October 2023 as data was unavailable from November 2023 onwards due to the roll out of Encompass.

HSC Trust	2019/20^{^~*}	2020/21[^]	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24*
Belfast	709	409	602	562	692
Northern	420	216	299	128	91
South Eastern	210	215	198	299	311
Southern	771	580	681	658	608
Western	468	312	380	307	364
Northern Ireland	2,578	1,732	2,160	1,954	2,066

Section 2: Community Services

Table 7: Number of Adults fitted with hearing aids by the statutory sector in NI 2019/20 – 2023/24*

Source: SPPG

* Northern HSC Trust figures for 2019/20 - 2020/21 reflect mainly activity for adult services, with some small activity for paediatric services also included. The Trust were able to provide adult service only figures from 2021/22.

~* South Eastern HSC Trust data for quarters ending December 2023 and March 2024 are not available due to the roll out of Encompass.

Any interpretation of this data should also consider the below:

1. Patients can have 2 hearing aids fitted.
2. Patients do not always have a fitting following a hearing aid fitting appointment, as some patients decide not to proceed at this point.
3. Patients can have a hearing aid fitted without a hearing aid fitting appointment as they have a “see and fit” diagnostic assessment appointment.

HSC Trust	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24~*
Belfast	3,528	1,610	1,727	3,998	3,374
Northern	3,469	1,638	4,029	3,246	3,004
South Eastern	5,588	4,086	5,271	5,270	2,094
Southern	2,466	1,084	1,271	1,841	2,097
Western	2,356	1,788	2,172	2,352	3,299
Northern Ireland	17,407	10,206	14,470	16,707	13,868

Table 8: Number of Adults fitted with hearing aids by the statutory sector in NI in each quarter of 2023/24

Source: SPPG

* South Eastern HSC Trust data for quarters ending December 2023 and March 2024 are not available due to the roll out of Encompass.

Any interpretation of this data should also consider the below:

1. Patients can have 2 hearing aids fitted.
2. Patients do not always have a fitting following a hearing aid fitting appointment, as some patients decide not to proceed at this point.
3. Patients can have a hearing aid fitted without a hearing aid fitting appointment as they have a “see and fit” diagnostic assessment appointment.

HSC Trust	Q1 (Apr – Jun 23)	Q2 (Jul – Sep 23)	Q3* (Oct – Dec 23)	Q4* (Jan – Mar 24)
Belfast	977	1,086	657	654
Northern	1,049	814	543	598
South Eastern	1,099	995	-	-
Southern	553	607	426	511
Western	779	704	871	945
Northern Ireland	4,457	4,206	2,497	2,708

Table 9: Registered Day Care Facilities across HSC Trusts at March 2024

Source: RQIA

HSC Trust	Statutory	Independent	All Facilities
Belfast	21	5	26
Northern	24	2	26
South Eastern	11	14	25
Southern	21	7	28
Western	31	17	48
Northern Ireland	111	42	153

Table 10: Persons Registered at Statutory Day Care Facilities by client group at 31st March 2020 – 2024*

Source: DoH KDC2 (i) - (iv) Return

* Please note individual columns may not sum to the N.I. total due to unknown age-bands being returned.

^ The Elderly client group is comprised of persons in the Physical/Sensory Disability or No Material Disablement groups aged 65+.

HSC Trust	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Elderly ^	2,294	1,568	1,425	1,478	1,735
Mental Health	709	682	522	524	602
Learning Disability	2,844	2,739	2,627	2,504	2,446
Physical/ Sensory Disability <65	426	440	400	371	394
No Material Disablement <65	183	173	151	149	195
Northern Ireland	6,552	5,686	5,210	5,118	5,467

Table 11: Persons Registered at Statutory Day Care Facilities, by Age, by Trust at March 31st 2020 – 2024*

Source: DoH KDC2 (i) - (iv) Return

* Please note individual rows may not sum to the N.I. total due to unknown age-bands being returned.

^ As some Western HSC Trust data is provided by manual returns, age-band information could not be provided for all persons.

HSC Trust	2020 < 65	2020 65+	2021 < 65	2021 65+	2022 < 65	2022 65+	2023 < 65	2023 65+	2024 < 65	2024 65+
Belfast	900	1,026	889	632	853	573	791	645	822	753
Northern	1,041	677	957	518	897	464	836	458	865	568
South Eastern	715	81	677	99	599	78	601	62	596	62
Southern	419	500	425	392	411	348	391	299	380	366
Western ^	494	381	-	271	464	289	428	307	416	331
Northern Ireland	3,569	2,665	2,948	1,912	3,224	1,752	3,047	1,771	3,079	2,080
NI Total		6,552		5,686		5,210		5,118		5,467

Table 12: Persons Registered at Statutory Day Care Facilities by Settings, by Age, by Trust at March 31st 2024

Source: DoH KDC2 (i) - (iv) Return

* As some Western HSC Trust data is provided by manual returns, age-band information could not be provided for all persons.

AT/SEC = Adult Training/Social Education Centres & Workshops

HSC Trust	AT / SEC (<65)	AT / SEC (65+)	Day Centres (<65)	Day Centres (65+)	All Facilities (<65)	All Facilities (65+)
Belfast	0	0	822	753	822	753
Northern	601	89	264	479	865	568
South Eastern	0	0	596	62	596	62
Southern	0	0	380	366	380	366
Western *	416	40	0	291	416	331
Northern Ireland	1,017	129	2,062	1,951	3,079	2,080

Table 13: Residential Accommodation in Northern Ireland, by Type of Home as at 30 June 2024

Source: RQIA

Residential beds in nursing homes have been excluded from Table 16 to avoid double counting.

HSC Trust	Statutory Homes	Statutory Beds	Independent Homes	Independent Beds	Total Homes	Total Beds
Belfast	11	197	32	942	43	1,139
Northern	10	260	51	1,191	61	1,451
South Eastern	8	227	50	1,260	58	1,487
Southern	4	100	23	448	27	548
Western	10	181	25	438	35	619
Northern Ireland	43	965	181	4,279	224	5,244

Table 14: Nursing Accommodation in Northern Ireland, by Type of Home as at 30 June 2023

Source: RQIA

The Independent category reflects homes/beds previously denoted as dual.

HSC Trust	Statutory Homes	Statutory Beds	Independent Homes	Independent Beds	Total Homes	Total Beds
Belfast	3	85	41	1,825	44	1,910
Northern	0	0	64	2,608	64	2,608
South Eastern	0	0	55	2,635	55	2,635
Southern	2	28	45	1,920	47	1,948
Western	0	0	31	1,449	31	1,449
Northern Ireland	5	113	236	10,437	241	10,550

Table 15: Care Packages in Effect, by Care Type and sector at 30 June 2024

Source: DoH CC7 Return

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust relates to September 2023 as that is the most recent data available at time of publication due to the roll out of the Encompass computer system.

“0” represents a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the smallest cells have been zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally

HSC Trust	Statutory Residential	Voluntary Residential	Private Residential	Total Residential	Statutory Nursing	Voluntary Nursing	Private Nursing	Total Nursing	All Sectors
Belfast	98	18	789	905	0	0	2,024	2,024	2,929
Northern	34	0	1,194	1,228	0	0	2,274	2,274	3,502
South Eastern*	139	111	456	706	0	39	1226	1265	1971
Southern	28	5	399	432	0	0	1,475	1,475	1,907
Western	101	78	303	482	0	58	1,327	1,385	1,867
Northern Ireland	400	212	3,141	3,753	0	97	8,326	8,423	12,176

Table 16: Care Packages in Effect, in Elderly Programme of Care, by Care Type and Sector at 30 June 2024

Source: DoH CC7 Return

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust relates to September 2023 as that is the most recent data available at time of publication due to the roll out of the Encompass computer system.

“0” represents a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the smallest cells have been zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally

HSC Trust	Statutory Residential	Voluntary Residential	Private Residential	Total Residential	Statutory Nursing	Voluntary Nursing	Private Nursing	Total Nursing	All Sectors
Belfast	65	0	628	693	0	0	1,588	1,588	2,281
Northern	17	0	994	1,011	0	0	1,827	1,827	2,838
South Eastern*	128	50	357	535	0	35	1,045	1,080	1,615
Southern	26	0	289	315	0	0	1,155	1,155	1,470
Western	61	29	226	316	0	29	1,147	1,176	1,492
Northern Ireland	297	79	2,494	2,870	0	64	6,762	6,826	9,696

Table 17: Care Packages in Effect, in Mental Health programme of Care, by Care Type and Sector at 30 June 2024

Source: DoH CC7 return

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust relates to September 2023 as that is the most recent data available at time of publication due to the roll out of the Encompass computer system.

“0” represents cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the smallest cells have been zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

HSC Trust	Statutory Residential	Voluntary Residential	Private Residential	Total Residential	Statutory Nursing	Voluntary Nursing	Private Nursing	Total Nursing	All Sectors
Belfast	0	0	66	66	0	0	155	155	221
Northern	0	0	85	85	0	0	143	143	228
South Eastern*	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	41	57
Southern	0	0	0	38	0	0	112	112	150
Western	0	0	29	29	0	0	0	71	100
Northern Ireland	3	0	231	234	0	1	521	522	756

Table 18: Care Packages in Effect, in Learning Disability programme of Care, by Care Type and Sector at 30 June 2024

Source: DoH CC7 return

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust relates to September 2023 as that is the most recent data available at time of publication due to the roll out of the Encompass computer system.

“0” represents a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the smallest cells have been zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

HSC Trust	Statutory Residential	Voluntary Residential	Private Residential	Total Residential	Statutory Nursing	Voluntary Nursing	Private Nursing	Total Nursing	All Sectors
Belfast	33	18	82	133	0	0	157	157	290
Northern	0	0	88	105	0	0	173	173	278
South Eastern*	9	59	79	147	0	0	0	93	240
Southern	0	0	69	75	0	0	152	152	227
Western	39	47	43	129	0	0	0	73	202
Northern Ireland	99	129	361	589	0	30	618	648	1237

Table 19: Care Packages in Effect, in Physical & Sensory Disability programme of Care, by Care Type and Sector at 30 June 2024

Source: DoH CC7 Return

* Data for South Eastern HSC Trust relates to September 2023 as that is the most recent data available at time of publication due to the roll out of the Encompass computer system.

“0” represents a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the smallest cells have been zeroed. For this reason, some row or column totals may not tally

HSC Trust	Statutory Residential	Voluntary Residential	Private Residential	Total Residential	Statutory Nursing	Voluntary Nursing	Private Nursing	Total Nursing	All Sectors
Belfast	0	0	13	13	0	0	124	124	137
Northern	0	0	27	27	0	0	131	131	158
South Eastern*	0	0	6	8	0	0	0	51	59
Southern	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	56	60
Western	0	0	0	8	0	0	65	65	73
Northern Ireland	1	4	55	60	0	2	425	427	487

Table 20: Total Care Packages in Effect, as at 30 June 2021-2024

Source: DoH CC7 Return

HSC Trust	2021 Residential	2021 Nursing	2021 Total	2022 Residential	2022 Nursing	2022 Total	2023 Residential	2023 Nursing	2023 Total	2024 Residential	2024 Nursing	2024 Total
Belfast	828	1,855	2,683	824	1,875	2,699	871	2,023	2,894	905	2,024	2,929
Northern	1,060	1,975	3,035	1,168	2,123	3,291	1,191	2,149	3,340	1,228	2,274	3,502
South Eastern	721	1,278	1,999	646	1,223	1,869	654	1,173	1,827	706	1,265	1,971
Southern	445	1,528	1,973	455	1,528	1,983	437	1,530	1,967	432	1,475	1,907
Western	453	1,255	1,708	453	1,278	1,731	522	1,364	1,886	482	1,385	1,867
Northern Ireland	3,507	7,891	11,398	3,546	8,027	11,573	3,675	8,239	11,914	3,753	8,423	12,176

**Table 21: Activity Trends for Care Packages by Programme of Care (POC)
(2019/20 – 2023/24)**

Source: DoH CC7 Return

Client Group	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Elderly	9,358	8,961	9,057	9,396	9,696
Mental Health	688	690	709	770	756
Learning Disability	1,308	1,305	1,362	1,263	1,237
Physical/ Sensory Disability	454	442	445	485	487
Total	11,808	11,398	11,573	11,914	12,176

Table 22: Residential Accommodation for Elderly Persons, by Sector at 31 March 2024

Source: DoH KEL1 Return

Abbreviations: Avg Avail = Average Available places. Avg Occ Statutory = Average Occupied Places in Statutory Homes

HSC Trust	Residential Statutory	Residential Voluntary	Residential Private	Residential Dual	Residential Total	Avg Avail Statutory	Avg Avail Voluntary	Avg Avail Private	Avg Avail Dual	Avg Avail Total	Avg Occ Statutory
Belfast	3	9	10	5	27	84	354	293	100	831	89
Northern	7	0	44	0	51	141	0	1,118	0	1,259	74
South Eastern	6	7	26	0	39	194	278	611	0	1,083	148
Southern	4	1	6	13	24	99	41	162	131	433	77
Western	5	3	13	0	21	147	56	250	0	453	85
Northern Ireland	25	20	99	18	162	665	729	2,434	231	4,059	473

Table 23: Residential Accommodation for Persons with a Learning Disability, by Sector at 31 March 2024

Source: DoH KMH1 Return

Abbreviations: Avg Avail = Average Available places. Avg Occ Statutory = Average Occupied Places in Statutory Homes

HSC Trust	Residential Statutory	Residential Voluntary	Residential Private	Residential Dual	Residential Total	Avg Avail Statutory	Avg Avail Voluntary	Avg Avail Private	Avg Avail Dual	Avg Avail Total	Avg Occ Statutory
Belfast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern	2	0	0	0	2	12	0	0	0	12	6
South Eastern	2	5	6	0	13	12	83	124	0	219	7
Southern	0	2	6	1	9	0	17	56	3	76	0
Western	3	5	3	0	11	44	66	42	0	152	42
Northern Ireland	7	12	15	1	35	68	166	222	3	459	55

Table 24: Activity Trends for Social Care (2019/20 – 2023/24)

Source: DoH KPH2(i-iii) & KMH2, DoH CC7, DoH KMW2, RQIA, DoH KDC2(i-iv)

Activity Indicator	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	% Change over last 5 years (2019/20 - 2023/24)
Care Packages in Effect	11,808	11,398	11,573	11,914	12,176	3%
Available Residential Care Beds	5,278	5,347	5,262	5,265	5,244	-1%
Available Nursing Care Beds	10,802	10,724	10,626	10,572	10,550	-2%
Persons Registered at Statutory Day Care Facilities	6,552	5,686	5,210	5,118	5,467	-17%

Appendix D: Technical Notes

Report Time Period

All information in this publication refers to the period 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024 or position at 31st March 2024 unless stated otherwise. The cut-off point for amendments to data was 1st January 2025. Any amendments notified by HSC Trusts after this date will not have been included.

Disclosure Conventions

To prevent disclosure of the identity of individuals, it has been necessary to apply disclosure control methods. Where figures to be reported are small or may be deduced from row or column totals, these have been treated using professionally agreed methods of suppression to ensure confidentiality is maintained and that no individual is capable of being identified. Where information has been suppressed the method used is indicated in the publication. Our policy statement on disclosure and confidentiality can be found in the DoH Statistics Charter.

Rounding Conventions

Percentages have been rounded to whole numbers and as a consequence some percentages may not sum to 100. 0% may reflect rounding down of values under 0.5%.

Revisions Policy

These data are revised by exception. If revisions are required, background circumstances are reported and revision dates are noted in subsequent publications of these series of statistics. The general revisions policy for Official Statistics produced by the DoH can be found in the DoH Statistics Charter.

Data Sources

The majority of data presented in this report is underpinned by 13 Departmental annual Korner Aggregate Returns (KARs). These returns are completed by each of the 5 HSC Trusts. An overview of these returns and the data that they collect is set out below. The individual 'KAR' and CC7 templates, and associated guidance can be viewed on this Departmental webpage. A copy of the CC7b Domiciliary Care Survey and accompanying guidance can be viewed on the departmental webpage.

Departmental Returns	Description of Data Collected
KDC2(i)	Persons registered at statutory day care facilities by client group and age at 31 March – Designated mentally ill
KDC2(ii)	Persons registered at statutory day care facilities by client group and age at 31 March – Learning disabled
KDC2(iii)	Persons registered at statutory day care facilities by client group and age at 31 March – Registerable physically disabled
KDC2(iv)	Persons registered at statutory day care facilities by client group and age at 31 March – Persons without material disablement
KEL1	Residential homes for elderly people; year ending 31 March.
KMH1	Residential homes for people with a learning disability; year ending 31 March.
KMH2	Learning disabled persons with whom Trust had contact and no. of new referrals, during year ending 31 March
KMW2	Persons receiving meals on wheels service by age, sex and major disability; at 31 March.
KPH1	Residential homes solely for physically disabled people; year ending 31 March
KPH2 (i)	Registerable physically disabled people – general classes, who had contact with the Trust and no. of new referrals, during year ending 31 March
KPH2 (ii)	Severely Sight Impaired, Sight Impaired & Visually Impaired sighted people who had contact with the Trust and no. of new referrals, during year ending 31 March
KPH2 (iii)	Deaf, deaf and hard of hearing people who had contact with the Trust, and no. of new referrals, during year ending 31 March
CC7	Quarterly CC7 Community Information Return – Residential and nursing home care packages in effect at end of quarter
CC7b	Annual Departmental Domiciliary Care Survey carried out in September each year

Additional Sources

Return	Description of Data Collected
Re-ablement Return	Persons commencing and discharging from the re-ablement service as well as outcomes.
Audiology	<p>Please note the following when interpreting audiology data present in this publication. Data for completed waits in the financial year have been used as a proxy for statutory adult hearing aids fitted in the financial year. Any interpretation of this data should also consider the below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patients can have 2 hearing aids fitted.

Return	Description of Data Collected
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Patients do not always have a fitting following a hearing aid fitting appointment, as some patients decide not to proceed at this point. 3. Patients can have a hearing aid fitted without a hearing aid fitting appointment as they have a “see and fit” diagnostic assessment appointment.
Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)	RQIA is the independent body responsible for collecting registration data for residential, nursing and daycare facilities. Further information is available at: Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority Northern Ireland

Encompass

Encompass is a new electronic patient record system that will create a single digital care record for every citizen in Northern Ireland who receives health and social care. It aims to create better experiences for patients, service users and staff by bringing together information from various existing systems that do not currently communicate effectively.

The programme was first introduced in the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust (SEHSCT) on 9th November 2023 and will be rolled out on a phased basis across all Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland by the end of 2025. Further information about Encompass can be found at the link below.

[Encompass - DHCNI \(hscni.net\)](#)

Please note that due to the rollout of the new patients record IT system, Encompass, South Eastern HSC Trust has been unable to provide some data for some sections of this publication.

Statement of Administrative Sources

The ‘Statement of Administrative Sources’ describes the administrative/ management sources which the Department of Health, (DoH) currently uses to produce official statistics, or which have the potential to be so used.

Data Quality

Any information published is fully quality assured. HSC Trust service area and information staff liaise to validate their information returns prior to submission. On receipt of returns, statisticians in Community Information Branch (CIB) conduct internal consistency checks using historical data to monitor annual variations and/ or emerging trends, both regionally and for specific HSC Trusts.

Queries arising from validation checks are raised with HSC Trusts for clarification and if required returns may be amended and re-submitted. The HSC Trusts are also asked to provide appropriate explanations for any inconsistent or missing information. The detail around these processes is set out in the 'Quality Report for Statistics on Community Care' on the DoH website.

Data Format/ Availability

In order to aid secondary analysis, data is available both in spreadsheet format (Microsoft Excel and Open Document Spreadsheet format, and can be found on the 'Care not at Home' section of the Social Care Statistics webpage. Further adult community statistics, such as direct payment and domiciliary care can also be found on these webpages.

UK Social Care Community Statistics

Information within this report relates to Northern Ireland data. Similar publications for England, Scotland and Wales can be found by visiting/clicking on the titles below. Please note that inter-country comparisons are difficult as social care operates within different legislative frameworks across devolved administrations and a vast range of administrative systems exist from which statisticians extract statistical data.

- NHS Digital Adult Social Care Activity and Finance Reports (England)
[Adult Social Care Activity and Finance Report, England, 2023-24 - NHS England Digital](#)
- Insights in Social Care: Statistics for Scotland
[Insights in social care statistics for Scotland - Care home services funded by local authorities in Scotland, financial year 2022/23 - Insights in social care: statistics for Scotland - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#)
- Adult Health and Social Care Services in Wales
<https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Social-Services/Adult-Services/Service-Provision>

Future Publications

The next release of these statistics, for the year ending 31 March 2025, is scheduled for October 2025.

User Feedback

Any comments you have regarding this or any other publication produced by CIB are welcome. Your views help us to improve the service we provide to users of this information and to the wider public. Please send any comments you have to cib@health-ni.gov.uk.

The appropriate contact point for more detailed analyses or to answer queries in relation to the data is:

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This and other statistical bulletins published by Community Information Branch are available to download on the DoH website at:

Department of [Health Social Care Statistics](#)

This publication can be requested in large print or other formats.