



Constituency Profile

Belfast East

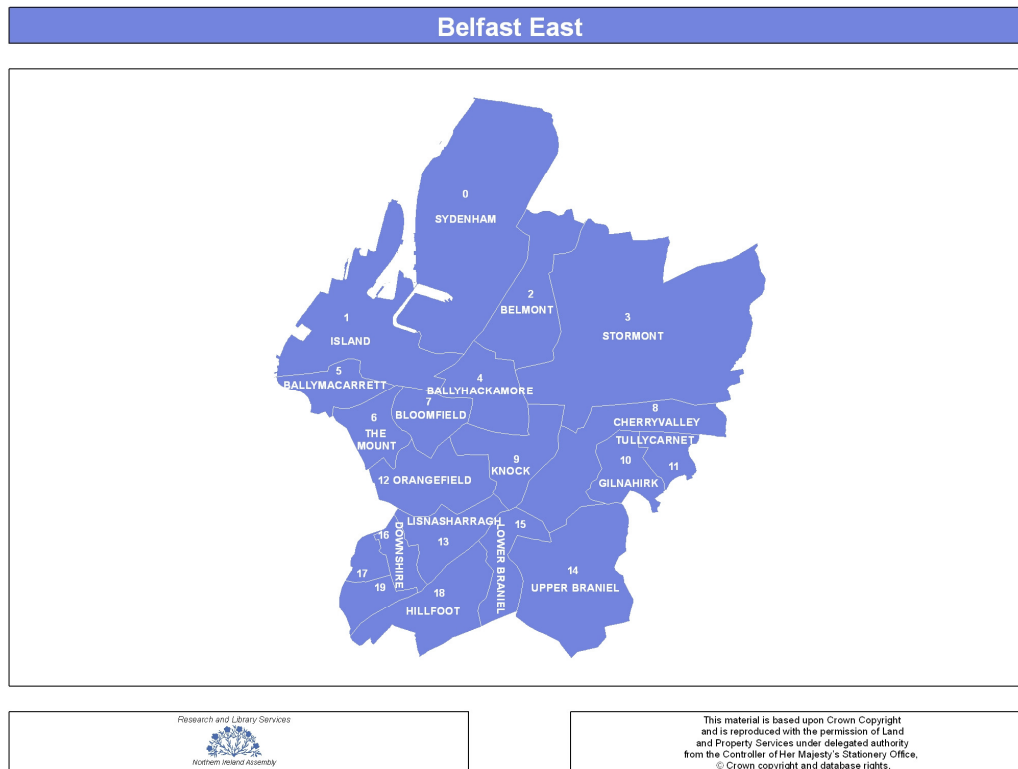


September 2010

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

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

This report presents a statistical profile of the Constituency of Belfast East which comprises of the 20 wards shown below.



| | | | |
|---|----------------|----|---------------|
| 0 | Sydenham | 10 | Gilnahirk |
| 1 | Island | 11 | Tullycarnet |
| 2 | Belmont | 12 | Orangefield |
| 3 | Stormont | 13 | Lisnasharragh |
| 4 | Ballyhackamore | 14 | Upper Braniel |
| 5 | Ballymacarrett | 15 | Lower Braniel |
| 6 | The Mount | 16 | Downshire |
| 7 | Bloomfield | 17 | Cregagh |
| 8 | Cherryvalley | 18 | Hillfoot |
| 9 | Knock | 19 | Wynchurch |

BELFAST EAST: KEY FACTS

Demographics

- An estimated 79,173 people live in Belfast East, the Constituency with the lowest population in 2008.
- The majority (84.6%) of people living in Belfast East are of Protestant community background.
- Belfast East has an older age profile than that of Northern Ireland with 23.5% of the population aged 60 and over, compared to 19.2% in Northern Ireland as a whole.

Health

- Life expectancy in Belfast East is 76.2 years for males and 81.4 years for females.

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

- Death rate due to cancer, respiratory disease and circulatory disease.
- Rate of cancer diagnosis, the Constituency with the highest rate.
- Hospital admission ratio due to self harm, the Constituency with the 3rd highest rate.
- Prevalence of coronary heart disease, stroke, hypertension, hypothyroid, atrial fibrillation, diabetes mellitus and chronic kidney disease amongst those attending GPs in Belfast East.

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

- Prevalence of obesity amongst those attending GPs in Belfast East.

Education

- A higher proportion of Belfast East post-primary pupils have a Statement of Special Educational Need compared to all Northern Ireland pupils, the Constituency with the 3rd highest proportion.
- A lower proportion of Belfast East school leavers achieve at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C compared to all Northern Ireland school leavers.

The Economy

- Belfast East was the Constituency that received the most financial assistance from Invest NI in 2008/09 totalling £30.8 million.
- A lower proportion 'Invest NI Start a Business' participants from Belfast East were offered financial assistance compared to the Northern Ireland figure.

Employment

- 41,823 employee jobs are located in Belfast East. Belfast East has a higher proportion of jobs in manufacturing and a slightly lower proportion of jobs in services compared to all employee jobs in Northern Ireland.
- In 2009, Belfast East was the Constituency with the 2nd highest number of redundancies with a total of 609 redundancies in the area.

Housing

- There are 36,771 properties in Belfast East. Belfast East has a lower proportion of detached properties and a higher proportion of terraced and semi-detached houses and apartments compared to Northern Ireland.
- A slightly lower proportion of planning applications were approved in Belfast East when compared to the proportion of Northern Ireland approvals.

Crime

Compared to the Northern Ireland rates, Belfast East has:

- A higher overall crime rate and higher rates of burglary and violent crime.
- Lower theft, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour rates.

Poverty

- Belfast East has the 6th highest proportion of people (19%) living in the most deprived Super Output Areas in Northern Ireland.

2010 Westminster Election Results

- 59,007 people were eligible to vote, the turnout (58.4%) was higher than Northern Ireland average of 56.7%.
- Alliance Party candidate Naomi Long won the Belfast East seat.

2007 Assembly Election Results

- 49,757 people eligible to vote, the turnout (59.5%) was lower than the Northern Ireland average of 62.3%.
- The DUP won 3 seats. Alliance Party, UUP and PUP won 1 seat each.

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DEMOGRAPHICS

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

Population Size

As at June 2008, an estimated 79,173 people live in Belfast East, representing 4.5% of the Northern Ireland population (*Source: Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA), Mid-Year Estimates*).

Belfast East is the Constituency with the lowest estimated population.

Community Background

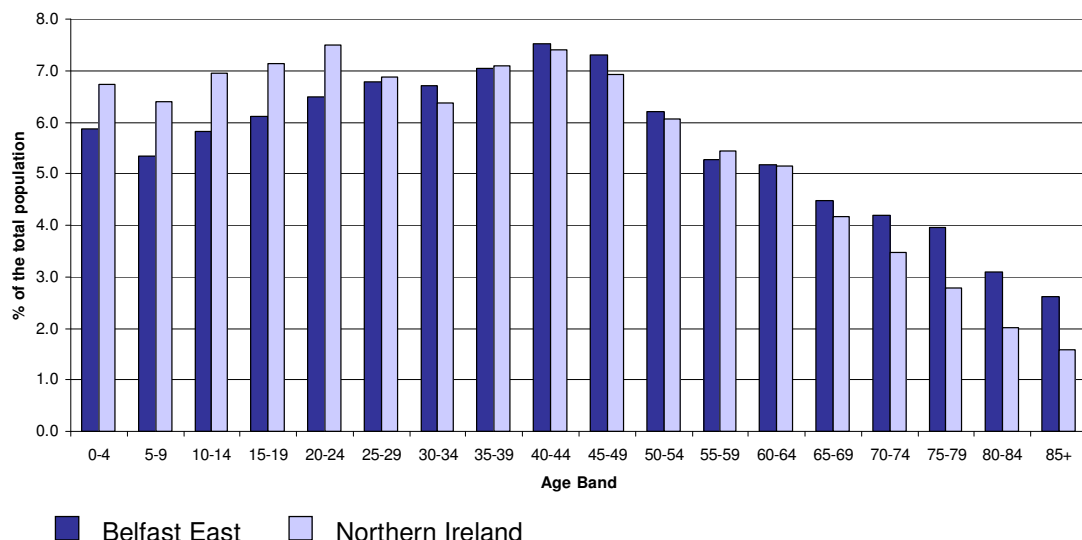
The majority (84.6%) of people living in Belfast East are of Protestant community background. One in ten (9.9%) people living in Belfast East are of Roman Catholic community background. The remainder are of other or no community background (*Source: NISRA, Census 2001*).

Age profile of Belfast East

Belfast East has an older age profile than that of Northern Ireland. Belfast East has a lower proportion of people aged under 16 (18.3% vs. 21.5%) and a higher proportion aged 60 and over (23.5% vs. 19.2%) than all of Northern Ireland.

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 2nd lowest proportion of people aged under 16 and the 2nd highest proportion of people aged 60 and over.

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



Source: NISRA (Mid-Year Estimates)

1. HEALTH

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

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

Life Expectancy of males

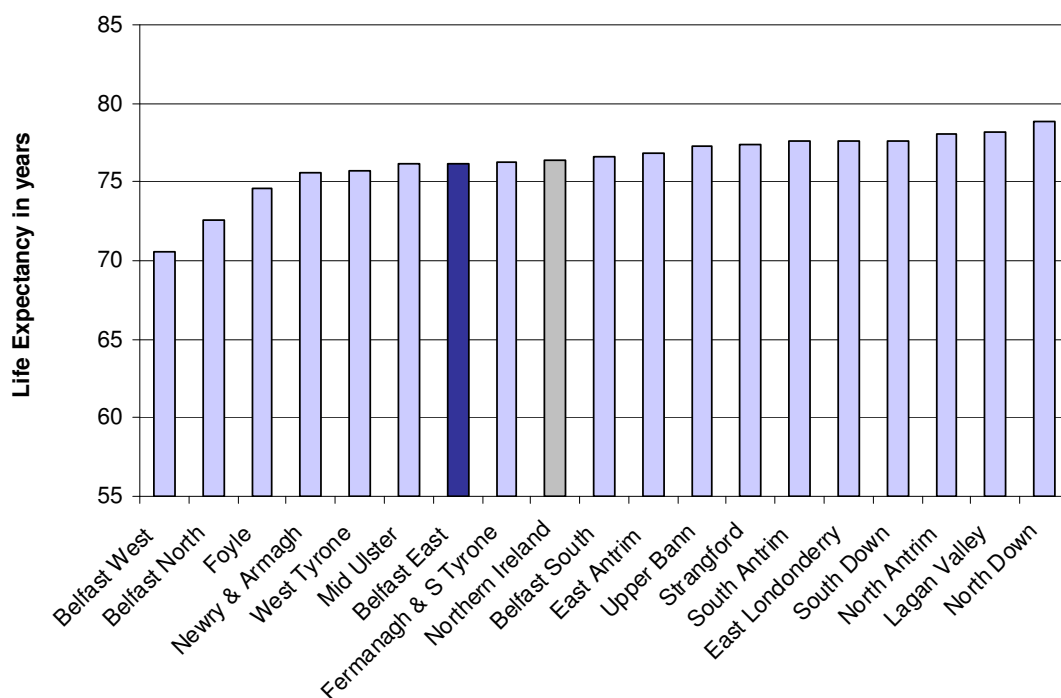
The life expectancy¹ of males living in Belfast East is estimated to be 76.2 years.

There is little difference in the life expectancy of males living in Belfast East and that of all Northern Ireland males which stands at 76.4 years.

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 7th lowest male life expectancy.

The life expectancy of males is lowest in the wards of Ballyhackamore, Ballymacarrett, Belmont, Bloomfield, Island, Knock, The Mount, Cregagh and Tullycarnet where it is less than 75 years. In the remaining 10 wards the life expectancy of males is greater than the Northern Ireland average but less than 85 years with the exception of the ward of Sydenham where it is greater than 75 years but less than the Northern Ireland average.²

Chart 2: Life expectancy of males, 2006-2008



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

¹ Calculated by Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) using the number of deaths provided by the General Register Office (GRO) and mid-year estimates provided by NISRA.

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

Life Expectancy of Females

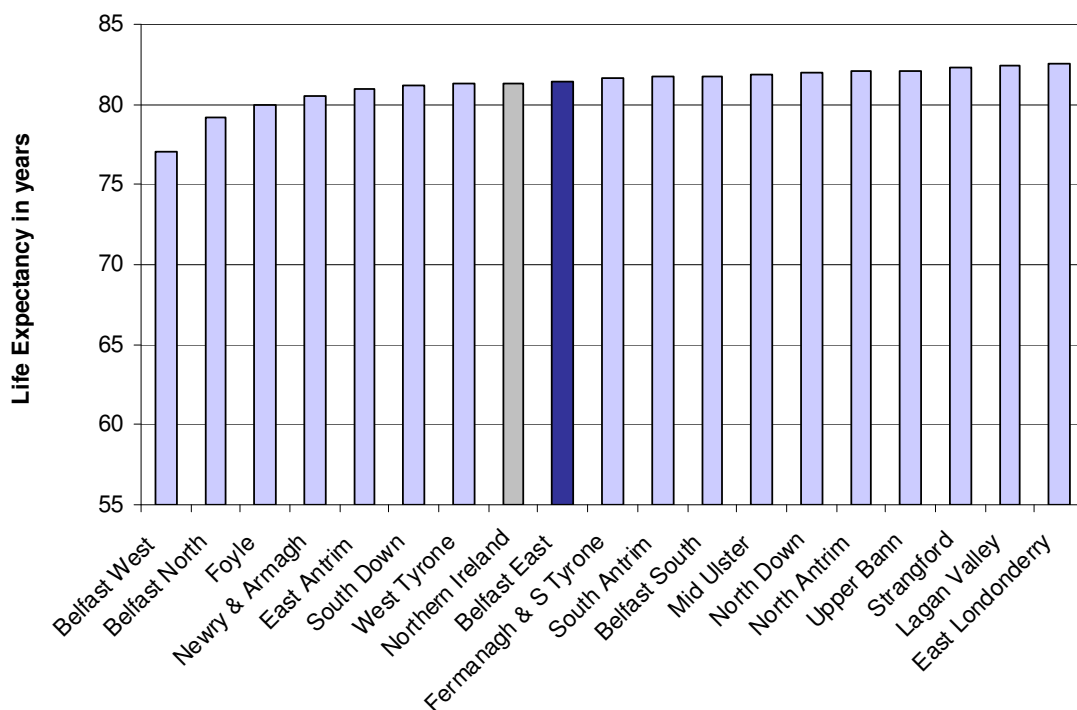
The life expectancy³ of females living in Belfast East is estimated to be 81.4 years.

As with males, there is little difference in the life expectancy of females living in Belfast East and that of all Northern Ireland females which stands at 81.3 years.

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 8th lowest female life expectancy.

The life expectancy of females is lowest in the wards of Ballyhackamore, Ballymacarrett, Belmont, Cherryvalley, Island, Stormont, The Mount, Cregagh, Downshire, Lisnasharragh and Tullycarnet where it is greater than 75 years but less than the Northern Ireland average and highest in the ward of Wynchurch where it is greater than 85 years.⁴

Chart 3: Life expectancy of females, 2006-2008



Source: NISRA, NINIS (DHSSPS)

³ Calculated by DHSSPS using the number of deaths provided by the GRO and mid-year estimates provided by NISRA.

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

Standardised Death Rates

The standardised death rates⁵ due to cancer, respiratory disease and circulatory disease are presented here. Standardisation allows for comparison between Constituencies having taken the characteristics of the populations into account i.e. age and sex profiles.

Standardised Death Rates due to Cancer

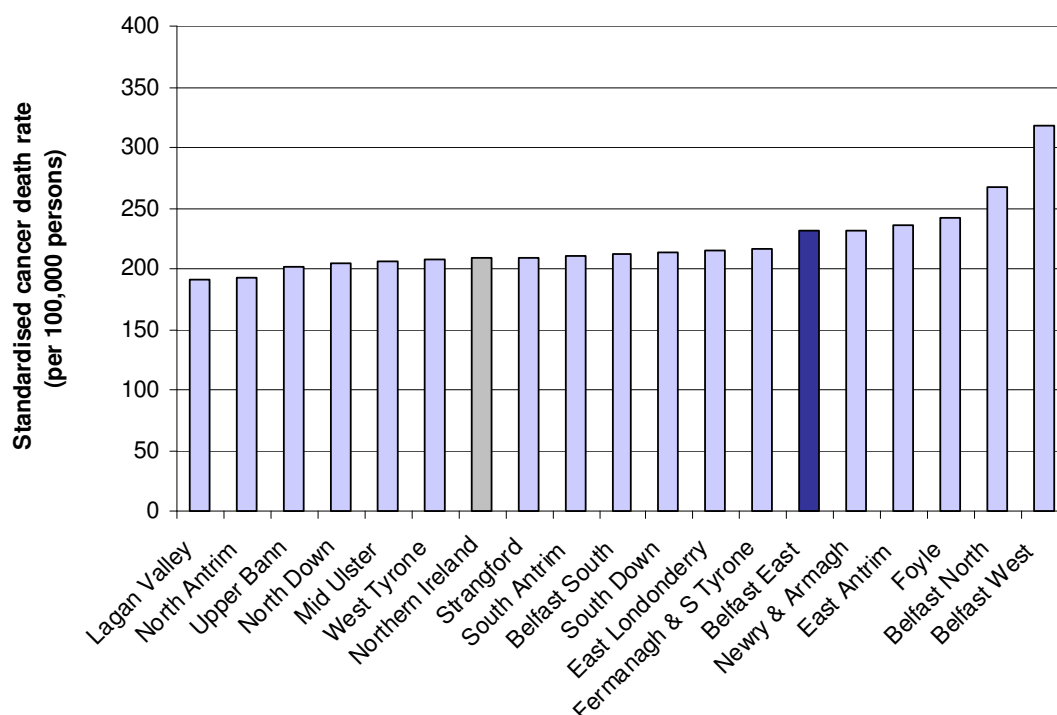
The standardised death rate due to cancer in Belfast East is 231 per 100,000 persons.

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

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 6th highest death rate due to cancer.

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

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



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

⁵ Rates are based on the number of deaths provided by the General Register Office and 2004 - 2008 mid-year estimates provided by NISRA.

Standardised Death Rates due to Respiratory Disease

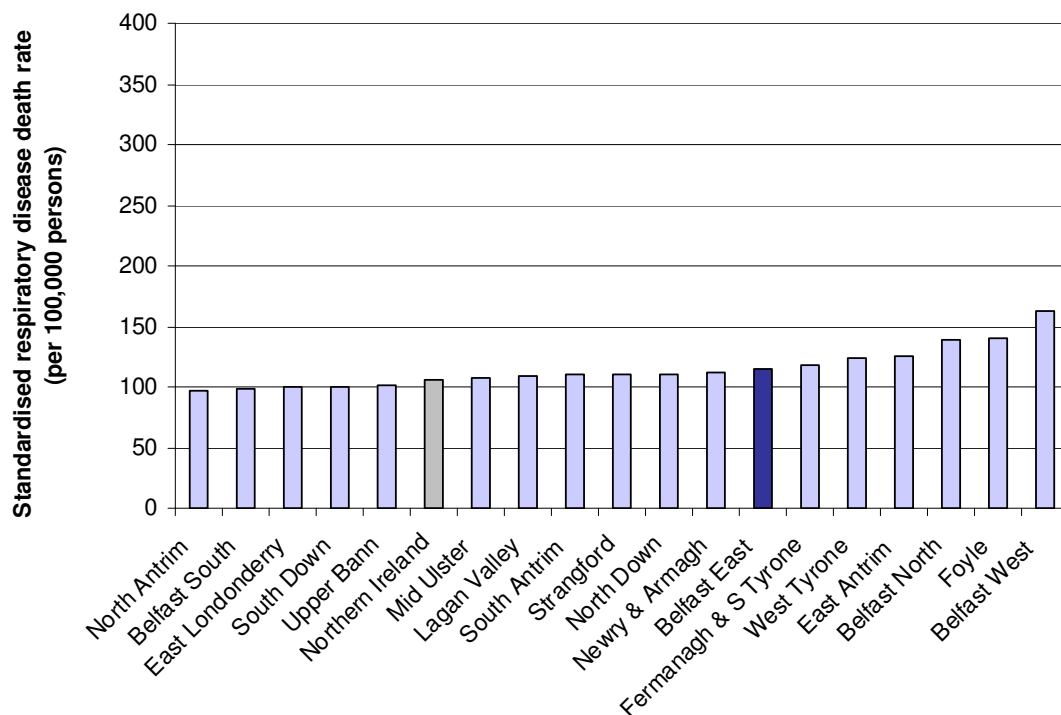
The standardised death rate due to respiratory disease in Belfast East is 115 per 100,000 persons.

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

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 7th highest death rate due to respiratory disease.

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

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

Standardised Death Rates due to Circulatory Disease

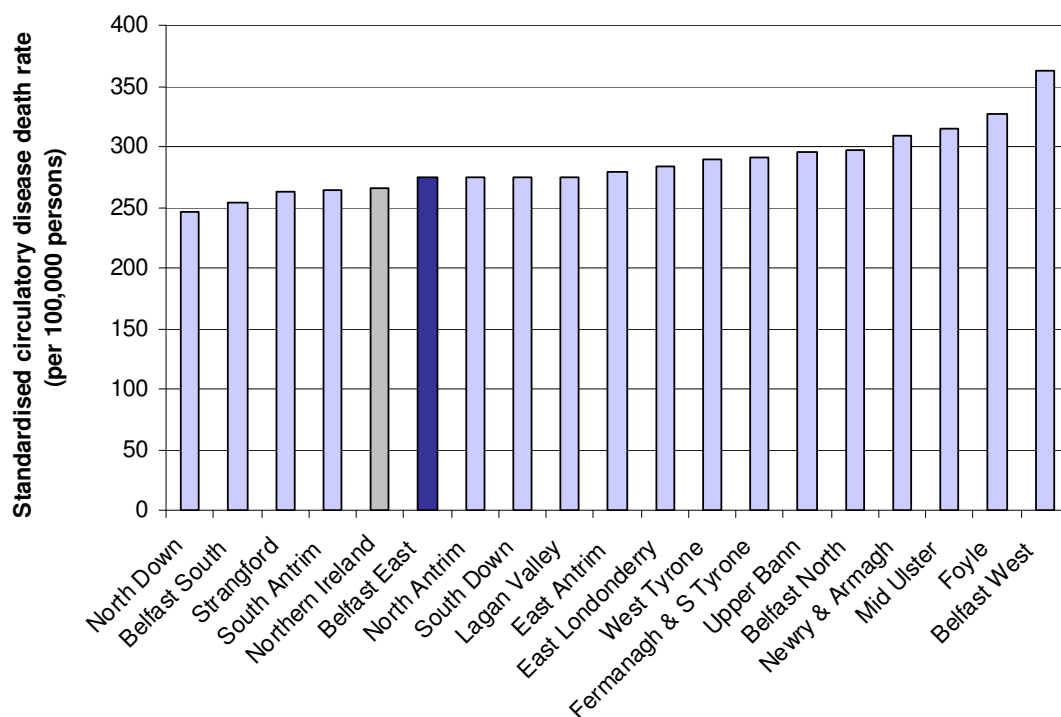
The standardised death rate due to circulatory disease in Belfast East is 274 per 100,000 persons.

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

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 5th lowest death rate due to circulatory disease.

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

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

Deaths due to Suicide and Undetermined Intent

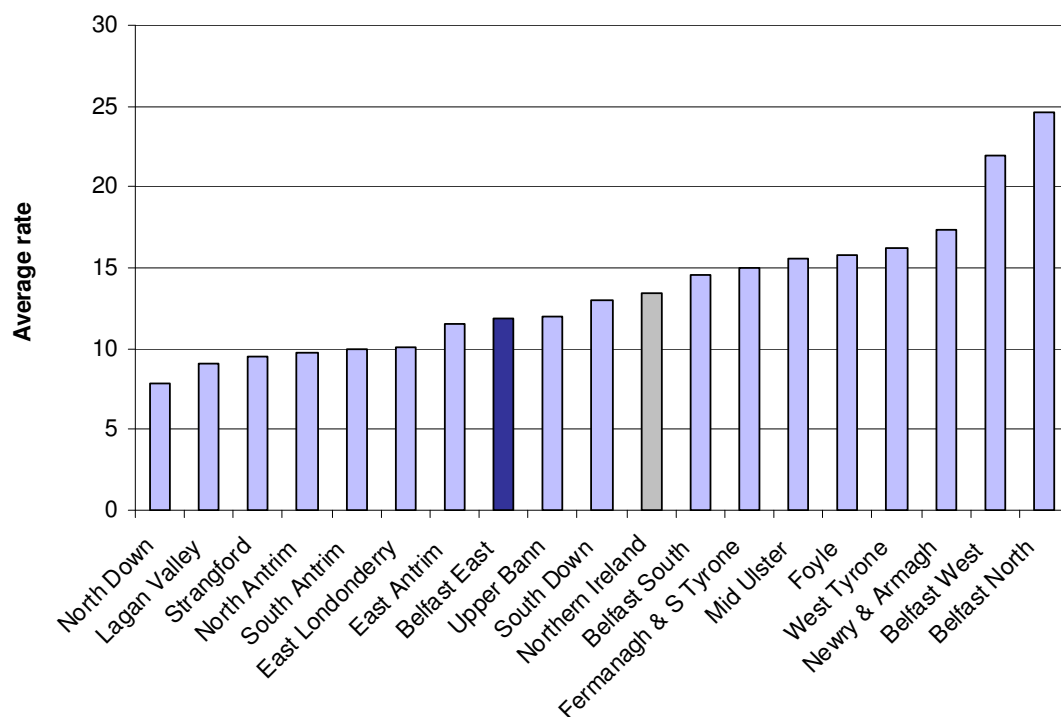
During the period 2004-2008, there were 46 deaths as a result of suicide and undetermined intent⁶⁷ in Belfast East. This equates to an average rate⁸ of 12 per 100,000 persons per annum.

There is little difference in the average death rate due to suicide and undetermined intent for Belfast East and the average Northern Ireland rate of 13 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 8th lowest death rate due to suicide and undetermined intent.

This information is not available at ward level.

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

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

⁷ Death where the intention of the victim is not clear.

⁸ Rate calculated using 2006 mid-year estimates provided by NISRA.

Cancer Diagnoses

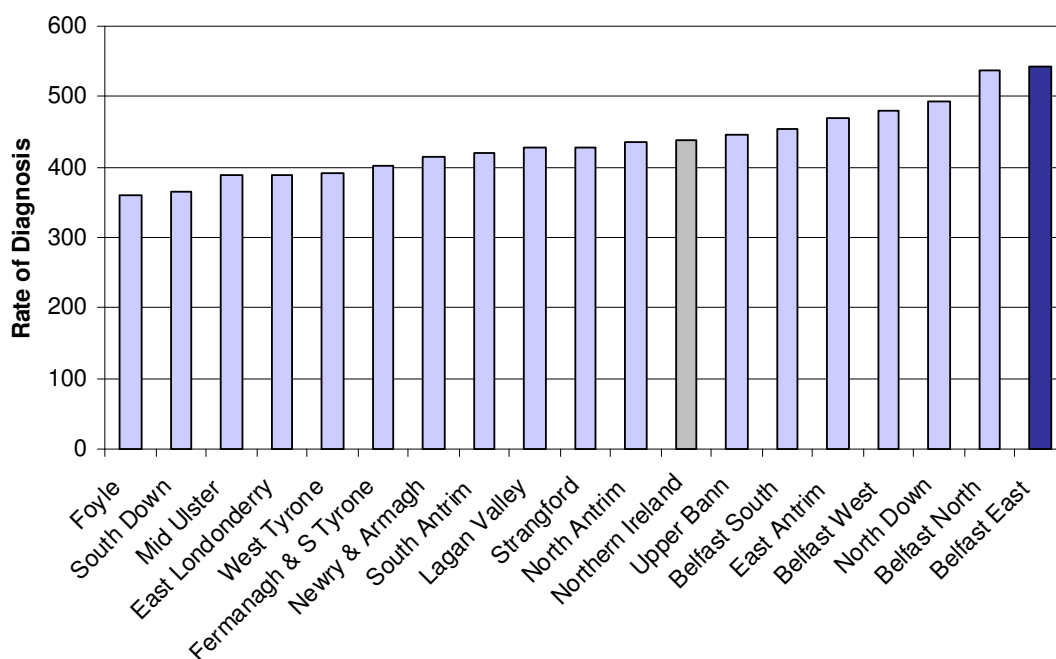
In 2007, there were 425 new incidences of cancer^{9,10} diagnosed amongst Belfast East constituents. This equates to a rate¹¹ of 543 per 100,000 persons.

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

Belfast East is the Constituency with the highest rate of cancer diagnosis.

During the period 2003-2007, the average rate¹² of diagnosis per 100,000 persons is lowest in the wards of Island (433), Bloomfield (472) and Tullycarnet (483) and highest in the wards of Cherryvalley (722), Cregagh (674) and Upper Braniel (635).

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



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

⁹ Excludes non-melanoma skin cancer.

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

¹¹ Rate calculated using 2007 mid-year estimates provided by NISRA.

¹² Ward rates calculated using 2005 mid-year estimates provided by NISRA.

Hospital Admissions due to Self Harm

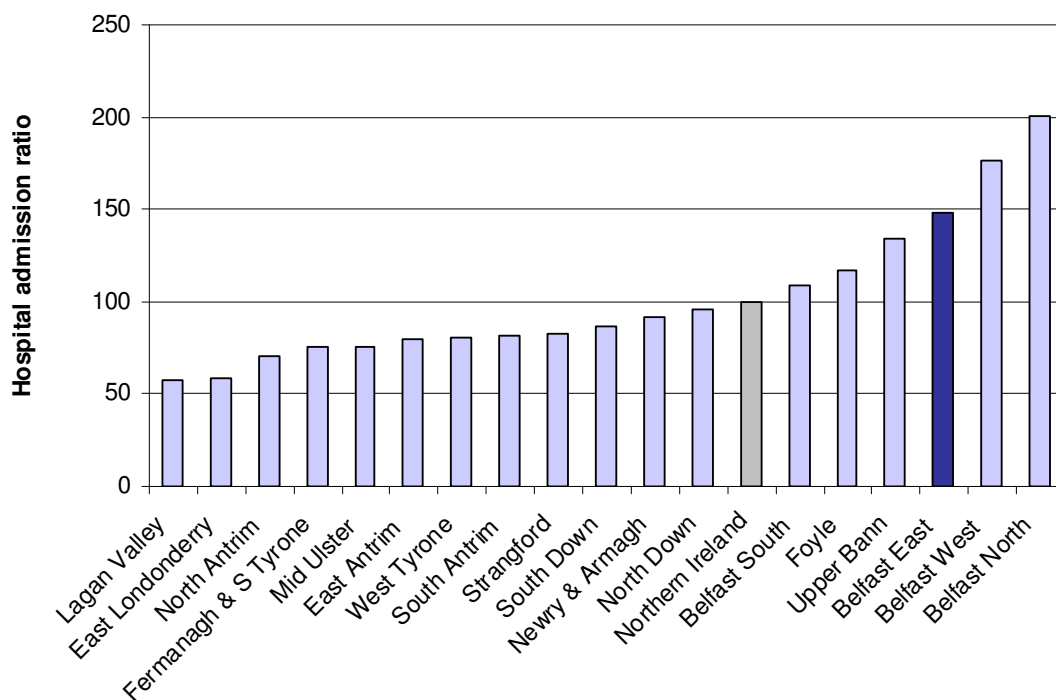
For the period 2005-2009, the standardised hospital admission ratio for self harm¹³ in Belfast East stood at 148. Ratios are calculated to allow comparison of areas or groups to the NI average which is set to 100.

The standardised hospital admission ratio for self harm is much higher in Belfast East than the Northern Ireland ratio of 100. This is true for both males (135 vs. 100) and females (160 vs. 100).

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 3rd highest standardised hospital admission ratio for self harm.

This information is not available at ward level.

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



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

¹³ Data based upon the number of admissions due to self-harm provided by the Hospital Information Branch.

Mood and Anxiety Disorder Prescriptions

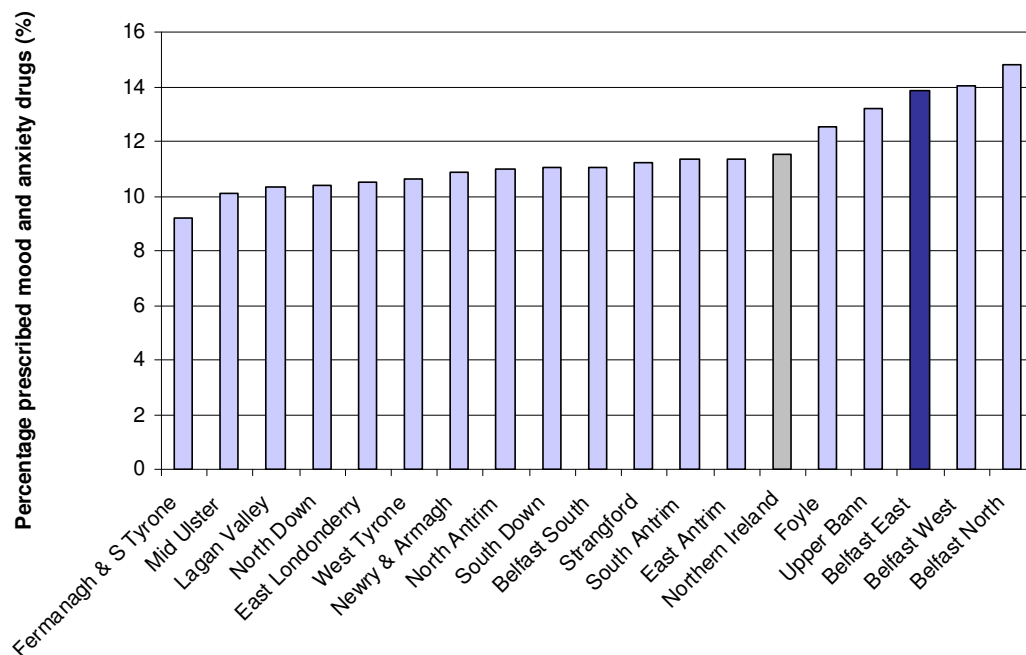
As at April 2008, an estimated 13.8% of people in Belfast East were on prescribed drugs for mood and anxiety disorders.¹⁴

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

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 3rd highest proportion of people estimated to be on prescribed drugs for mood and anxiety disorders.

This information is not available at ward level.

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



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

¹⁴ The number of individuals suffering from mood or anxiety disorders is estimated using prescription data by GP practice for anxiolytic and anti-depressant drugs. This data is then attributed to geographical area using the GP practice list.

Disability-Related Benefit Recipients

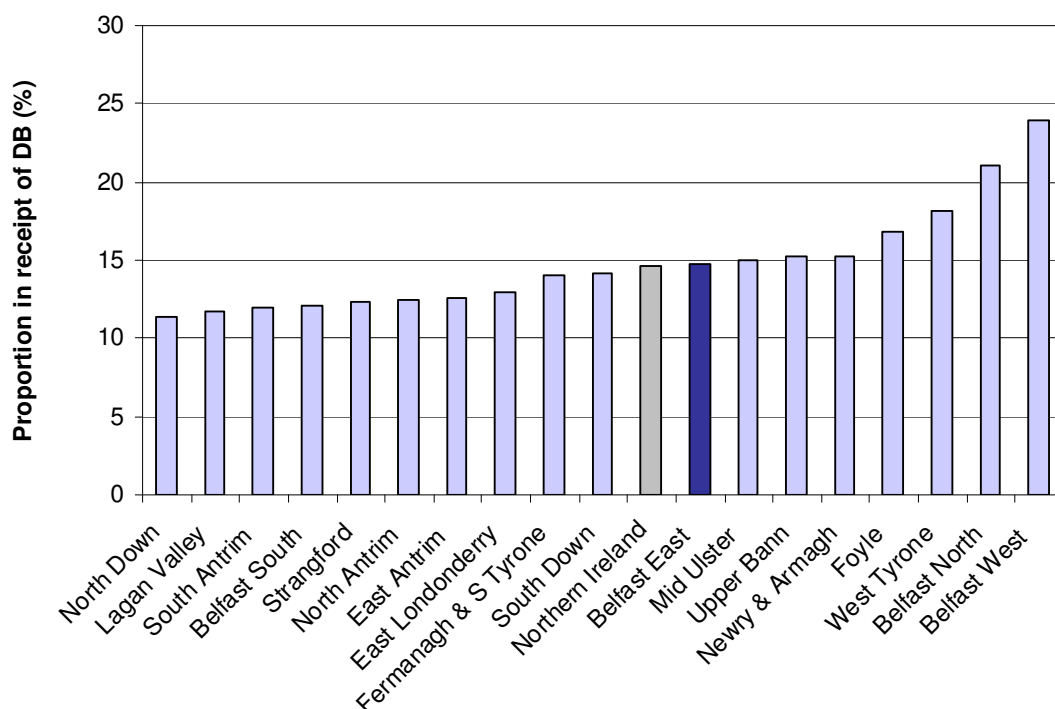
In February 2010, there were 11,718 people in receipt of at least one disability-related benefit.¹⁵ This equates to 14.8% of all constituents receiving such benefits.

There is little difference in proportion of people living in Belfast East in receipt of disability-related benefits and the Northern Ireland figure of 14.6%.

Belfast East is the Constituency ranked 8th highest in terms of the proportion of people in receipt of disability-related benefits.

The lowest proportions of people in receipt of disability-related benefits are concentrated in the wards¹⁶ of Stormont (8.6%), Hillfoot (9.2%) and Gilnahirk (10.4%) and the highest proportions are concentrated in Ballymacarrett (25.3%), The Mount (21.6%) and Cregagh (19.5%).

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



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

¹⁵ The information is aggregated data from IAD 100% scans of Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance data at 1992 ward level.

¹⁶ Ward figures calculated from total population using 2008 mid-year estimates.

Births to Teenage Mothers

Proportion of all births which are to teenage mothers

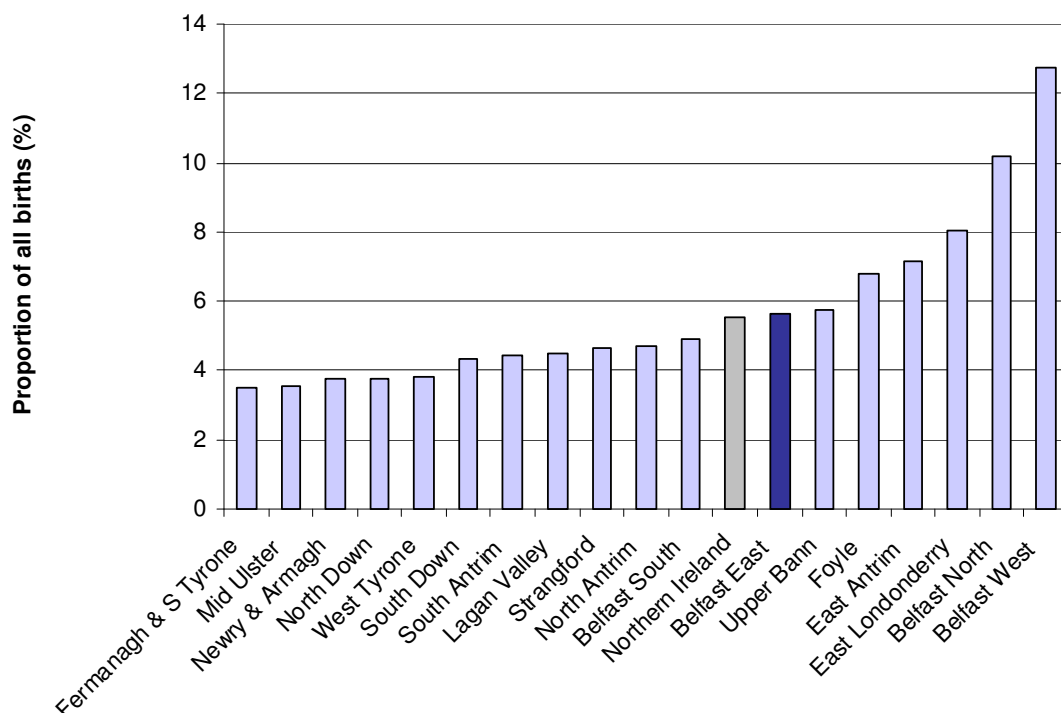
In 2008, there were 61 births to teenage mothers. Births to teenage mothers account for 5.6% of all births in Belfast East, although it is worth noting that this figure is influenced by the number of teenagers in the area and so the teenage birth rate (see over) is more accurate for the purposes of comparison between areas.

There is no difference in the proportion of births in Belfast East which are to teenage mothers and the Northern Ireland figure, also 5.6%

Belfast East is ranked 7th highest Constituency in terms of the proportion of all births which are to teenage mothers.

This information is not available at ward level.

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

Teenage Birth rate

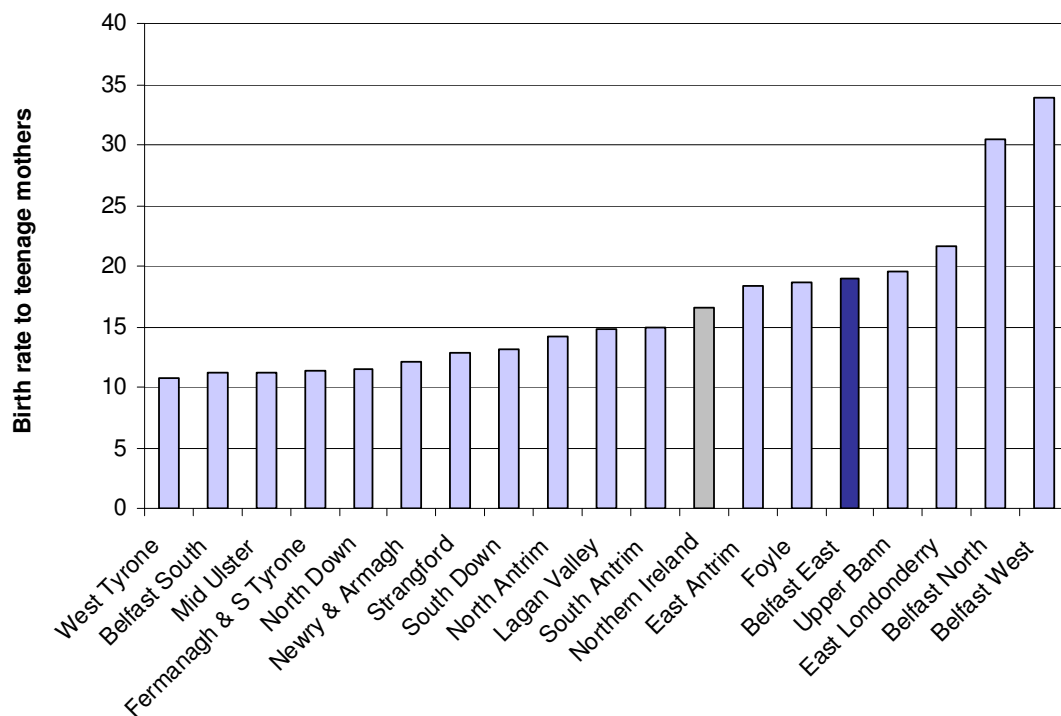
In 2008, the teenage birth rate of Belfast East stood at 19 per 1,000 female persons aged 13-19 years.

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

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 5th highest teenage birth rate.

This information is not available at ward level.

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (GRO)

Quality Outcomes Framework – Disease Prevalence

The Quality Outcome Framework (QOF)¹⁷ is a system used to remunerate general practices; disease prevalence data per 1,000 patients is collected and then used within the QOF to deliver a more equitable distribution of payments in the light of different workloads that practices face.

As at 31 March 2009, there was a higher prevalence of coronary heart disease, stroke, hypertension, hypothyroid, atrial fibrillation, diabetes mellitus and chronic kidney disease and a lower prevalence of obesity amongst patients whose GP practice is located in the Belfast East area compared to GP practices across all of Northern Ireland.

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

| | Belfast East Patients | | All Northern Ireland Patients | |
|---|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| | No. | Prevalence | No. | Prevalence |
| Coronary Heart Disease | 4,841 | 50 | 75,278 | 41 |
| All Heart Failure Patients | 776 | 8 | 13,903 | 8 |
| Stroke | 2,066 | 21 | 31,063 | 17 |
| Hypertension | 13,066 | 134 | 225,093 | 122 |
| Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease | 1,746 | 18 | 29,099 | 16 |
| Hypothyroid | 3,352 | 34 | 57,599 | 31 |
| Cancer | 1,291 | 13 | 20,741 | 11 |
| Mental Health | 938 | 10 | 14,407 | 8 |
| Asthma | 5,610 | 58 | 104,527 | 56 |
| Dementia | 729 | 7 | 9,971 | 5 |
| Atrial Fibrillation | 1,548 | 16 | 23,827 | 13 |
| Obesity (Patients aged 16+) | 8,712 | 108 | 165,956 | 113 |
| Diabetes Mellitus (Patients aged 17+) | 4,037 | 51 | 65,066 | 45 |
| Epilepsy (Patients aged 18+) | 857 | 11 | 13,983 | 10 |
| Chronic Kidney Disease (patients aged 18+) | 3,346 | 43 | 55,150 | 39 |
| Learning Disabilities (Patients aged 18+) | 308 | 4 | 6,912 | 5 |

■ Higher than NI*

■ Lower than NI*

* by more than 3

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

¹⁷ A full set of QOF data tables and explanation of the QOF can be found at http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/hss/gp_contracts/gp_contract_qof.htm.

2. EDUCATION

This section presents information on:

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

Statement of Special Educational Needs

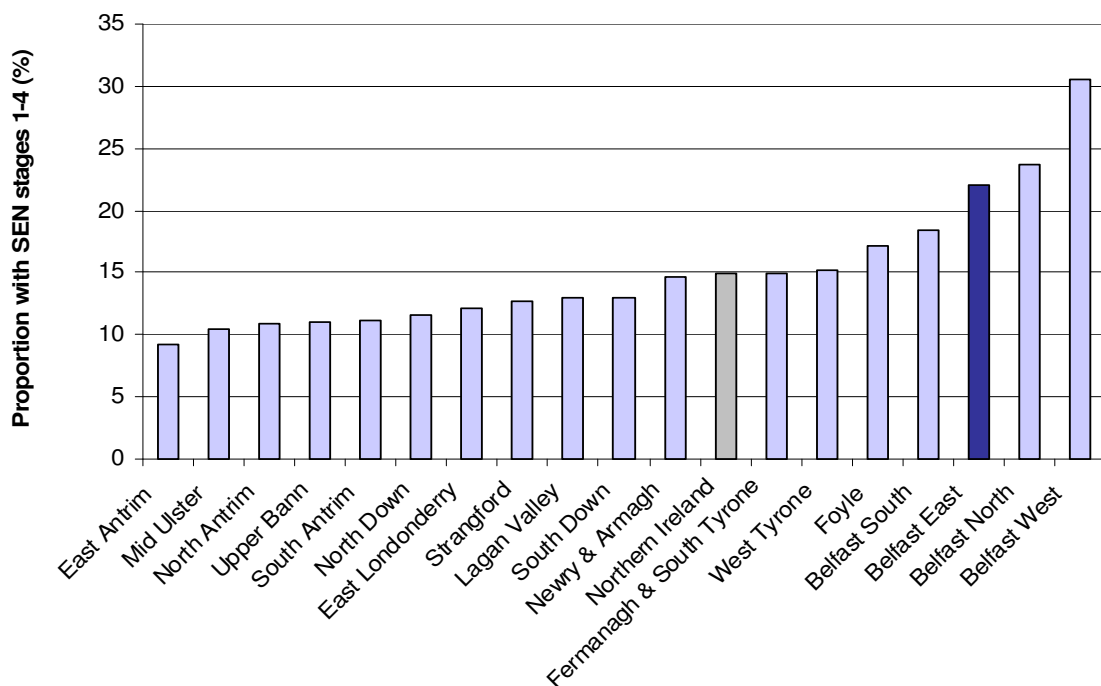
In 2008/09, 22.0% of Belfast East post-primary pupils had a Statement of Special Educational Need (SEN) at stages 1-4.

A higher proportion of Belfast East post-primary pupils had a SEN at stages 1-4 compared to the Northern Ireland proportion of 14.9%.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 3rd highest proportion of pupils with a SEN at stages 1-4.

The lowest proportions of pupils with a SEN at stages 1-4 were concentrated in the wards of Hillfoot (12.1%), Gilnahirk (13.3%) and Stormont (13.9%). The highest proportions of pupils with a SEN were concentrated in Ballymacarret (38.7%), The Mount (37.5%) and Island (32.9%).

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



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

Highest Qualifications of School Leavers

School leavers achieving at least two A-levels

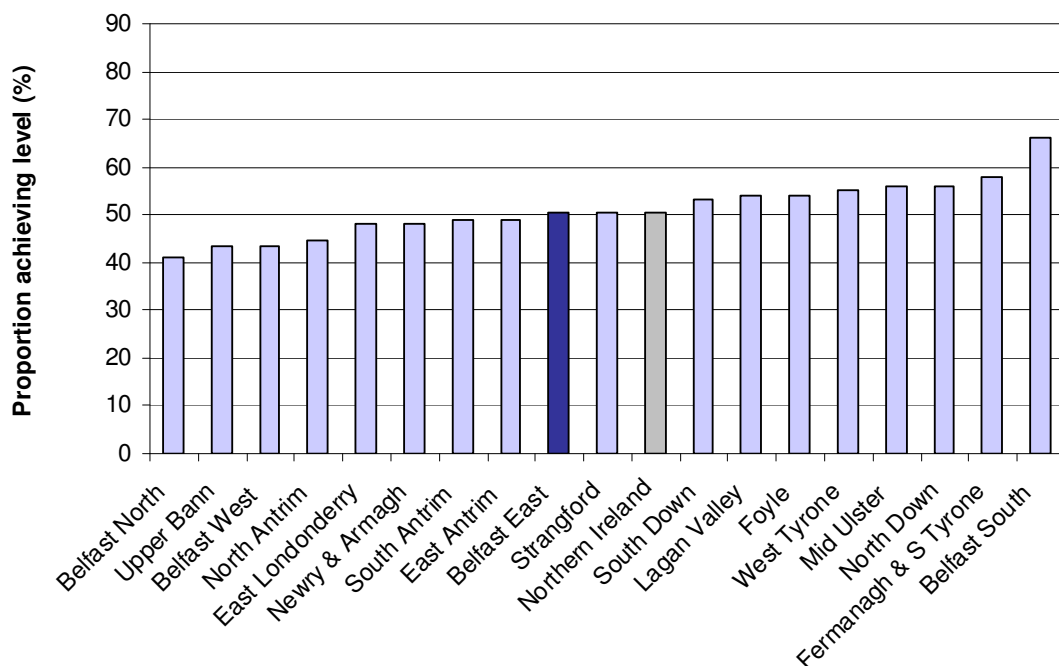
In 2008/09, 50.3% of Belfast East school leavers achieved at least two A-levels.

There was little difference in the proportion of Belfast East pupils who left school with at least two A-levels and the Northern Ireland figure of 50.6%.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 9th lowest proportion of school leavers achieving at least two A-levels.

The lowest proportions of school leavers achieving at least two A-levels were concentrated in the wards of The Mount (5.7%, 3 pupils), Lisnasharragh (11.1%, 3 pupils) and Tullycarnet (13.0%, 3 pupils). The highest proportions of school leavers achieving at least two A-levels were concentrated in the wards of Stormont (88.4%), Cherryvalley (77.9%) and Gilnahirk (72.0%).¹⁸

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



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

¹⁸ Note care should be taken in drawing conclusions from these figures due to the low numbers involved.

At least five GCSEs at grades A-C*

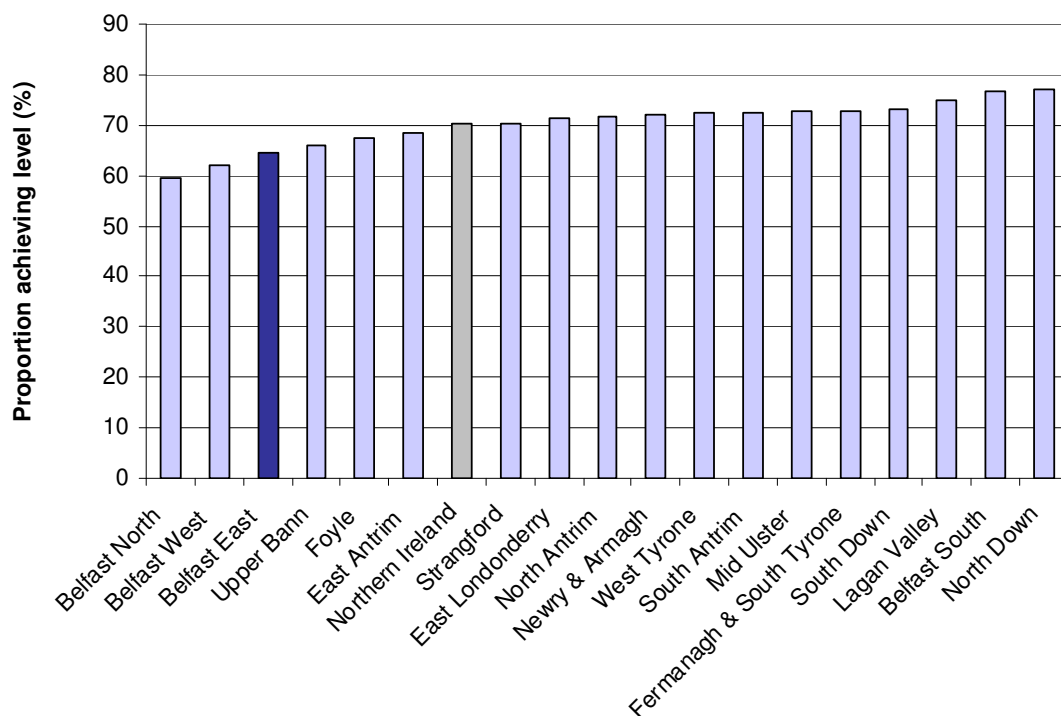
In 2008/09, 64.4% of Belfast East school leavers achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C.¹⁹

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

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 3rd lowest proportion of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C.

The lowest proportions of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C were concentrated in the wards of Tullycarnet (13.0%, 3 pupils), Cregagh (16.7%, 3 pupils) and The Mount (22.6%). The highest proportions of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C were concentrated in the wards of Stormont (94.2%), Cherryvalley (89.7%) and Gilnahirk (88.0%).

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



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

¹⁹ Note that this figure includes those who left school with at least two A-levels.

Participation in Further Education

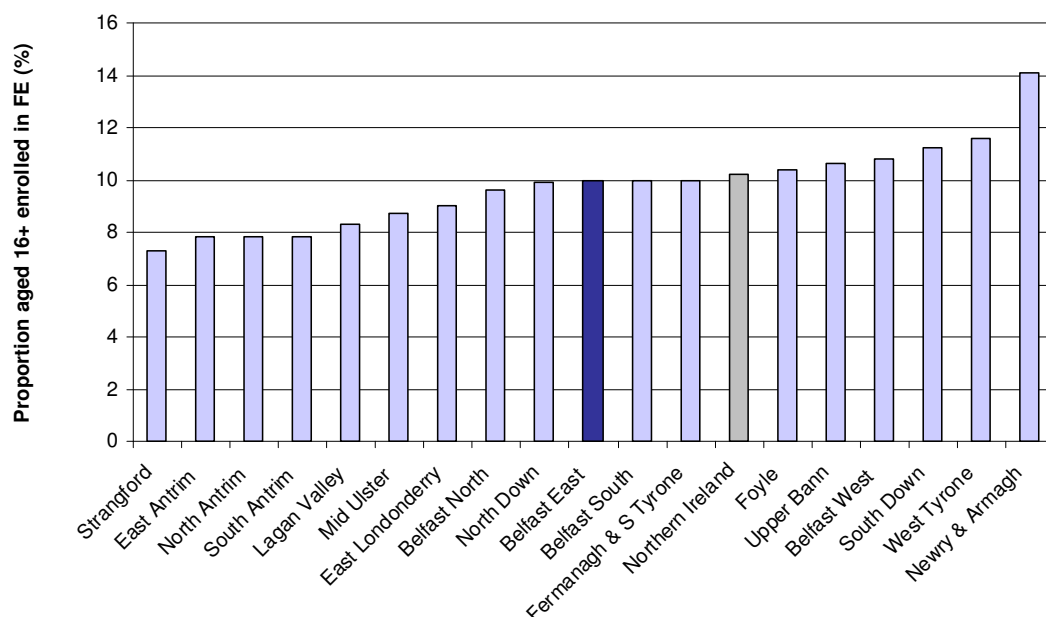
In 2007/08, there were 6,441 students from Belfast East enrolled in further education.²⁰ This equates to 10.0% of all constituents aged 16 and over being enrolled in further education.

There was little difference in the proportion of people aged 16 and over living in Belfast East who are enrolled in further education and the Northern Ireland figure of 10.2%.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 9th highest proportion of people aged 16 and over enrolled in further education.

Further education participation rates were lowest in the wards of Hillfoot (5.7%), Cherryvalley (6.3%) and Lower Braniel (6.8%) and highest in the wards of The Mount (11.7%), Ballymacarrett (9.8%) and Ballyhackamore (9.0%).

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



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

Of all Belfast East students enrolled, 16.8% were full time and 83.2% were part time students, while 55.3% were female and 44.7% were male. In total, 45.9% of those enrolled in further education were mature students.²¹

²⁰ Further Education can be defined as post-secondary education that is distinct from the education offered in universities.

²¹ Mature Student in further education defined as those aged 26 and over.

Participation in Higher Education

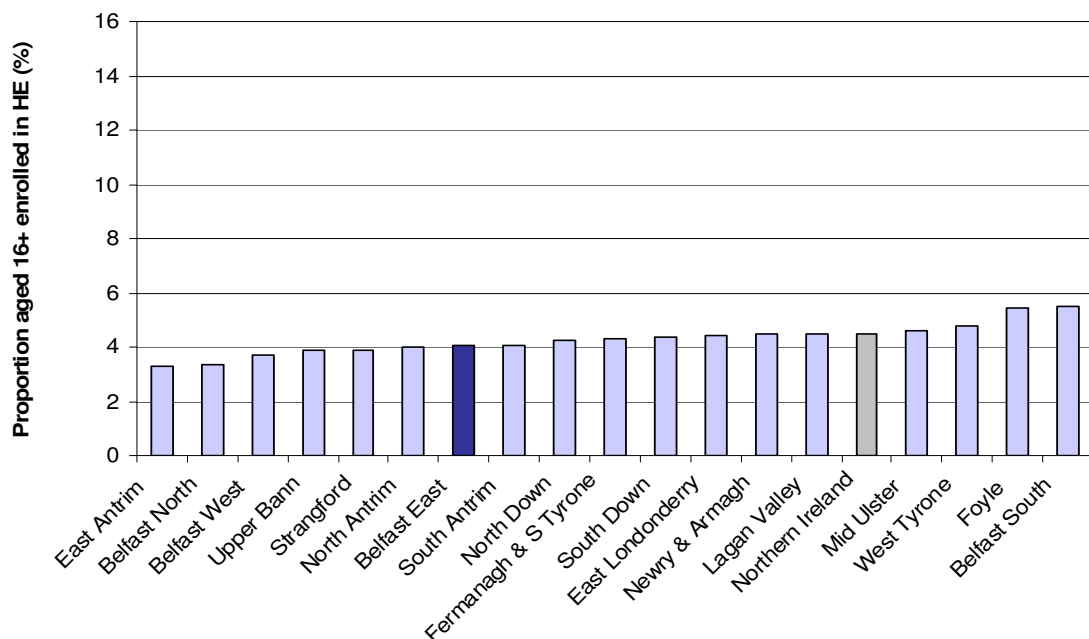
In 2007/08, there were 2,630 students from Belfast East enrolled in higher education.²² This equates to 4.1% of all constituents aged 16 and over being enrolled in higher education.

There was little difference in the proportion of people aged 16 and over from Belfast East who are enrolled in higher education and the Northern Ireland figure of 4.5%.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 7th lowest proportion of people aged 16 and over enrolled in higher education.

Higher education participation rates were lowest in the wards of Ballymacarrett (1.0%), The Mount (1.3%) and Cregagh (1.4%) and highest in the wards of Stormont (6.6%), Wynchurch (5.1%), Ballyhackamore (5.0%) and Hillfoot (5.0%).

Chart 18: Proportion of those aged 16+ enrolled in Higher Education, 2007/08



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

Of all Belfast East students enrolled, 62.5% were full time and 37.5% were part time students, while 55.7% were female and 44.3% were male. In total, 41.6% of those enrolled in Higher Education were mature students.²³

²² Higher Education can be defined as education at a higher level than secondary school, usually provided in universities.

²³ Mature Student in higher education defined as those aged 25 and over.

3. THE ECONOMY

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

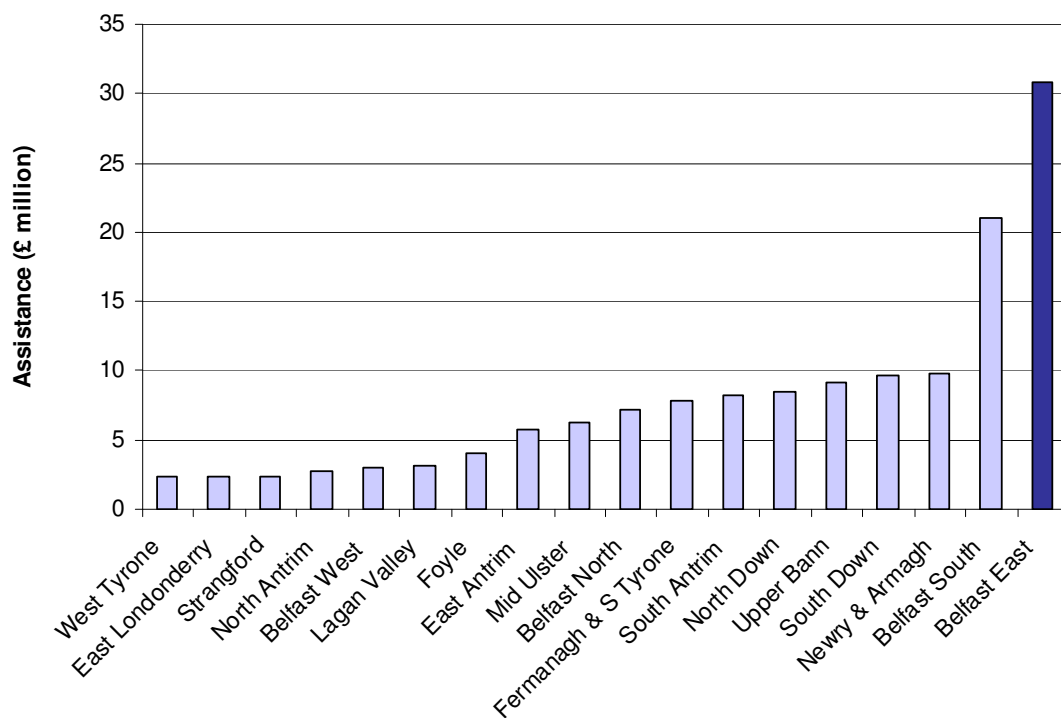
Invest NI Assistance

In 2008/09, Invest NI provided £30.8 million in financial assistance to companies in Belfast East, accounting for 21.4% of all assistance provided in Northern Ireland during that period.

Belfast East was the Constituency that received the most financial assistance in 2008/09.

This information is not available at ward level.

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Invest NI)

Start a Business Programme

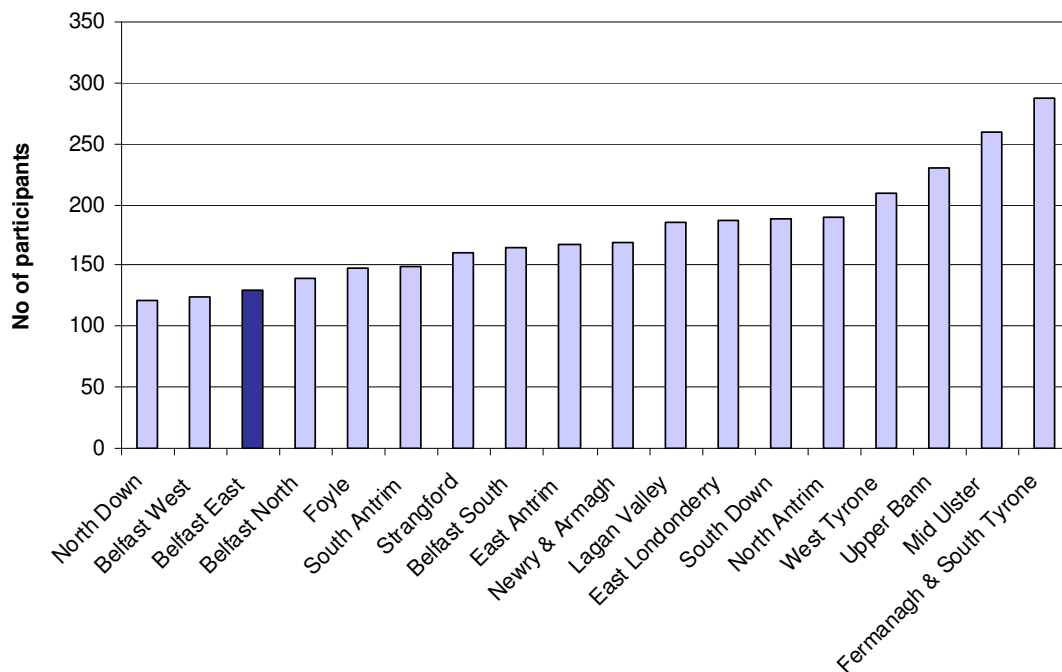
Participation in the Start a Business Programme

In 2008/09, 129 people from Belfast East completed the Invest NI Start a Business Programme.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 3rd lowest number of people completing this programme.

No-one from the ward of Cregagh participated in the training. The lowest numbers of participants were from Lisnasharragh (3), Stormont (3) and Gilnahirk (3). The highest number was from Ballyhackamore (16).

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Invest NI)

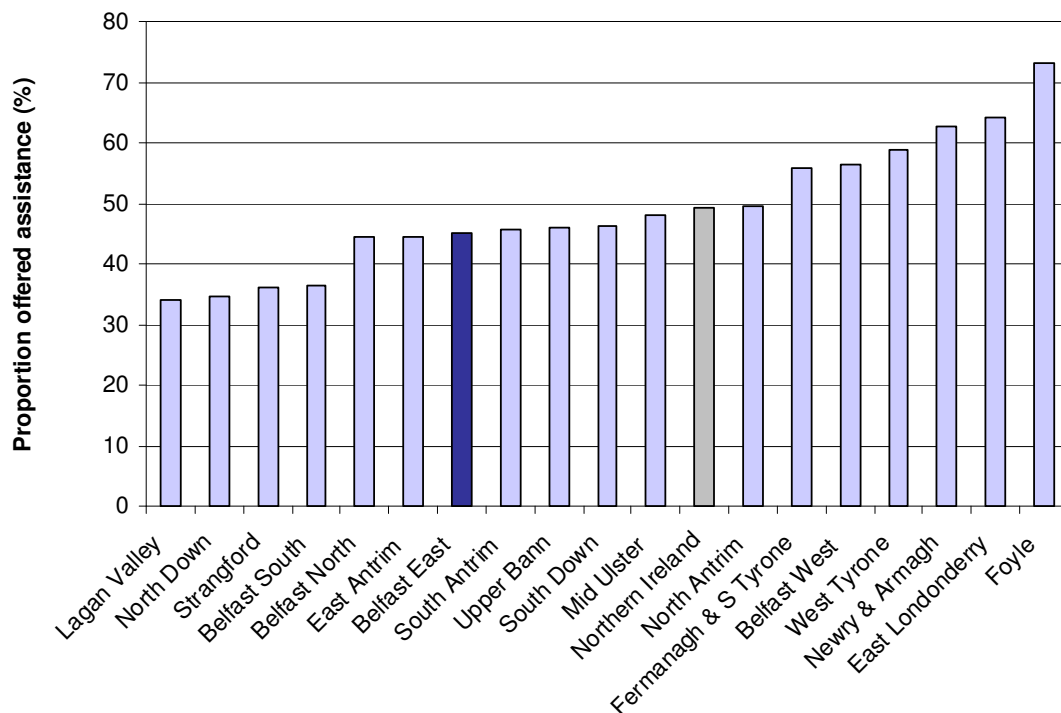
Financial Assistance offered to those who completed the Start a Business programme

Of those who completed the Start a Business Programme, 45.0% of Belfast East participants (58 people) were subsequently offered financial assistance.

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

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 7th lowest proportion of participating companies who were offered financial assistance.

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Invest NI)

4. EMPLOYMENT

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

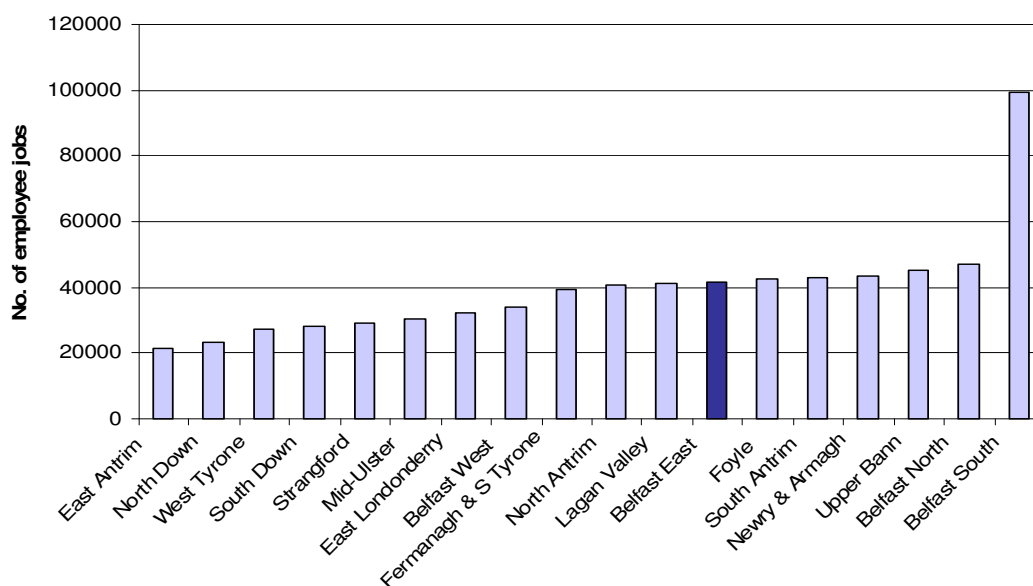
Employee jobs

As at 3 September 2007, there were 41,823 employee jobs²⁴ located in Belfast East, representing 5.9% of all employee jobs in Northern Ireland.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 7th highest number of employee jobs.

The lowest concentrations of employee jobs were in the wards of Tullycarnet (52), Upper Braniel (100) and Cregagh (115) and the highest concentrations were in the wards of Island (9,948), Sydenham (6,201) and Stormont (4,832) although it is worth noting that these figures are based on job location not home address and so variations between wards will depend on the nature of the ward - rural, residential or industrial.

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



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

²⁴ The Census of Employment is conducted every two years by means of a postal enquiry of all NI employers and a full response is sought in order to obtain an accurate count of the number of employee jobs at the Census date. It collects information on employees only (the self-employed are excluded) and counts the number of jobs rather than the number of people in these jobs.

Employee jobs by Sector

In 2007, 79.0% of employee jobs in Belfast East were in the services sector, 15.4% were in manufacturing and 4.6% were in construction.

A slightly lower proportion of employee jobs in Belfast East were in services compared to the proportion of all Northern Ireland jobs which stood at 80.6%.

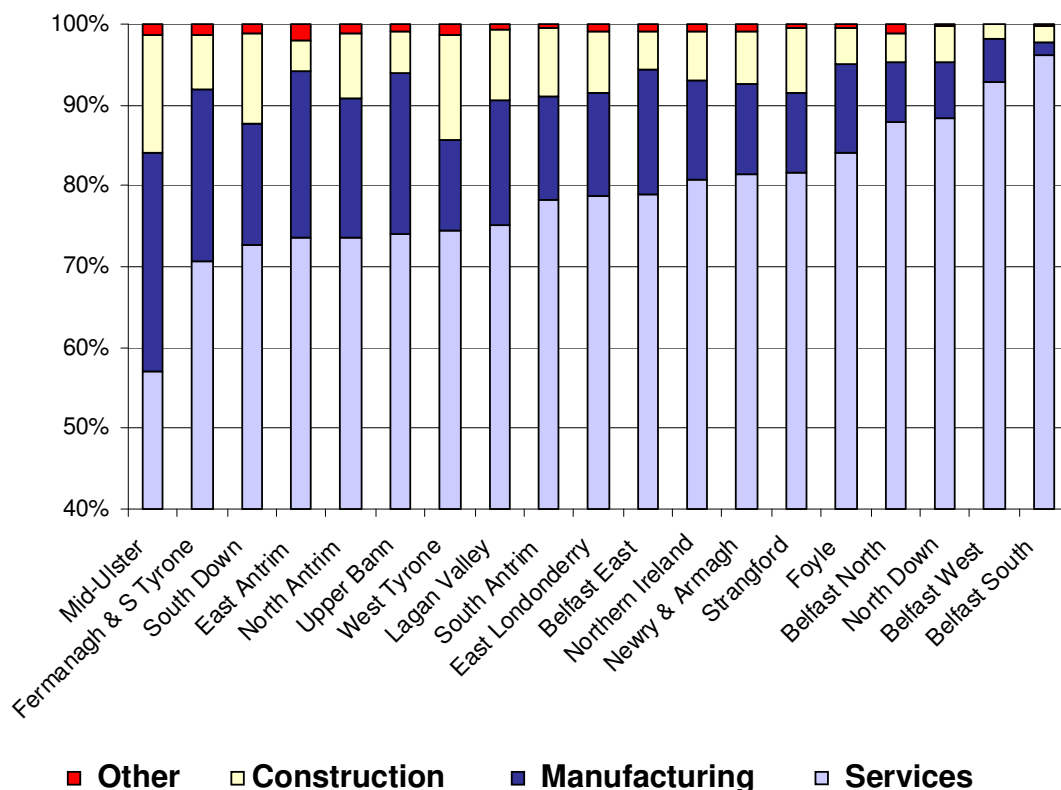
A higher proportion of employee jobs in Belfast East were in manufacturing compared to the proportion of all Northern Ireland jobs which stood at 12.3%.

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

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 8th highest in services, the 7th highest proportion of jobs in manufacturing and the 7th lowest in construction.

This information is not available at ward level.

Chart 23: Employee jobs by sector and Constituency, 2007



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

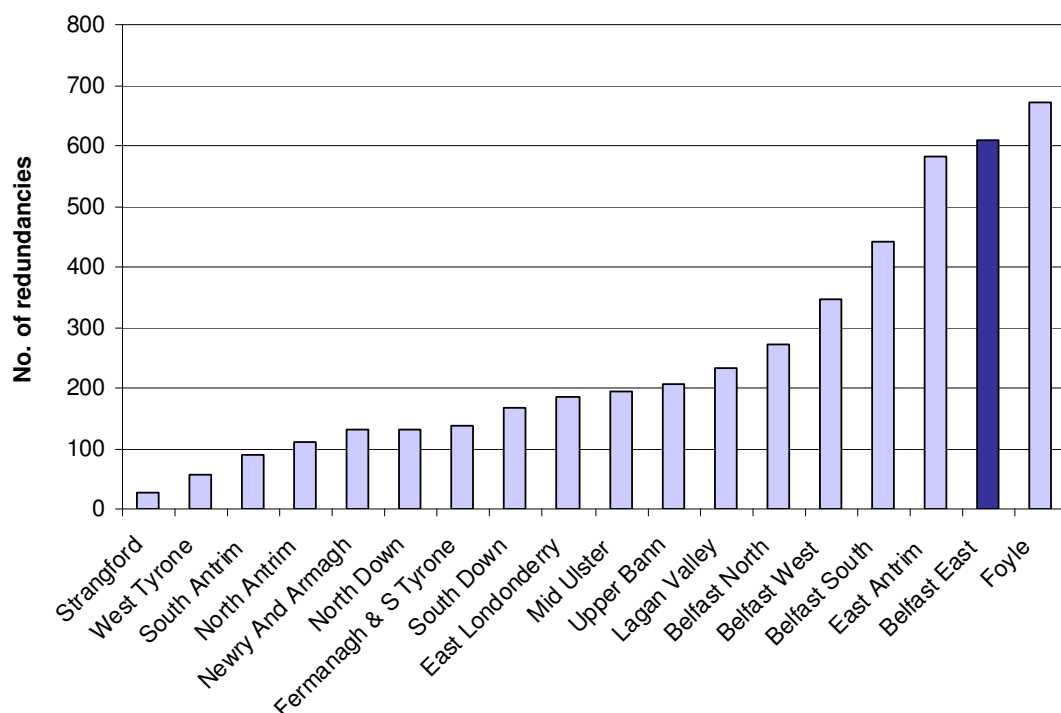
Redundancies

In 2009, there were 609 redundancies²⁵ in Belfast East, representing 13.3% of all redundancies made in Northern Ireland (please note that this refers to location of business rather than employee home).

The Constituency of Belfast East had the 2nd highest number of redundancies in 2009.

This information is not available at ward level.

Chart 24: No. of redundancies by Constituency, 2009



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Claimant Count Section, DETI)

²⁵ While the figures provided are likely to be an underestimate of total job losses, it is not possible to quantify the extent of the shortfall. Subject to the criteria mentioned above, employers must notify the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment of (a) redundancies proposed and (b) redundancies confirmed. Since all proposed redundancies do not actually take place, the confirmed total provides a better indication of real job losses. Proposed redundancies are notified to the Department using the Advance Notification - HR1 Form. Redundancies do not necessarily equate to job losses, for example, employees who do not qualify for a redundancy package, those on temporary contracts, will not be incorporated into the redundancy figures.

Unemployment Claimant Count

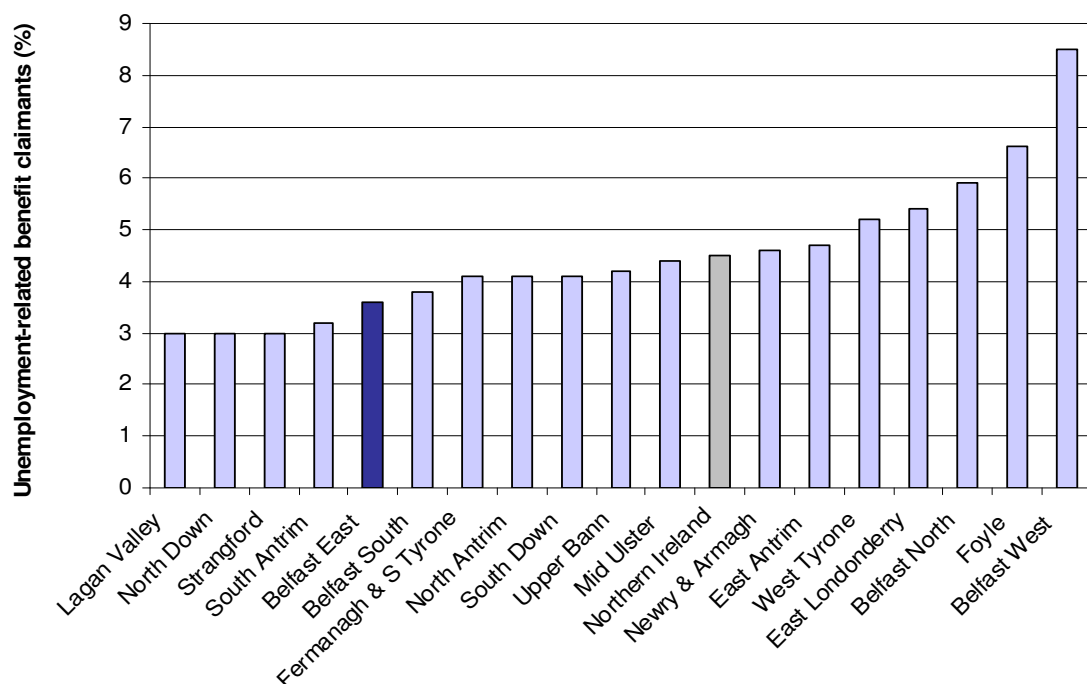
During the period January – December 2009, there were 1,742 people claiming unemployment-related benefits²⁶ in Belfast East. This equates to 3.6% of all working age constituents claiming such benefits.

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

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 5th lowest proportion of working age people claiming unemployment-related benefits.

The proportions of people claiming unemployment-related benefits were lowest in the wards of Hillfoot (0.9%), Gilnahirk (1.5%) and Stormont (1.7%) and highest in the wards of The Mount (8.0%), Ballymacarrett (7.5%) and Island (6.0%).

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Claimant Count, DETI)

²⁶ The Claimant Count records the number of people claiming unemployment-related benefits. 'Claimants' include the severely disabled claimants, but exclude students seeking vacation work and the temporarily stopped. The claimant count consists of all people claiming JSA at Jobcentre Plus local offices. They must declare that they are out of work, capable of, available for and actively seeking work during the week in which their claim is made.

5. HOUSING

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

Housing type

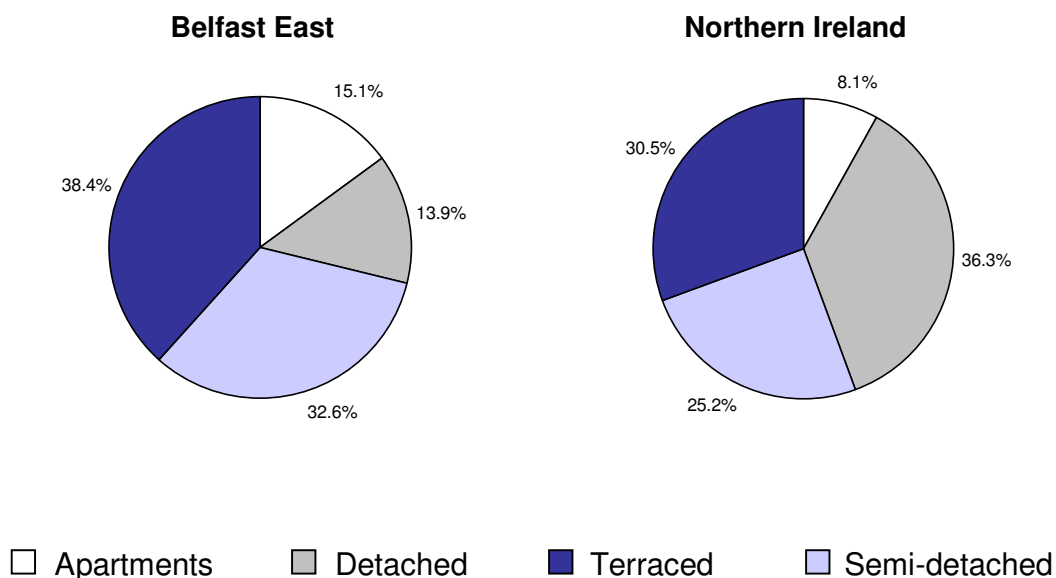
In 2008, there were 36,771 properties in Belfast East, representing 5.1% of all properties in Northern Ireland.

A higher proportion of properties in Belfast East were terraced compared to the Northern Ireland figure (38.4% compared to 30.5%), accounting for the highest proportion of properties in the area.

A lower proportion of properties in Belfast East were detached compared to the Northern Ireland figure (13.9% compared to 36.3%), accounting for the lowest proportion of properties in the area.

A higher proportion of properties in Belfast East were apartments (15.1% vs. 8.1%) or semi-detached (32.6% vs. 25.2%) compared to Northern Ireland as a whole.

Charts 26 and 27: Housing type, 2008



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

Planning applications and decisions

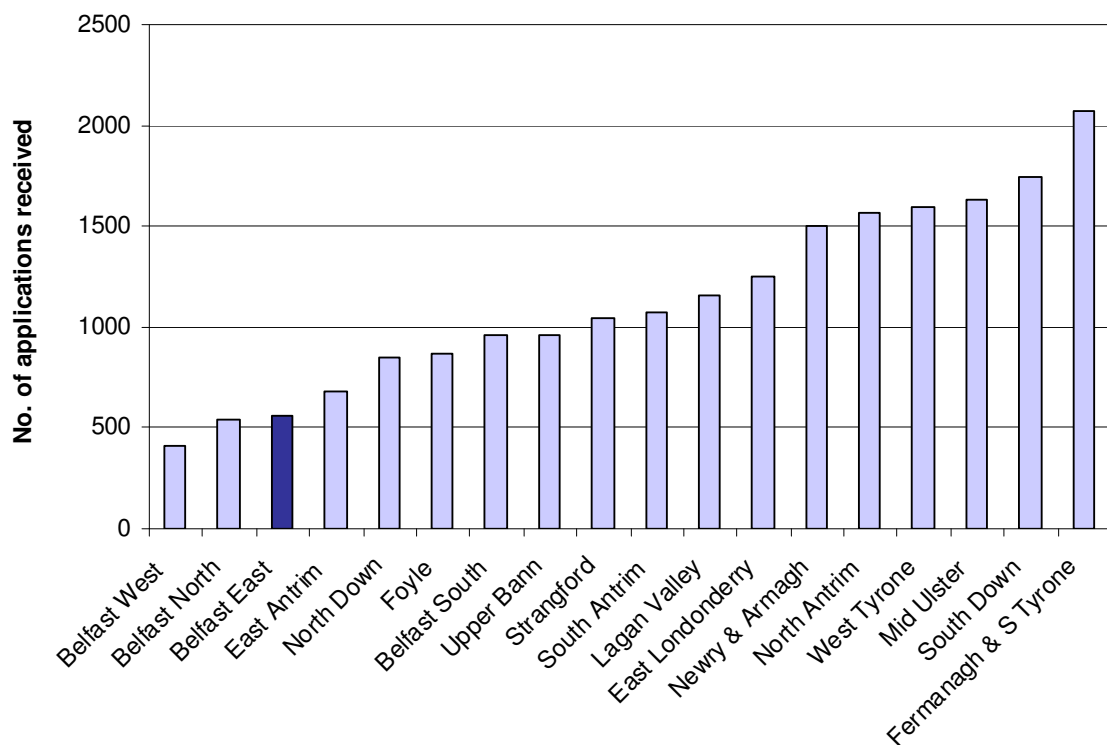
Planning applications

In 2008/09, there were 560 new planning applications submitted²⁷ for the Belfast East area, representing 2.7% of all Northern Ireland applications received.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 3rd lowest number of planning applications in 2008/09.

This information is not available at ward level.

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



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

²⁷ Applications received also include withdrawn applications.

Planning Decisions

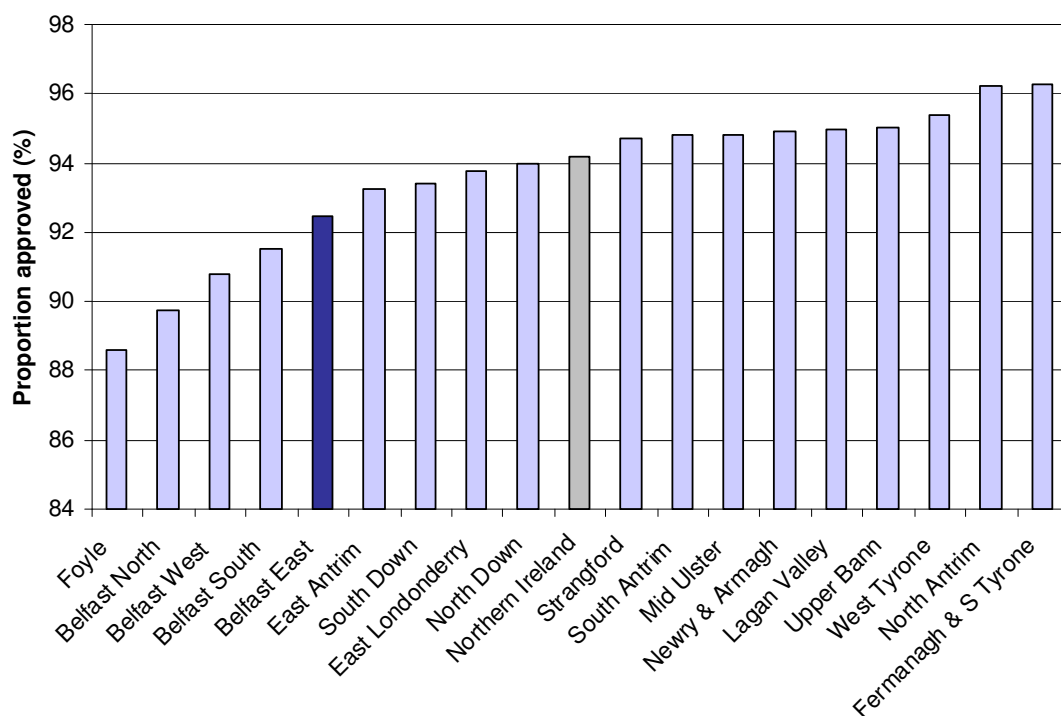
Decisions²⁸²⁹ were made on a total of 676 planning applications for the Belfast East area during 2008/09, 92.5% of which were approved.

A slightly lower proportion³⁰ of Belfast East applications were approved compared to the Northern Ireland average of 94.2%.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 5th lowest proportion of approvals in 2008/09.

This information is not available at ward level.

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



Source: NISRA, NINIS (Planning Service, DoE)

²⁸ Note that the number of decisions is higher than the number of planning applications received as this includes applications from previous years.

²⁹ Excludes withdrawn applications.

³⁰ The number and per cent of applications approved is based on the number of decisions issued in the same year.

6. CRIME

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

Overall Crime rate

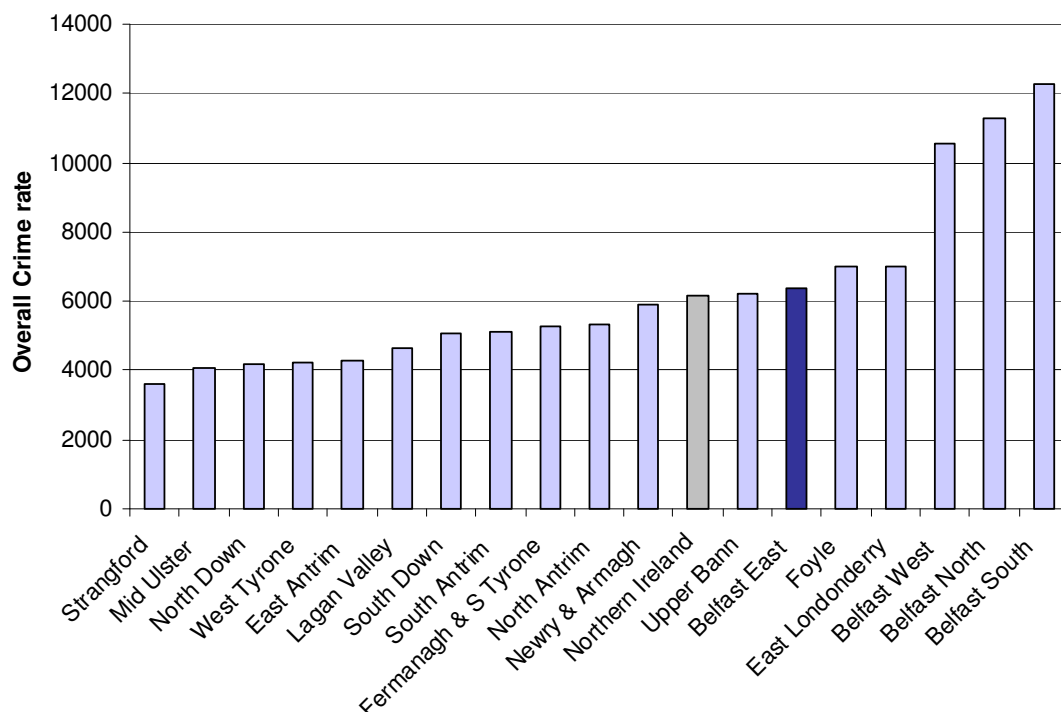
In 2009/10, a total of 5,043 offences were recorded in the Belfast East area. This equates to an overall crime rate of 6,370 per 100,000 persons.

The crime rate for Belfast East was higher than the overall Northern Ireland rate which stood at 6,149 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 6th highest crime rate.

Overall crime rates were lowest in the wards of Hillfoot (1,493), Tullycarnet (2,337) and Downshire (2,725) and highest in the wards of Island (18,909), The Mount (13,346) and Ballymacarrett (11,570).

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



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

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

Rates of violent crime and burglary were higher while theft and criminal damage rates were lower in Belfast East than the Northern Ireland rates.

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

| | Belfast East | | Northern Ireland |
|------------------------|--------------|-------|------------------|
| | Rate | Rank* | Rate |
| Violent Crime | 2,046 | 6 | 1,865 |
| Burglary | 774 | 3 | 709 |
| Theft | 1,426 | 7 | 1,499 |
| Criminal Damage | 1,368 | 9 | 1,490 |

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

Source: NISRA, NINIS (Notifiable Offences Recorded, PSNI)

Violent Crime

In 2009/10, the violent crime rate for Belfast East was 2,046 per 100,000 persons and was higher than the Northern Ireland rate of 1,865. Violent crime rates were lowest in the wards of Hillfoot (345), Gilnahirk (530) Stormont (637) and highest in the wards of Island (10,123), The Mount (4,946) and Ballymacarrett (3,481).

Burglary

In 2009/10, the burglary rate for Belfast East was 774 per 100,000 persons and was higher than the Northern Ireland rate of 709. Burglary rates were lowest in the wards of Hillfoot (345), Downshire (355) and Wynchurch (356) and highest in the wards of Ballyhackamore (2,500), The Mount (1,615) and Bloomfield (1,496).

Theft

In 2009/10, the theft rate for Belfast East was 1,426 per 100,000 persons and was lower than the Northern Ireland rate of 1,499. Theft rates were lowest in the wards of Tullycarnet (238), Hillfoot (421) and Downshire (434) and highest in the wards of Island (3,725), Bloomfield (2772) and The Mount (2,473).

Criminal Damage

In 2009/10, the criminal damage rate for Belfast East was 1,368 per 100,000 persons and was lower than the Northern Ireland rate of 1,490. Criminal damage rates were lowest in the wards of Hillfoot (345), Cherryvalley (489) and Gilnahirk (570) and highest in the wards of The Mount (3,413), Island (2,520) and Bloomfield (1,988).

Anti-social Behaviour

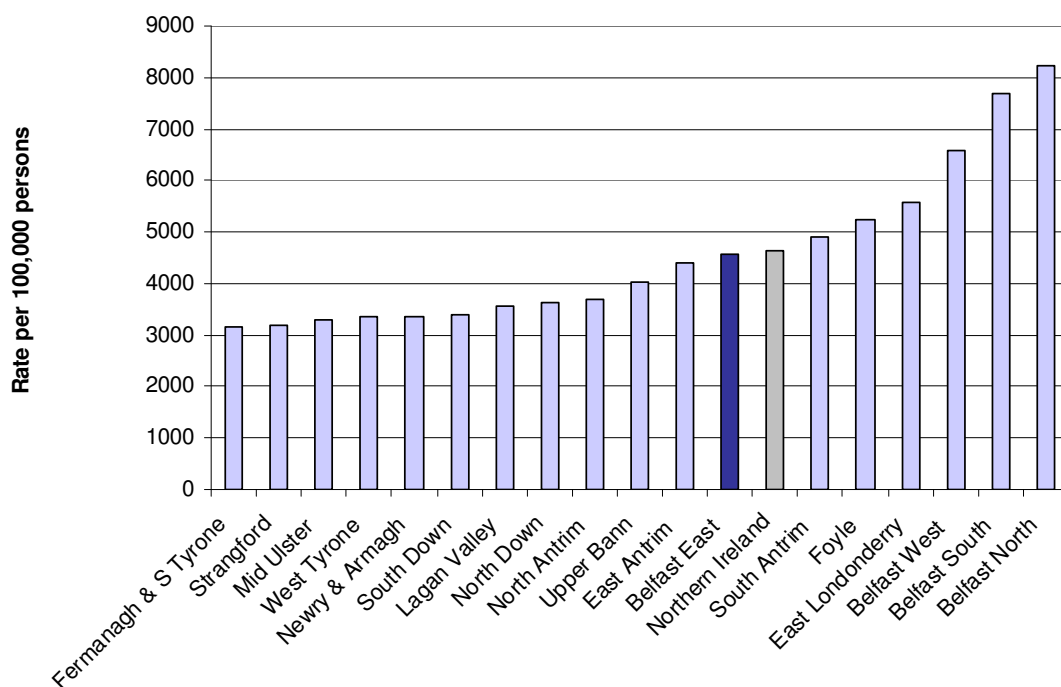
In 2009/10, there were 3,620 incidents of anti-social behaviour in the Belfast East area. This equates to a rate of 4,572 per 100,000 persons.

The rate of anti-social behaviour incidents in Belfast East was lower than the Northern Ireland rate of 4,625 per 100,000 persons.

Belfast East is the Constituency with the 7th highest rate of anti-social behaviour incidents.

Anti-social behaviour rates were lowest in the wards of Hillfoot (1,723), Upper Braniel (1,915) and Stormont (2,210) and highest in the wards of The Mount (11,322), Island (8,501) and Ballymacarrett (6,754).

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



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

7. DEPRIVATION AND POVERTY

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

Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure

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

Extent

Belfast East has an Extent of 19%. This means that 19% of people living in Belfast East live in the most deprived³¹ Super Output Areas³² in Northern Ireland. Belfast East is the Constituency ranked 6th highest in terms of Extent.

Income Deprivation Scale

The Income Deprivation Scale shows that there are 18,355 people in Belfast East experiencing Income Deprivation (*defined as being in receipt of income-related benefits/tax credits*). Belfast East is the Constituency ranked 12 out of 18 on this measure of deprivation.

Percentage of the total population Income Deprived

Almost a quarter (23%) of those living in Belfast East are income deprived. Belfast East is ranked 9 out of 18 on this measure of deprivation.

Employment Deprivation Scale

The Employment Deprivation Scale shows that 5,223 people in Belfast East are experiencing employment deprivation (*defined as being in receipt of employment-related benefits or on a government training programme*). Belfast East is ranked 17 out of 18 on this measure of deprivation.

Percentage of working age population Employment Deprived

One in ten (11%) of working age people in Belfast East are employment deprived. Belfast East is ranked 11 out of 18 on this measure of deprivation.

³¹ *Most deprived* is defined as within the first 30% most deprived areas, including all of the population in the 10% most deprived SOAs, and a proportion of the population from the next two deciles (i.e. the next 20%) on a sliding scale.

³² A geography designed for the collection of small area statistics with similar population sizes.

Table 3: NIMDM 2010 for the Constituency of Belfast East

| Measure | Score | Rank* |
|---|--------|-------|
| Extent (%) | 19 | 6 |
| Income Deprived Scale | 18,355 | 12 |
| % of total population Income Deprived | 23 | 9 |
| Employment Deprived Scale | 5,223 | 17 |
| % of working age population Employment Deprived | 11 | 11 |

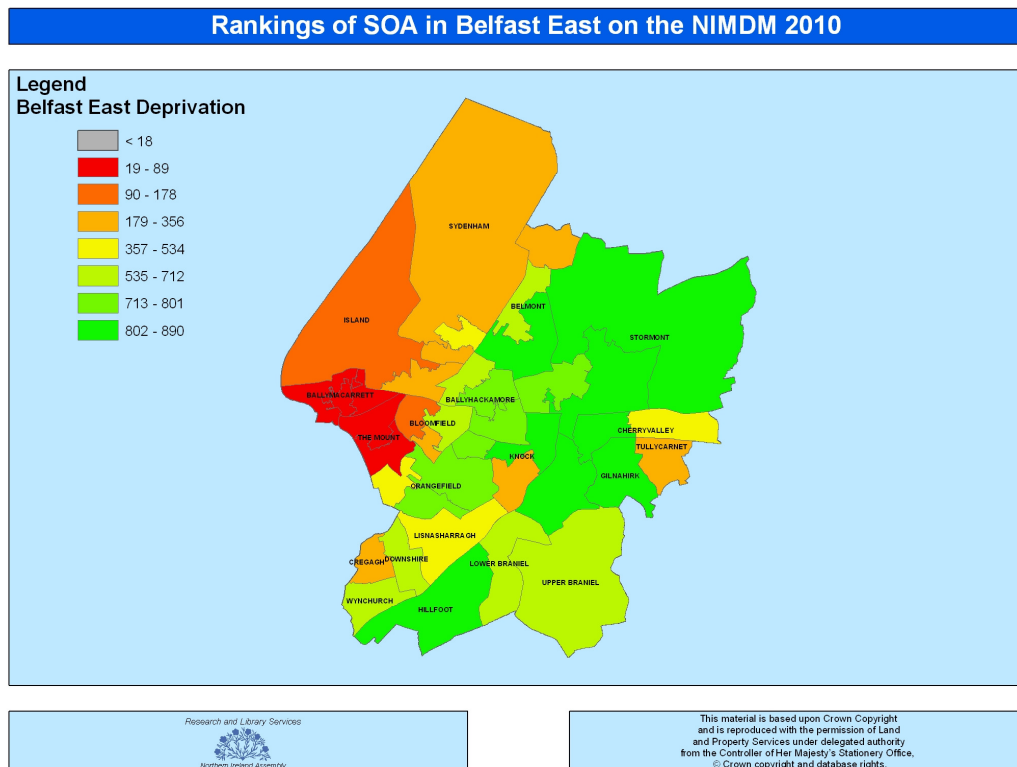
*1=most deprived, 18=least deprived

Source: NISRA, NINIS (Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM), 2010)

Deprivation within Belfast East

The most deprived areas in Belfast East were within the wards of Ballymacarrett and The Mount which were ranked in the 10% most deprived areas in Northern Ireland.

The least deprived areas in Belfast East covered the wards of Stormont, Gilnahirk and Hillfoot and parts of Cherryvalley, Belmont and Knock which were ranked in the 10% least deprived areas in Northern Ireland.



Source: NISRA, NINIS (NIMDM, 2010)

Benefit Claimants

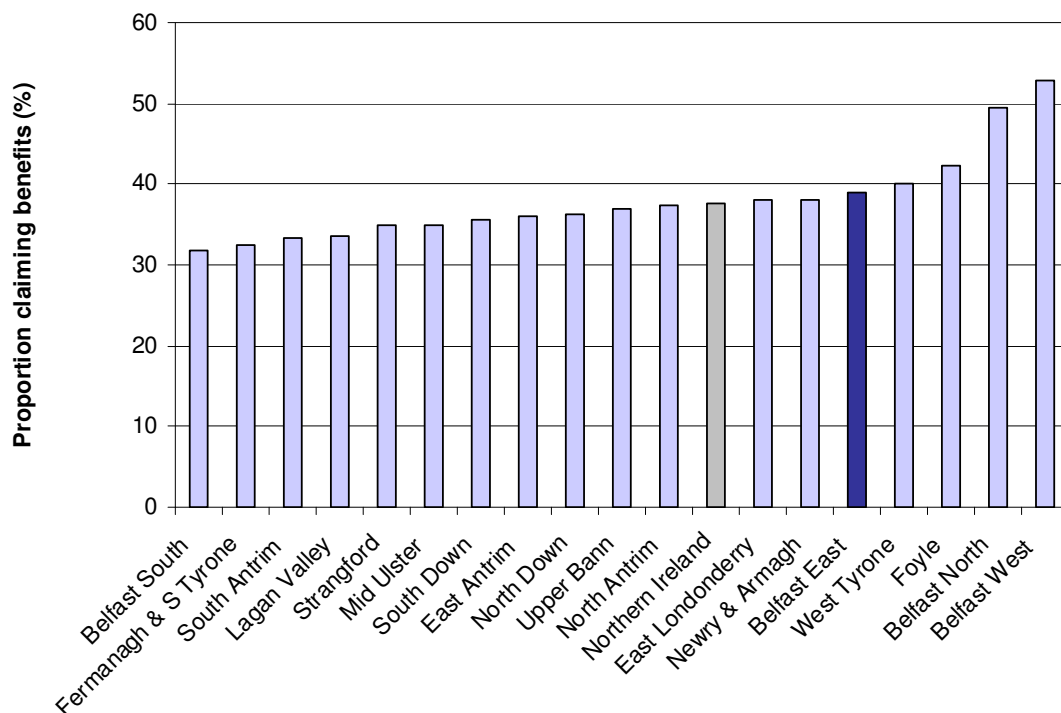
As at April 2010, there were 25,172 people in Belfast East were claiming at least one benefit. This equates to 38.9% of all constituents aged 16 claiming benefits.

There was little difference in the proportion of people aged 16 and over living in Belfast East who are claiming at least one benefit and the Northern Ireland figure of 37.6%.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 5th highest proportion of people aged 16 and over claiming at least one benefit.

The lowest proportions of benefit claimants were concentrated in the wards of Orangefield (27.3%), Wynchurch (27.6%) and Ballyhackamore (27.7%) and the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of Ballymacarrett (42.5%), The Mount (39.2%) and Cregagh (35.6%).

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



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

Income Support

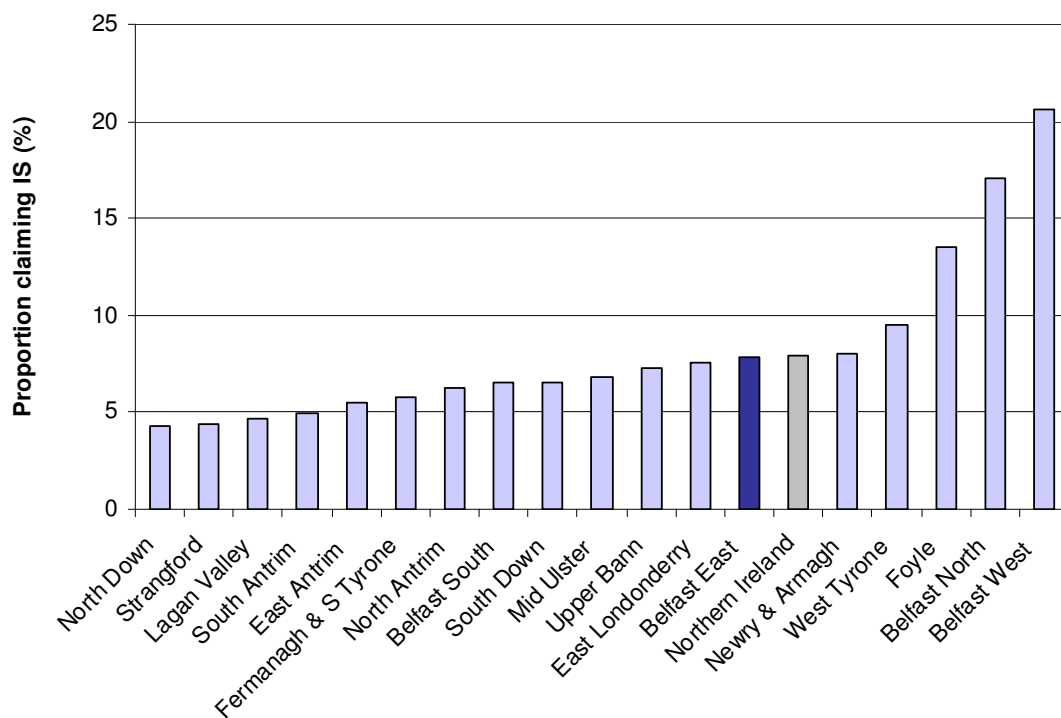
As at February 2010, there were 3,755 people claiming Income Support. This equates to 7.8% of all working age constituents claiming this benefit.

There was little difference in the proportion of working age people living in Belfast East claiming Income Support and the Northern Ireland figure of 8.0%.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 6th highest proportion of the working age people claiming Income Support.

The lowest proportions of Income Support claimants were concentrated in the wards³³ of Hillfoot (0.7%), Gilnahirk (0.9%) and Stormont (0.9%) and the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of Ballymacarrett (14.4%), The Mount (13.2%) and Island (8.1%).

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



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

³³ Ward figures calculated as a proportion of total population.

Housing Benefit

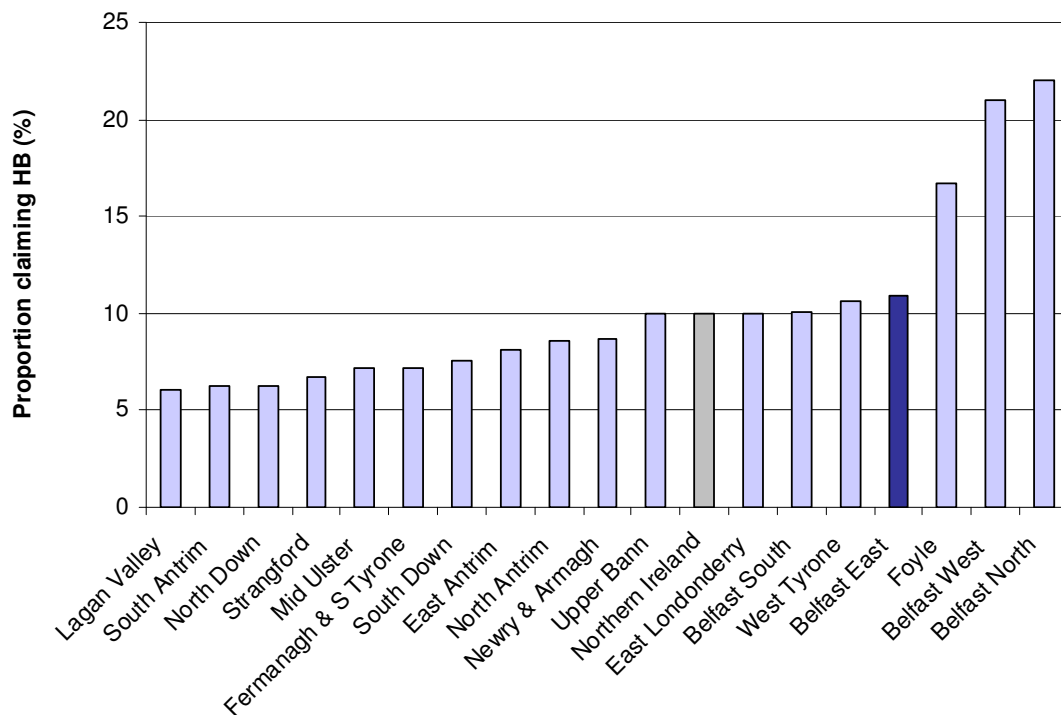
As at May 2009, there were 7,087 people claiming Housing Benefit. This equates to 11.0% of all constituents aged 16 and over claiming this benefit.

There was little difference in the proportion of Belfast East people aged 16 and over living in Belfast East claiming Housing Benefit and the Northern Ireland figure of 10.0%.

Belfast East was the Constituency with the 4th highest proportion of Housing Benefit claimants.

The lowest proportions of Housing Benefit claimants were concentrated in the wards of Hillfoot (0.8%), Gilnahirk (0.9%) and Stormont (1.6%) and the highest proportions were concentrated in the wards of Ballymacarrett (25.0%), The Mount (24.4%) and Island (16.7%).

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



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

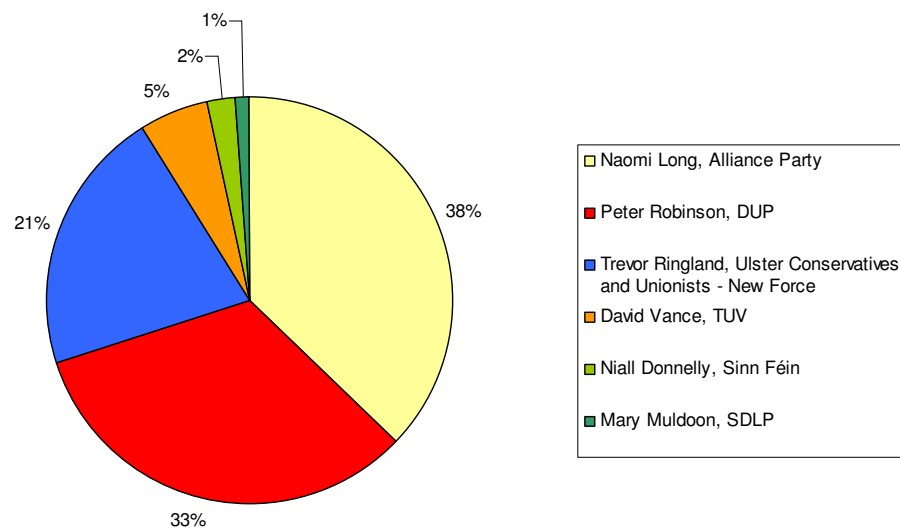
8. ELECTION RESULTS

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

2010 Westminster Election Results

In Belfast East, 59,007 people were eligible to vote in the 2010 Westminster Elections. 34,488 valid votes were cast, a turnout of 58.4%.³⁴ Turnout for Belfast East was slightly higher than the Northern Ireland turnout of 56.7%. The Alliance Party received the majority of votes in the Constituency with 12,839 votes. As a result, Naomi Long, was elected to represent Belfast East.

Chart 35: 2010 Westminster Election Results



| Candidate (*elected) | Votes | Party |
|----------------------|--------|--|
| Naomi Long* | 12,839 | Alliance Party |
| Peter Robinson | 11,306 | Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) |
| Trevor Ringland | 7,305 | Ulster Conservatives and Unionists - New Force |
| David Vance | 1,856 | Traditional Unionist Voice (TUV) |
| Niall Donnelly | 817 | Sinn Féin |
| Mary Muldoon | 365 | Social Democratic & Labour Party (SDLP) |

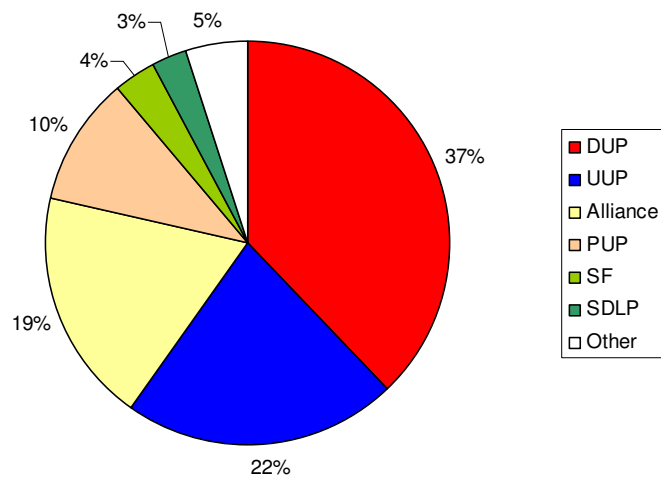
Source: The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland

³⁴ Excludes invalid votes, n = 124.

2007 Assembly Election Results

In Belfast East, 49,757 people were eligible to vote in the 2007 Assembly Elections. 29,629 valid votes were cast, a turnout of 59.5%.³⁵ Turnout for Belfast East was slightly lower than the Northern Ireland turnout of 62.3%. The DUP won 3 seats while the UUP, Alliance and the PUP won 1 seat each.

Chart 36: 2007 Assembly Election Results



| Candidate (*elected) | 1 st pref. votes | Party |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Peter Robinson* | 5,635 | Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) |
| Naomi Long* | 5,583 | Alliance Party |
| [Sir] Reg Empey* | 4,139 | Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) |
| Wallace [Lord] Browne* | 3,185 | DUP |
| Dawn Purvis* | 3,045 | Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) |
| Robin Newton* | 2,335 | DUP |
| Michael Copeland | 1,557 | UUP |
| Niall Donnelly | 1,055 | Sinn Féin |
| Jim Rodgers | 820 | UUP |
| Mary Muldoon | 816 | Social Democratic & Labour Party (SDLP) |
| Stephen Agnew | 653 | Green |
| Glyn Chambers | 427 | Conservative |
| Thomas Black | 225 | Socialist Party |
| Joe Bell | 107 | Workers Party |
| Rainbow George | 47 | Make Politicians History |

Source: *The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland*

³⁵ Excludes invalid votes, n = 242.



**Northern Ireland
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Research & Library Services
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