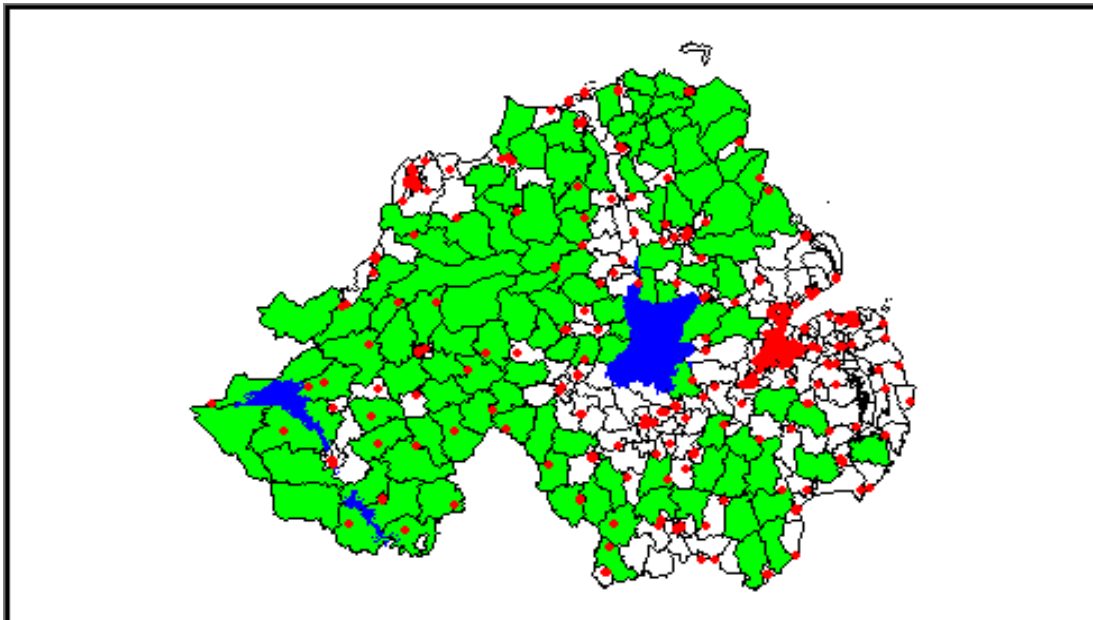


V COMPARISON OF RURAL AREAS AND THE NORTHERN IRELAND AVERAGE FOR ACCESSIBILITY INDICATORS

Pharmacies

A.168 Figure A.61 shows the location of pharmacies in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). Although 15% of the Northern Ireland population live in the most rural wards, 7% of community pharmacies are located in these areas.

Figure A.61 Pharmacies in Northern Ireland at Sept 2001 and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

A.169 Table A.74 shows that, on average, people in rural areas have to travel 7.4 minutes to their nearest pharmacy. This compares to 3.3 minutes in non-rural areas, a difference of 4.1 minutes. When these travel times are weighted for need, the difference is reduced to 3.5 minutes.

Table A.74 Travel time to the nearest pharmacy from rural areas (minutes)

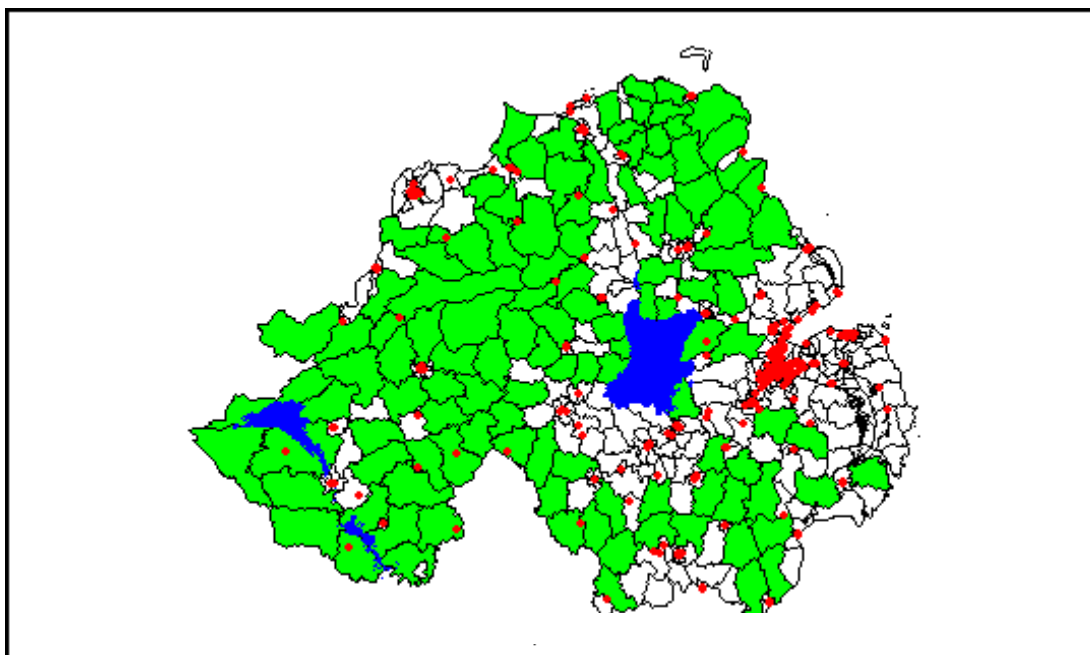
Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	7.4	6.9
Non-rural	3.3	3.4
Northern Ireland average	4.0	4.0

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Dentists

A.170 Figure A.62 shows the location of dental practitioners in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). Fifteen percent of the Northern Ireland population live in the most rural wards and 3% (or 25) of dental surgeries are located in these areas.

Figure A.62 Dental practitioners in Northern Ireland and 20% most rural wards: (4th quarter 2001)



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

A.171 The average travel time to a dental practitioner in rural areas is more than double that in non-rural areas (regardless of weighting for need), but is still less than 10 minutes (Table A.75). Despite the longer travel times in rural areas, there is virtually no difference in dental registration rates between

rural and non-rural areas (see section on ‘Morbidity and Utilisation’ indicators).

Table A.75 Travel time to the nearest dental practitioner from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	9.6	9.1
Non-rural	3.9	4.0
Northern Ireland average	4.8	4.8

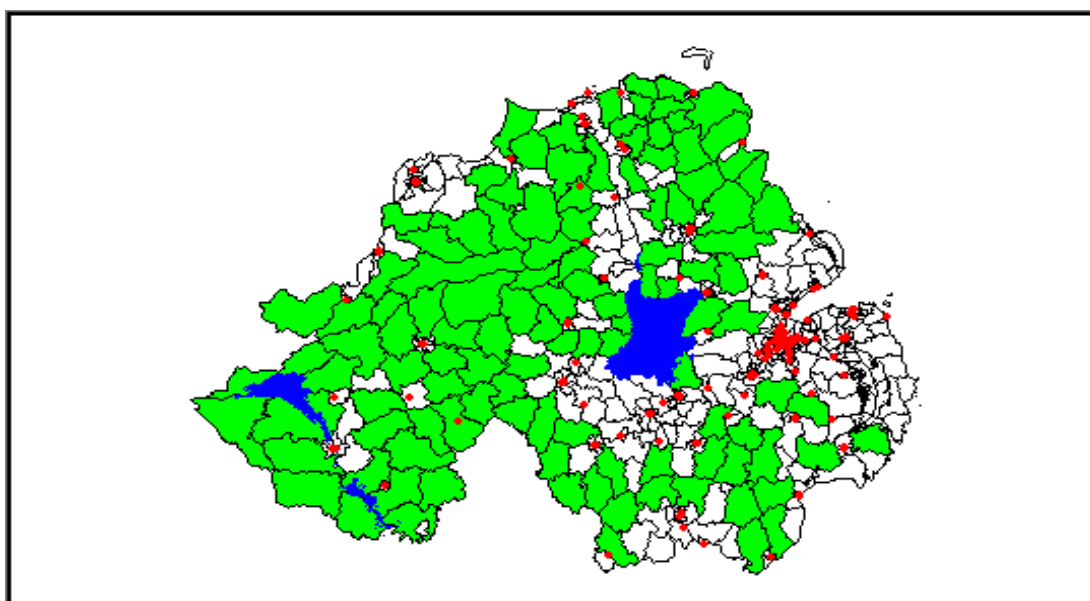
Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Opticians

A.172 Figure A.63 shows the location of ophthalmic practices in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). One percent of ophthalmic practices are located in the most rural areas, compared to 15% of the Northern Ireland population who live in these areas.

A.173 On average people in rural areas live just over 12 minutes from an ophthalmic practice (Table A.76). This is higher than the travel time in non-rural areas by almost 8 minutes. This gap is approximately the same when the travel time is weighted for need.

Figure A.63 Ophthalmic practices (4th quarter 2001) and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Table A.76 Travel time to the nearest ophthalmic practice from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	12.4	11.9
Non-rural	4.6	4.7
Northern Ireland average	5.8	5.8

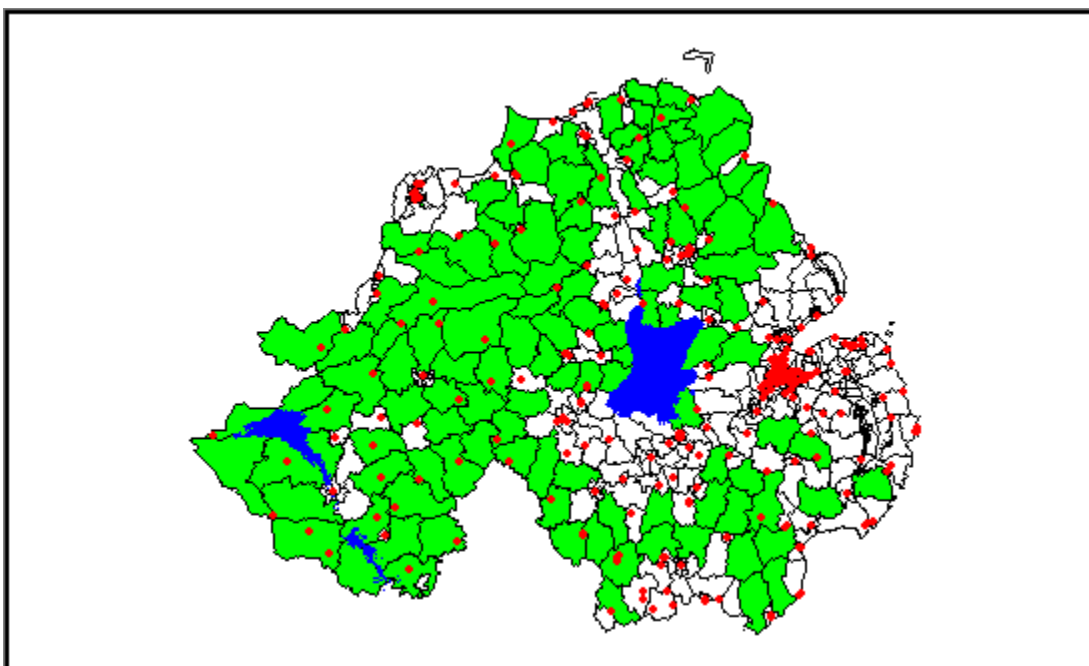
Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

GP Practices

A.174 Figure A.64 shows the location of GP practices in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). Thirteen percent of GP practices are located in the most rural areas. This is similar to the proportion of the Northern Ireland population (15%) who live in these areas.

A.175 The average time it takes to travel to the nearest GP practice from rural areas is only 7 minutes, although this is double the average in non-rural areas (Table A.77). This difference is slightly less when the travel time is weighted for need.

Figure A.64 General practices and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Table A.77 Travel time to the nearest GP practice from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	7.0	6.5
Non-rural	3.6	3.7
Northern Ireland average	4.1	4.1

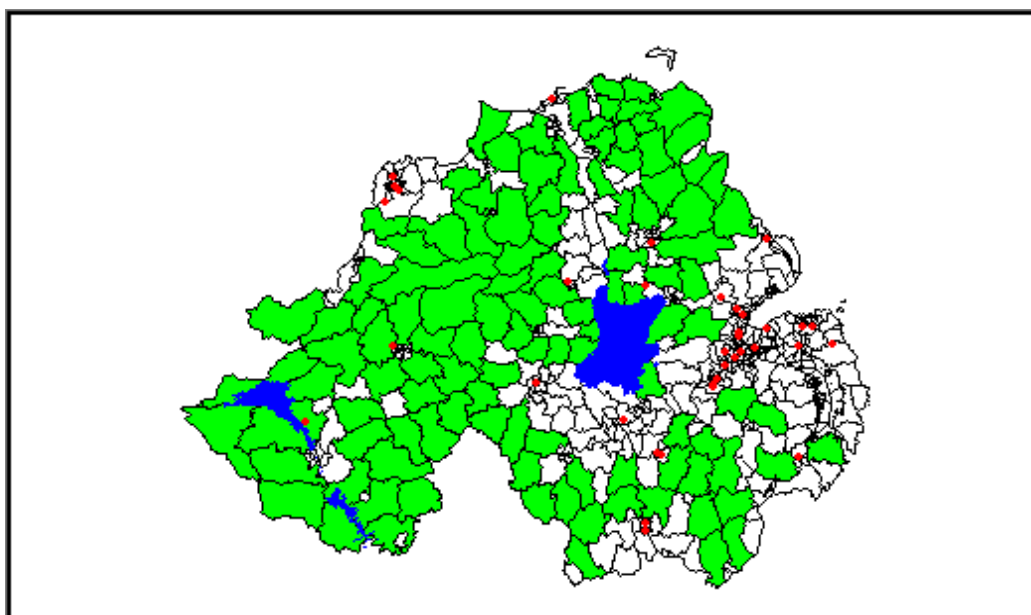
Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Children’s Homes

A.176 Figure A.65 shows the location of children’s homes in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). Sixteen percent of children in Northern Ireland are in the most rural areas but only one (or 2%) children’s home is located there. However, this does not take account of the number of places in each home.

A.177 The time it takes to travel to the nearest children’s home from rural areas is 21 minutes on average. This is more than double the time in non-rural areas and 10 minutes greater than the Northern Ireland average. The difference is slightly less when weighted for need (Table A.78).

Figure A.65 Children’s homes and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Table A.78 Travel time to the nearest children’s home from rural areas (minutes)

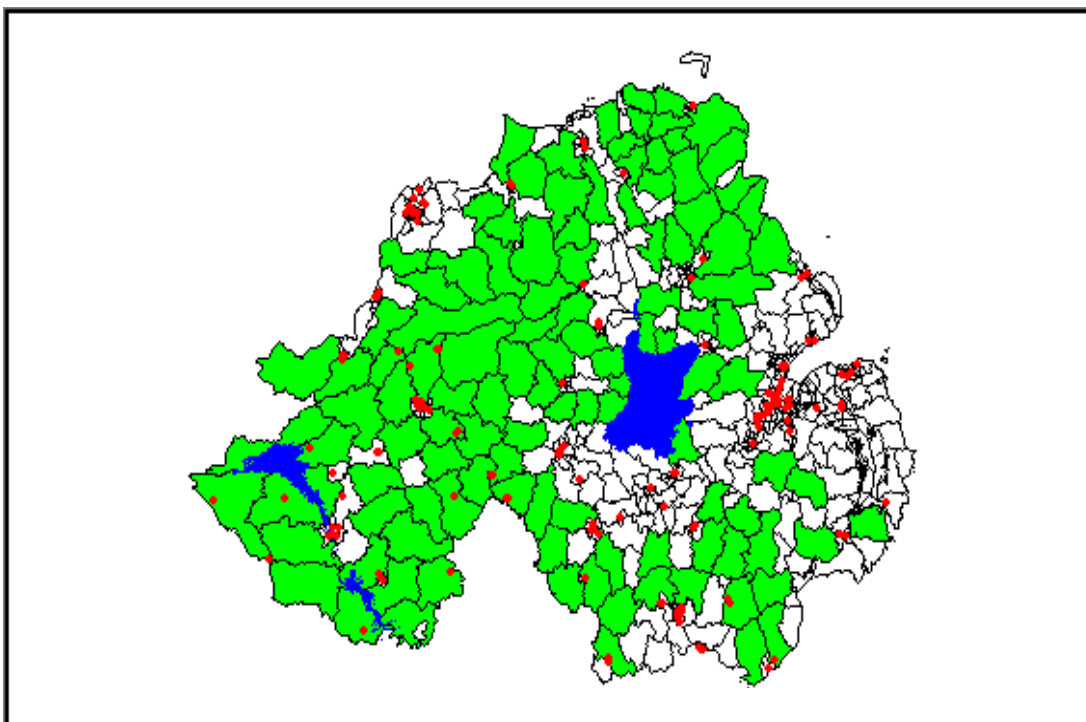
Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	20.8	19.6
Non-rural	8.8	9.0
Northern Ireland average	10.8	10.8

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Day Centres

A.178 Figure A.66 shows the location of day centres in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). Sixteen percent of day centres are located in the most rural areas - this is similar to the proportion of the Northern Ireland population (15%) who live in these areas.

Figure A.66 Day centres and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

A.179 The average travel time to a day centre from rural areas is 11 minutes - just over twice that in non-rural areas, and slightly less than double when weighted for need.

Table A.79 Travel time to the nearest day centre from rural areas (minutes)

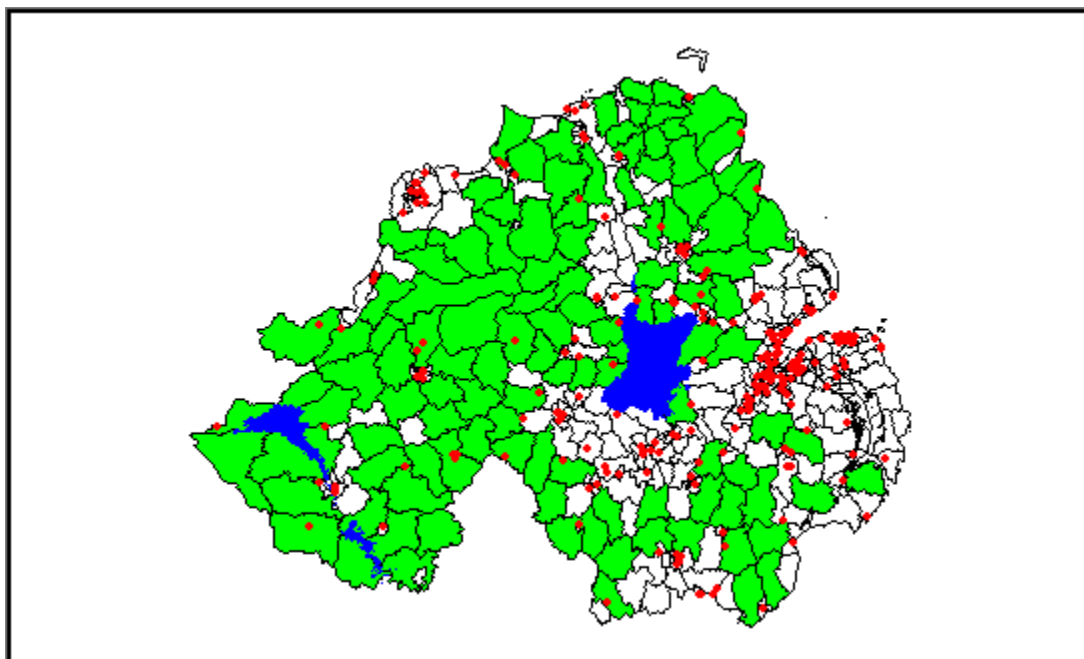
Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	11.2	10.8
Non-rural	5.5	5.5
Northern Ireland average	6.4	6.4

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Nursing Homes

A.180 Figure A.67 shows the location of nursing homes in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). The same proportion of nursing homes and population (15%) reside in the most rural areas.

Figure A.67 Nursing homes and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

A.181 The average travel time from rural areas is less than 10 minutes to the nearest nursing home - more than double that in non-rural areas, whether weighted for need or not.

Table A.80 Travel time to the nearest nursing home from rural areas (minutes)

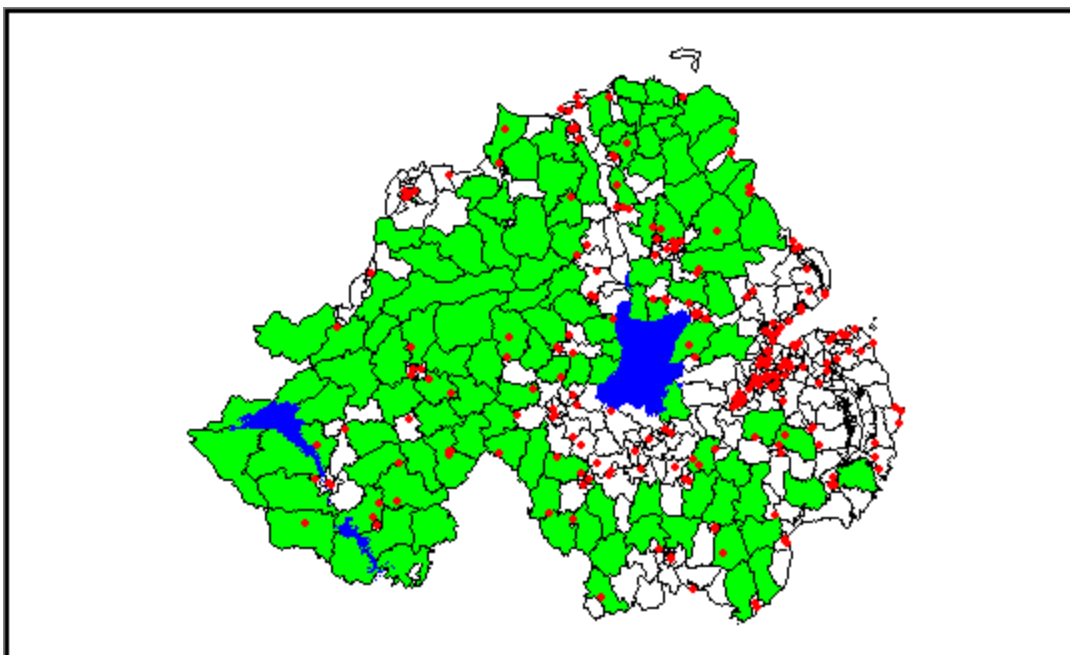
Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	9.6	9.0
Non-rural	4.0	4.1
Northern Ireland average	4.9	4.9

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Residential Homes for the Elderly

A.182 Figure A.68 shows the location of residential homes for the elderly in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). Eighteen percent of residential homes for the elderly are located in the most rural areas, but only 14% of elderly people live in the most rural areas. However this does not take account of the number of places available in each home.

Figure A.68 Residential homes for the elderly (2002) and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

A.183 The average travel time to the nearest residential home for the elderly is under 10 minutes but is more than twice that in non-rural areas, regardless of weighting for need (Table A.81).

Table A.81 Travel time to the nearest residential home for the elderly from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	9.4	8.7
Non-rural	3.8	3.9
Northern Ireland average	4.6	4.6

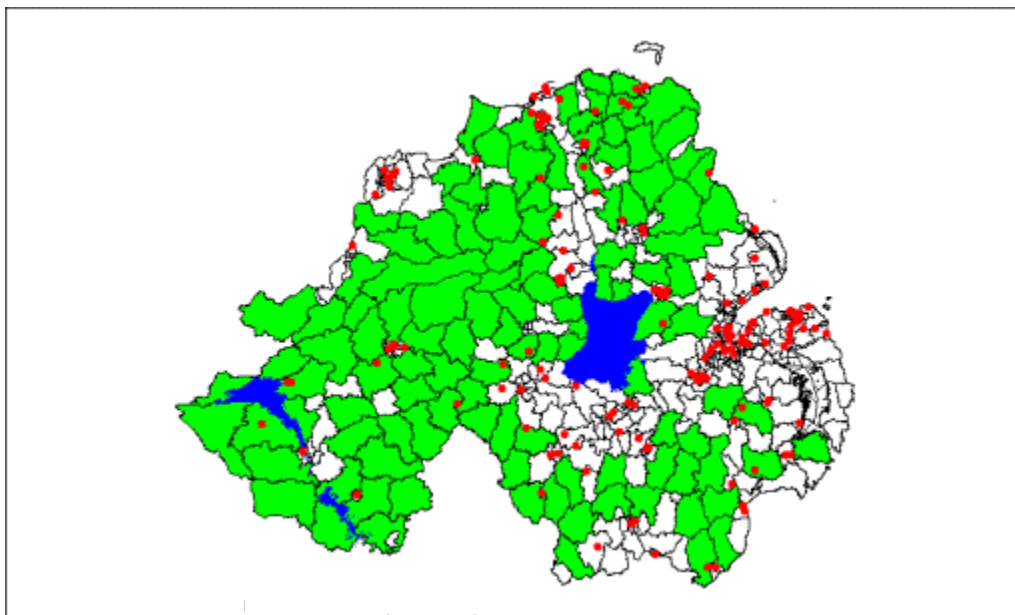
Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Residential Homes for the Mental Health, Learning Disability and Physical and Sensory Disability Programmes of Care

A.184 Figure A.69 shows the location of residential homes for the mental health, learning disability and physical and sensory disability programmes of care in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). Nineteen percent of residential homes for these programmes of care are located in deprived areas and only 15% of the population live in these areas. However this does not take account of the number of places available in each home.

A.185 Travel time from rural areas is more than twice as long as from non-rural areas regardless of weighting for need (Table A.82).

Figure A.69 Residential homes for mental health, learning disability and physical and sensory disability and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Table A.82 Travel time to the nearest residential home for mental health, learning disability and physical and sensory disability from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	11.4	10.8
Non-rural	4.8	4.9
Northern Ireland average	5.8	5.8

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Hospitals Providing Acute Inpatient Services

A.186 Figure A.70 shows the location of hospitals providing acute inpatient care in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). None of these hospitals are located in the most rural areas, but 15% of the population of Northern Ireland live in these areas.

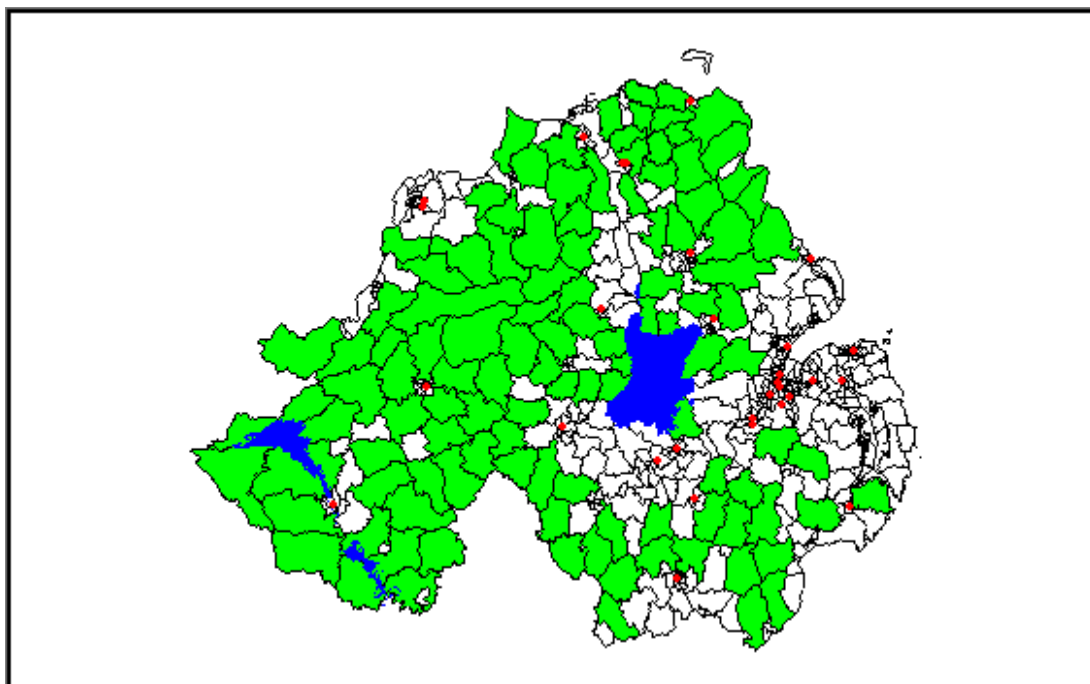
A.187 The average time it takes to travel to the nearest acute inpatient hospital from rural areas is almost 19 minutes (Table A.83). The travel time from rural areas is more than twice as long as from non-rural areas and almost twice as long when weighted for need.

Table A.83 Travel time to the nearest hospital providing acute inpatient services from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	18.8	17.8
Non-rural	8.5	10.1
Northern Ireland average	10.1	10.1

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Figure A.70 Inpatient Acute Hospitals and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Hospitals Providing Acute Outpatient Services

A.188 Figure A.71 shows the location of hospitals providing acute outpatient care in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). None of these hospitals is located in the most rural areas, but 15% of the population of Northern Ireland live in these areas.

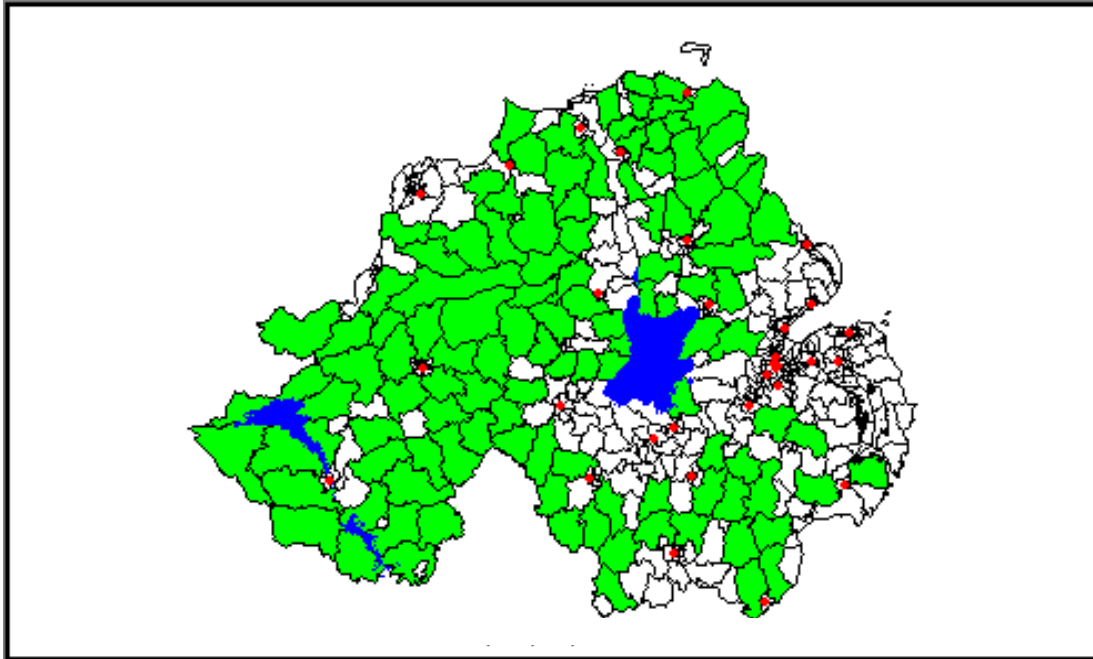
A.189 The average travel time from rural areas to an acute outpatient hospital is just over 17 minutes (Table A.84). This is more than twice as long as from non-rural areas, regardless of weighting for need.

Table A.84 Travel time to the nearest hospital providing acute outpatient services from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	17.1	16.3
Non-rural	7.8	7.9
Northern Ireland average	9.2	9.2

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Figure A.71 Outpatient acute hospitals and 20% most rural wards: 2002

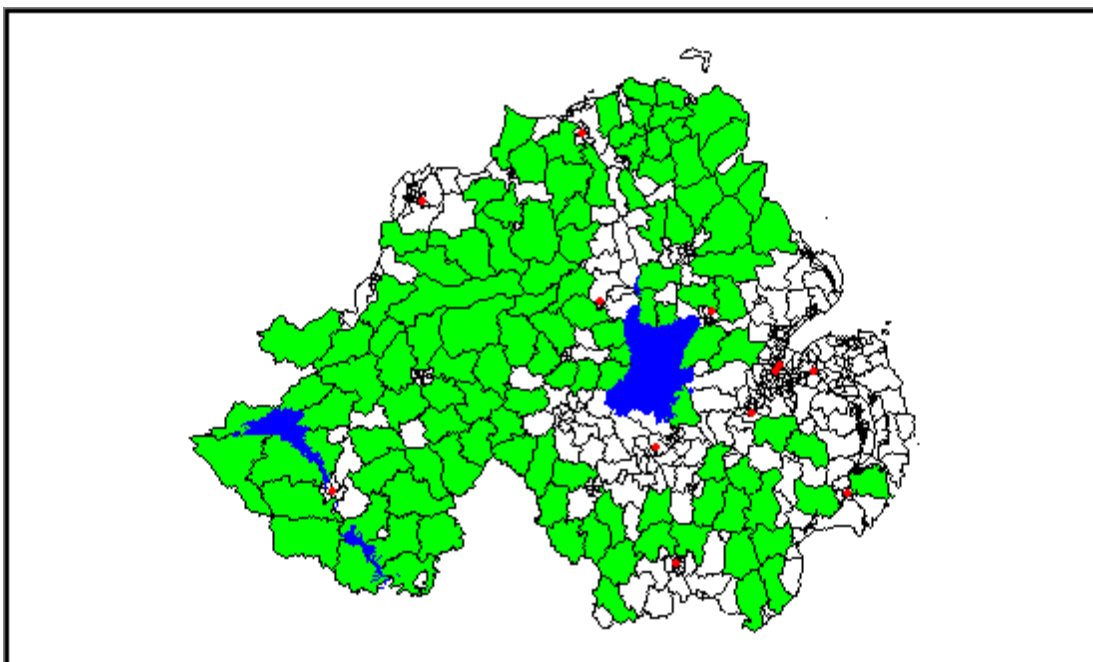


Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Maternity Units

A.190 Figure A.72 shows the location of maternity units in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). No maternity units are located in the most rural areas, whilst 14% of women aged 15-44 live in these areas.

Figure A.72 Maternity units and 20% most rural wards: 2002



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

A.191 It takes 25 minutes on average to travel to a maternity unit from rural areas, which is almost twice that in non-rural areas (Table A.85). When weighted for need, the access time in rural areas is more than twice that in non-rural areas.

Table A.85 Travel time to the nearest maternity unit from rural areas (minutes)

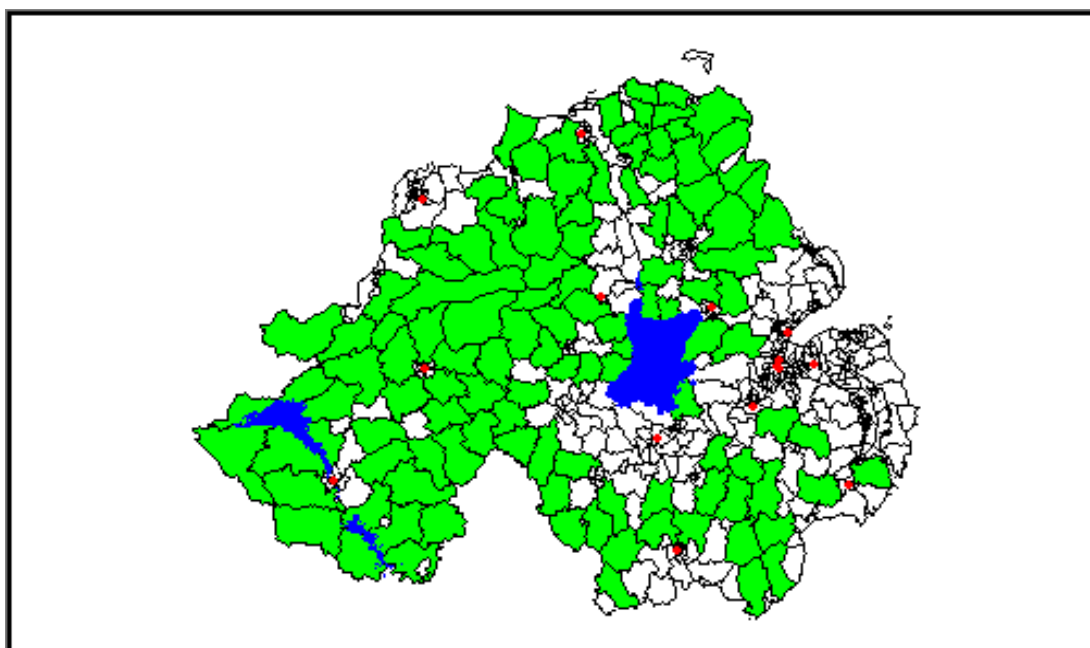
Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	25.1	26.8
Non-rural	13.0	12.7
Northern Ireland average	14.7	14.7

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Accident and Emergency Departments (excluding Minor Injury Units)

A.192 Figure A.73 shows the location of A&E Departments in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). No A&E Departments are located in the most rural areas, whilst 15% of the population of Northern Ireland live in these areas.

Figure A.73 Accident and Emergency departments and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

A.193 The average travel time from rural areas to an A&E Department is over 21 minutes, which is almost twice as long as from non-rural areas (Table A.86). The difference is slightly less when weighted for need.

Table A.86 Travel time to the nearest A&E Department from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	21.6	20.5
Non-rural	11.8	12.0
Northern Ireland average	13.3	13.3

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Accident and Emergency Departments (including Minor Injury Units)

A.194 Figure A.74 shows the location of A&E Departments and MIUs in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). No A&E Departments or MIUs are located in the most rural areas, whilst 15% of the population of Northern Ireland live in these areas.

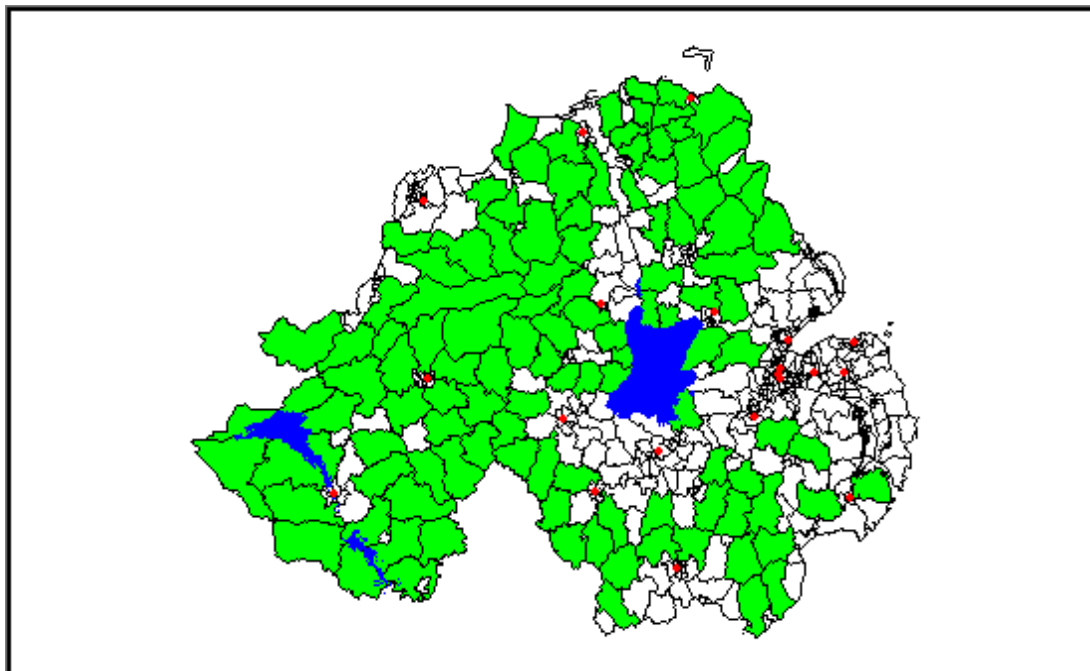
A.195 The average travel time from rural areas to the nearest A&E Department or MIU is just under 20 minutes, which is almost twice as a long as from non-rural areas (Table A.87). The difference is slightly less when weighted for need.

Table A.87 Travel time to the nearest A&E department or MIU from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	19.7	18.6
Non-rural	10.0	10.2
Northern Ireland average	11.5	11.5

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Figure A.74 Accident and Emergency and minor injuries units (2002) and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Mental Health Hospitals Providing Inpatient Services

A.196 Figure A.75 shows the location of mental health hospitals providing inpatient services in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). No mental health hospitals are located in the most rural areas

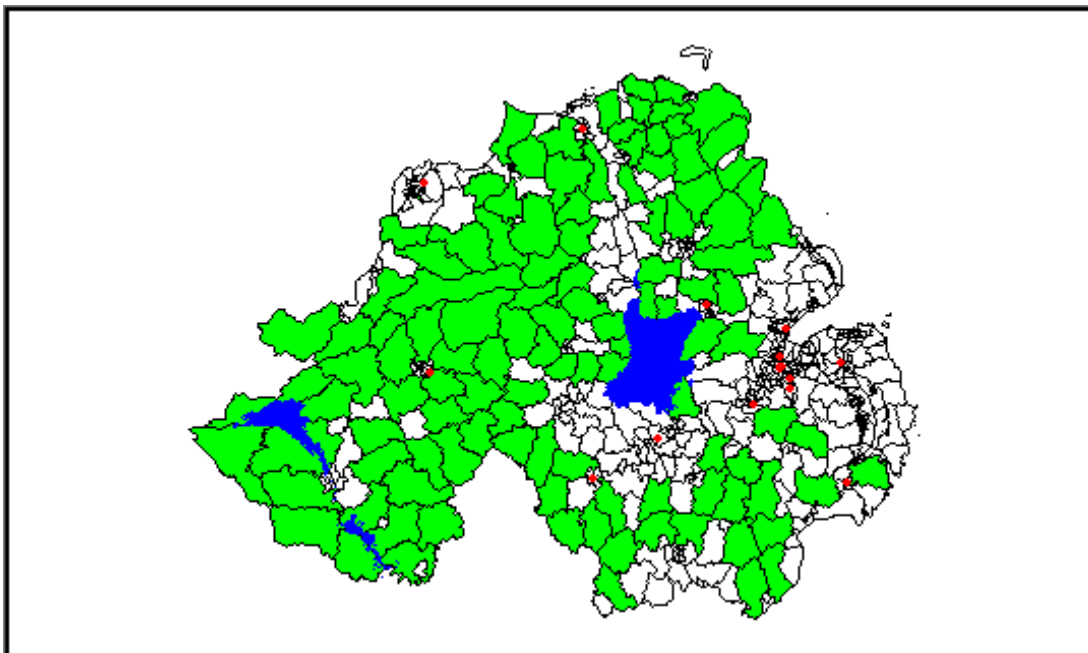
A.197 The average travel time from rural areas is almost thirty minutes. This is more than twice as long as from non-rural areas. The difference is slightly less when weighted for need.

Table A.88 Travel time to the nearest mental health hospital with inpatient services from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	27.2	25.5
Non-rural	13.1	13.4
Northern Ireland average	15.3	15.3

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Figure A.75 Inpatient mental health hospitals (2002) and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Mental Health Hospitals Providing Outpatient Services

A.198 Figure A.76 shows the location of mental health hospitals providing outpatient services in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). No mental health hospitals are located in the most rural areas, whilst 15% of the population of Northern Ireland live in these areas.

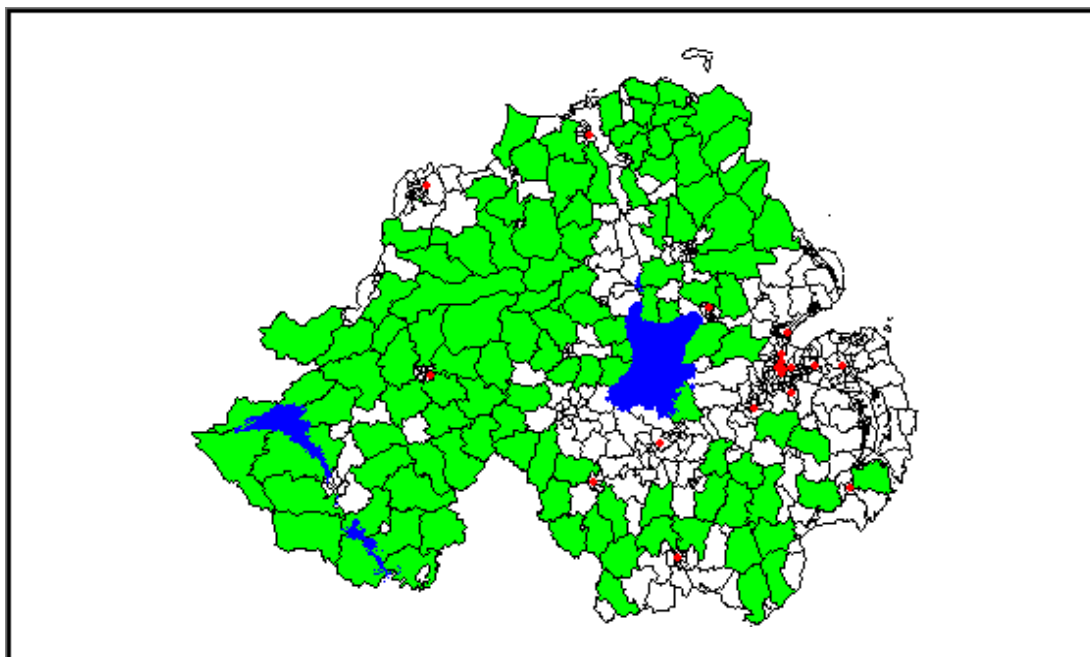
A.199 The travel time to the nearest mental health hospital with outpatient services from rural areas is 26 minutes on average, which is more than twice the time from non-rural areas (Table A.89). The difference is slightly less when weighted for need.

Table A.89 Travel time to the nearest mental health hospital with outpatient services from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	26.1	24.7
Non-rural	11.6	11.9
Northern Ireland average	13.8	13.8

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Figure A.76 Outpatient mental health hospitals (2002) and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Hospitals Providing Learning Disability Inpatient Services

A.200 Figure A.77 shows the location of 35 hospitals providing learning disability inpatient services in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). Only one hospital providing learning disability services is located in the most rural areas, but 15% of the population of Northern Ireland live in these areas.

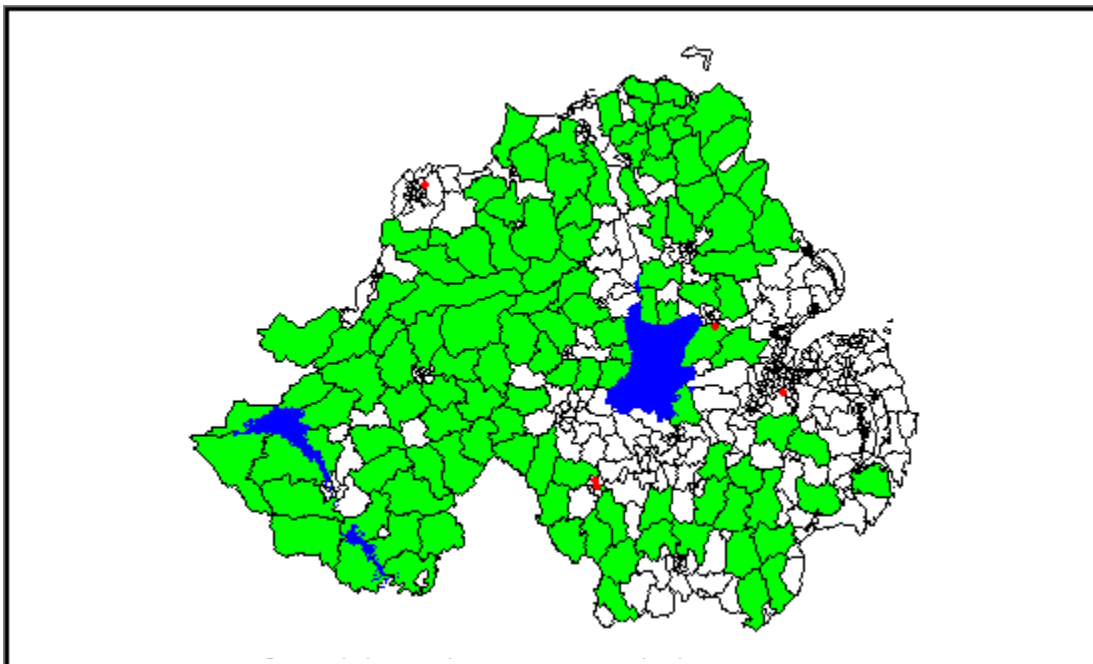
A.201 On average, it takes almost 41 minutes to travel to the nearest hospital providing learning disability inpatient services from rural areas and almost half this time from non-rural areas (Table A.90). The difference is slightly less when weighted for need.

Table A.90 Travel time to the nearest learning disability hospital with inpatient services from rural areas (minutes)

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	40.8	37.7
Non-rural	22.3	22.9
Northern Ireland average	25.2	25.2

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Figure A.77 Learning disability inpatient hospitals (2002) and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Hospitals Providing Learning Disability Outpatient Services

A.202 Figure A.78 shows the location of hospitals providing learning disability outpatient services in Northern Ireland (marked in red). It also shows the 20% most rural wards in Northern Ireland (marked in green). There are five (14%) locations providing outpatient services in the most rural areas. This is similar to the proportion of the population who live in these areas.

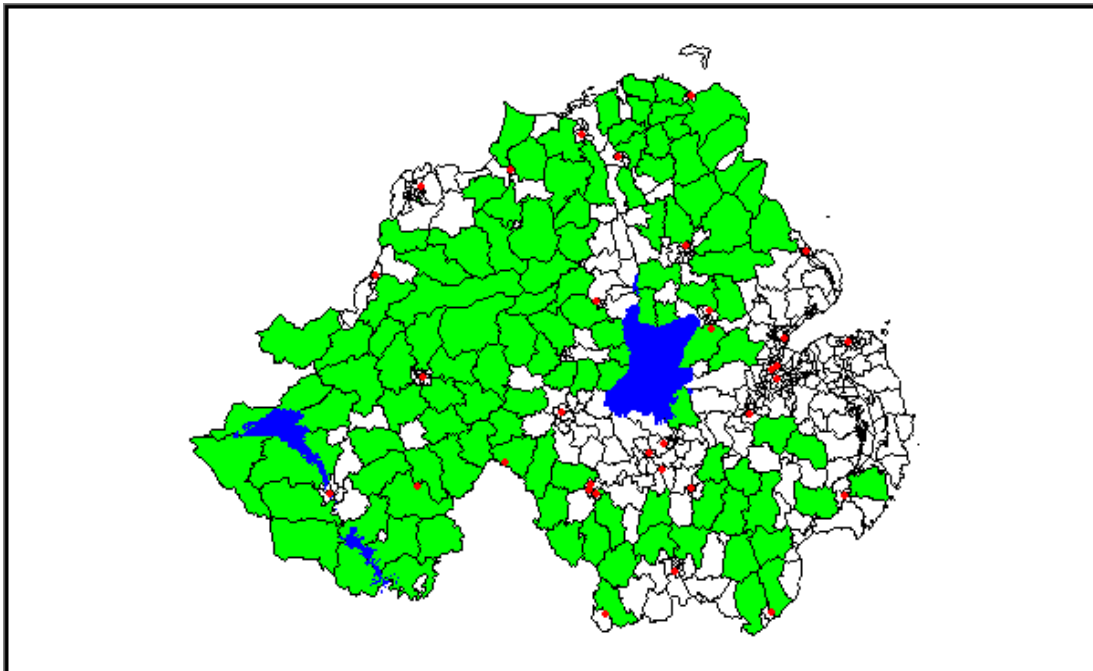
A.203 The travel time to a hospital with learning disability outpatient services is 15 minutes on average from rural areas, which is 7 minutes longer than from non-rural areas (Table A.91). The difference reduces slightly to 6 minutes when weighted for need.

Table A.91 Travel time to the nearest hospital with learning disability outpatient services from rural areas

Area	Average access time (mins)	Average access time weighted for need (mins)
Rural	15.3	14.5
Non-rural	8.3	8.5
Northern Ireland average	9.4	9.4

Source: Project Support Analysis Branch

Figure A.78 Hospitals providing learning disability outpatient services (2002) and 20% most rural wards



Source: Project Support Analysis Branch