

## Children's Services

In 2000/01, social workers carried out over three quarters (1,840) of all child protection investigations, 19.9% (470) were conducted as joint investigations with the police and the police carried out 2.1% (50) of investigations alone. This pattern varied slightly across Trusts. In Craigavon & Banbridge, almost two thirds (63.2%) of all investigations conducted were carried out under joint protocol, compared with 9% in Foyle.

Over the last three years, Craigavon & Banbridge has shown a significant increase in the number of child protection investigations being carried out under joint protocol, from 17.2% in 1998/99 to 63.2% in 2000/01. On the other hand, Causeway and Armagh & Dungannon have shown significant decreases over the same period, from 74.8% & 57.4% respectively in 1998/99 to 40.9% and 18% respectively in 2000/01.

In the Northern, Western and Eastern Boards the police were less likely to be involved in child protection investigations than in the Southern Board (Table 5.2).

### Children on the Child Protection Register

**CH01** *Children on child protection register at 31 March per 10,000-population aged under 18*

**Table 5.3** : Children on the Child Protection Register at 31 March (1999-2001)

Trust	CH01		
	1999	2000	2001
North & West Belfast	65.0	61.7	57.2
South & East Belfast	39.2	43.2	50.8
Ulster Community & Hosp.	46.0	51.1	35.6
Down Lisburn	39.4	35.8	34.5
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>44.8</b>
Causeway	15.7	27.1	20.0
Homefirst	28.4	23.6	24.9
<b>Northern</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>23.8</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	10.2	24.0	19.5
Craigavon & Banbridge	10.7	6.0	3.5
Newry & Mourne	13.4	14.5	18.9
<b>Southern</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>13.7</b>
Foyle	37.9	34.4	36.0
Sperrin Lakeland	19.6	24.4	21.3
<b>Western</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>29.9</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>30.7</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>23.8</b>

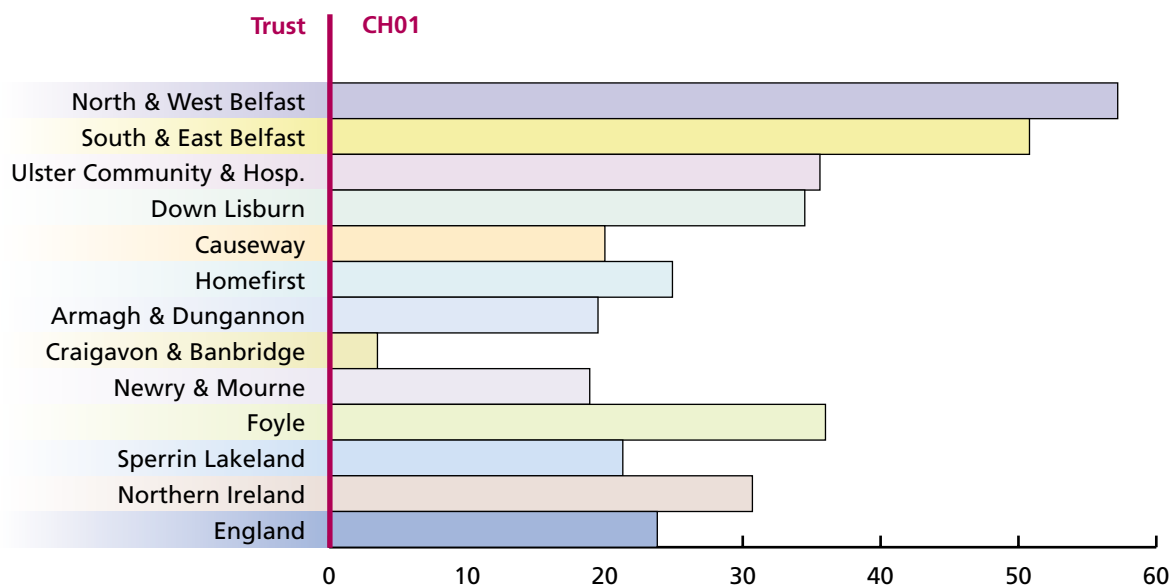
## Children's Services

At 31 March 2001, there were 1,414 children on the child protection register (CPR), a rate of 30.7 children per 10,000-population aged under 18, higher than the corresponding figure for England (23.8). The number of children on the child protection register has decreased slightly since 1999 (1,463), when the rate was 31.8 children per 10,000-population aged under 18.

The rate varies significantly across Trusts, from 57.2 children per 10,000-population aged under 18 in North & West Belfast to 3.5 in Craigavon & Banbridge. The rate of children on the child protection register has increased in five of the eleven Trusts (South & East Belfast, Causeway, Armagh & Dungannon, Newry & Mourne and Sperrin Lakeland). South & East Belfast has increased most significantly over the last three years, from 39.2 children per 10,000-population aged under 18 in 1999 to 50.8 in 20/01.

Across Boards, the Eastern Board had the highest rate of children on the child protection register (44.8), whilst the Southern Board had the lowest rate (13.7) (Table 5.3 and Figure 5.2).

**Figure 5.2** ■ Children on the Child Protection Register per 10,000-population aged under 18 (2001)



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## Age of Children on the Child Protection Register

- CH15** *Children on the child protection register aged under 5 as a percentage of all children under 18 on the child protection register*
- CH16** *Children on the child protection register aged 5-11 as a percentage of all children under 18 on the child protection register*
- CH17** *Children on the Child Protection Register aged 12-15 as a percentage of all children under 18 on the child protection register*
- CH18** *Children on the child protection register aged 16 & Over as a percentage of all children under 18 on the child protection register*

**Table 5.4** : Children on Child Protection Register by Age Group at 31 March 2001

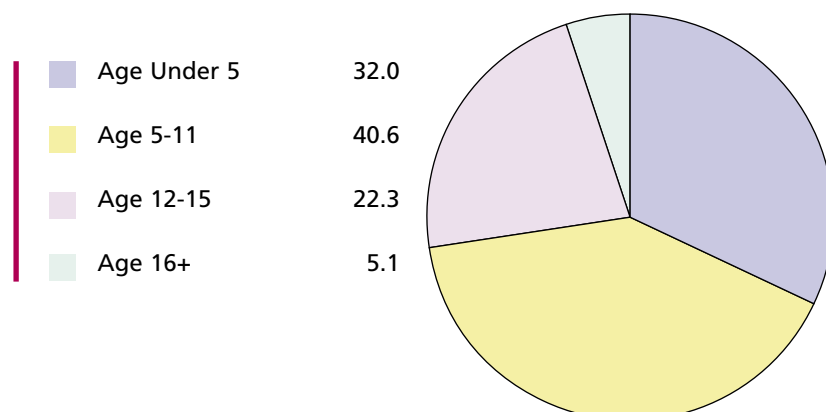
Trust	CH15	CH16	CH17	CH18
North & West Belfast	30.2	44.3	22.7	2.7
South & East Belfast	31.8	36.4	24.8	7.0
Ulster Community & Hosp. Down Lisburn	35.4	45.7	13.4	5.5
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Causeway	37.3	35.3	21.6	5.9
Homefirst	32.3	40.6	22.1	5.1
<b>Northern</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	29.5	44.3	19.7	6.6
Craigavon & Banbridge	27.3	36.4	36.4	0.0
Newry & Mourne	34.6	26.9	30.8	7.7
<b>Southern</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>6.5</b>
Foyle	25.3	37.6	29.6	7.5
Sperrin Lakeland	39.0	41.6	16.9	2.6
<b>Western</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>5.1</b>

At 31 March 2001, the majority (40.6%) of children on the child protection register were aged 5-11, 32% were aged under 5, 22.3% were aged 12-15 and 5.1% were aged 16 & over. Across Trusts there was little variation in relation to the proportions of children on the child protection register in each age group.

The proportion of children aged under 5 on the child protection register varied from 25.3 % in Foyle to 39.0% in Sperrin Lakeland. There was also a slight variation in the 12-15 age group which ranged from 13.4% in Ulster Community & Hospitals to 36.4% in Craigavon & Banbridge. The two remaining age groups remained quite constant, with little variation; although, the 16 & over age group had significantly less proportions of children on the child protection register (Table 5.4 and Figure 5.3).

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Figure 5.3 : Children on the Child Protection Register by Age (2000/01)



**CH03** Registrations on Child Protection Register during the year ended 31 March per 10,000-population aged under 18

**CH10** De-registrations from Child Protection Register during the year ended 31 March per 10,000-population aged under 18

**CH11a** Re-registrations on Child Protection Register during the year ended 31 March per 10,000-population aged under 18

Table 5.5 : Registrations, De-registrations & Re-registrations during Year ended 31 March

Trust	CH03			CH10			CH11a		
	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01
North & West Belfast	40.8	34.3	37.5	53.4	37.7	41.3	7.7	15.7	21.0
South & East Belfast	34.0	31.1	34.4	31.4	27.1	25.9	12.6	20.6	17.9
Ulster Community & Hosp.	34.8	26.1	23.3	40.7	23.6	40.7	18.5	26.9	26.5
Down Lisburn	28.4	28.4	20.8	33.1	31.8	23.7	16.4	30.6	17.3
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>20.3</b>
Causeway	15.3	29.5	16.5	12.2	18.1	23.6	23.1	13.3	11.9
Homefirst	19.7	17.4	19.5	10.5	22.3	18.1	7.0	8.6	15.3
<b>Northern</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>14.6</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	5.4	21.1	16.0	4.5	9.0	17.0	29.4	22.7	26.0
Craigavon & Banbridge	14.2	12.6	8.5	12.0	17.3	10.7	6.7	22.5	0.0
Newry & Mourne	9.8	14.2	16.0	9.1	13.4	11.6	7.4	15.4	13.6
<b>Southern</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>15.7</b>
Foyle	28.2	23.2	18.6	18.6	25.5	17.0	13.7	18.3	10.4
Sperrin Lakeland	17.7	17.7	13.3	14.9	13.0	16.3	9.4	18.8	22.9
<b>Western</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>14.6</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>17.6</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>

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Information on registrations, re-registrations and de-registrations, gives an indication of the activity and throughput on the child protection during the year. In 2000/01, there were 970 registrations on the child protection register, 1,034 de-registrations and 171 re-registrations.

Over the last three years, the number of registrations has decreased slightly from 1,093 in 1998/99 to 970 in 2000/01, the number of de-registrations increased from 1,021 in 1998/99 to 1,034 in 2000/01 and the number of re-registrations increased from 134 in 1998/99 to 171 in 2000/01.

In 2000/01, North & West Belfast had the highest rate of registrations on the child protection register (37.5 per 10,000-population aged under 18), whilst Craigavon & Banbridge had the lowest (8.5). Since 1998/99, the rate of registrations on the child protection register decreased significantly in Ulster Community & Hospitals, from 34.8 per 10,000-population aged under 18 in 1998/99 to 23.3 in 2000/01.

A de-registration is when a child is removed from the child protection register because the threat/need for protection is perceived to have gone. The rate of de-registration from the child protection register during 2000/01, ranged from 41.3 per 10,000-population aged under 18 in North & West Belfast to 10.7 in Craigavon & Banbridge.

Across Boards, the Eastern Board (32.4) had the highest rate of de-registrations from the child protection register, whilst the Southern Board had the lowest (13.2). Since 1998/99, five trusts indicated that the rate of de-registrations from the child protection register had decreased.

Almost 20% (171) of all registrations in 2000/01 were re-registrations, i.e. children who had previously been on the child protection register either in early years or during the current year. Across Trusts there was little variation; although, one Trust (Craigavon & Banbridge) did not have any children on the child protection register who had previously been registered (Table 5.5 and Figure 5.4).

**Figure 5.4 : Registrations and De-registrations on the Child Protection Register during year ended 31 March 2001**

Trust	CH03	CH10
North & West Belfast	37.5	41.3
South & East Belfast	34.4	25.9
Ulster Community & Hosp.	23.3	40.7
Down Lisburn	20.8	23.7
Causeway	16.5	23.6
Homefirst	19.5	18.1
Armagh & Dungannon	16.0	17.0
Craigavon & Banbridge	8.5	10.7
Newry & Mourne	16.0	11.6
Foyle	18.6	17.0
Sperrin Lakeland	13.3	16.3
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>22.5</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>26.7</b>



## Children's Services

### Registrations on Child Protection Register by Category of Abuse

The category of abuse under which each child is registered is decided at the Child Protection Conference, when agreement is reached that protection is necessary. A child is recorded under the abuse category, which provides the most accurate picture of the situation.

There are four main categories, neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse, as well as a number of mixed categories that reflect more complex cases, e.g. 'neglect and physical abuse' and 'physical and sexual abuse'. For the purpose of this analysis, registrations recorded under 'mixed categories' have been included in each of the relevant categories.

#### ABUSE CATEGORIES:

- Neglect:-** The actual or likely persistent or severe neglect of a child, or the failure to protect a child from exposure to any kind of danger, including cold and starvation, or persistent failure to carry out important aspects of care, resulting in significant impairment of the child's health or development, including non-organic failure to thrive.
- Physical Abuse:-** Actual or likely deliberate physical injury to a child, or wilful or neglectful failure to prevent physical injury or suffering to a child including deliberate poisoning, suffocation or Munchausen syndrome by proxy.
- Sexual Abuse:-** Actual or likely exploitation of a child or adolescent. The child may be dependent and/or developmentally immature.
- Emotional Abuse:-** Actual or likely persistent or severe emotional ill-treatment or rejection resulting in severe adverse effects on the emotional, physical and/or behaviour development of a child. All abuse involves some emotional ill-treatment. This category should be used where it is the main or only form of abuse.

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- CH05** Registrations under 'neglect' category as a percentage of all registrations during year ended 31 March
- CH06** Registrations under 'physical abuse' category as a percentage of all registrations during year ended 31 March
- CH07** Registrations under 'sexual abuse' category as a percentage of all registrations during year ended 31 March
- CH08** Registrations under 'emotional abuse' category as a percentage of all registrations during year ended 31 March

**Table 5.6** : Registrations on the Child Protection Register by Category of Abuse <sup>(1)</sup>

Trust	CH05			CH06			CH07			CH08		
	98/99	99/00	00/01	98/99	99/00	00/01	98/99	99/00	00/01	98/99	99/00	00/01
North & West Belfast	51.6	59.5	53.9	30.8	34.6	30.5	17.0	9.8	6.6	12.1	4.6	13.8
South & East Belfast	28.0	50.4	46.9	45.5	48.1	52.4	21.7	10.7	9.0	9.1	9.9	9.0
Ulster Community & Hosp.	28.2	24.7	30.1	34.7	34.4	36.1	10.5	10.8	19.3	33.1	30.1	27.7
Down Lisburn	41.8	50.7	32.7	27.6	44.8	48.0	26.9	26.1	19.4	11.9	7.5	11.2
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>14.2</b>
Causeway	61.5	54.7	42.9	15.4	26.7	31.0	23.1	29.3	19.0	12.8	2.7	16.7
Homefirst	42.4	36.2	48.2	33.7	26.3	27.1	22.7	29.6	23.5	9.9	15.1	9.4
<b>Northern</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	5.9	48.5	46.0	58.8	47.0	44.0	41.2	28.8	12.0	5.9	6.1	18.0
Craigavon & Banbridge	35.6	45.0	48.1	13.3	37.5	40.7	26.7	22.5	11.1	24.4	7.5	0.0
Newry & Mourne	59.3	30.8	72.7	22.2	25.6	29.5	22.2	15.4	9.1	11.1	30.8	9.1
<b>Southern</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>56.2</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>10.7</b>
Foyle	64.4	62.5	47.9	30.8	25.0	31.3	24.7	7.5	28.1	10.3	12.5	17.7
Sperrin Lakeland	43.8	37.5	60.4	10.9	9.4	27.1	12.5	10.9	2.1	32.8	42.2	14.6
<b>Western</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>52.1</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>16.7</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.4</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>16.9</b>

(1) Registrations under 'mixed categories' of abuse have been included in each of the relevant categories. The values for CH05-CH08 therefore add to more than 100% in some Trusts.

Almost 50% (458) of all registrations on the child protection register during 2000/01 were categorised as 'neglect', 36.3% (352) as 'physical abuse', 15.3% (148) as 'sexual abuse' and 13.4% (130) as 'emotional abuse'.

Between 1998/99 and 2000/01, the proportion of registrations on the child protection register categorised as 'sexual abuse' and 'emotional abuse' decreased, from 20.9% and 15.1% respectively in 1998/99 to 15.3% and 13.4% respectively in 2000/01. However, the proportions of registrations categorised as 'neglect' and 'physical abuse' increased.

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Across Trusts, there were slight variations. In South & East Belfast (52.4%), Ulster Community & Hospitals (36.1%) and Down Lisburn (48.0%), the majority of registrations were categorised under 'physical abuse'. The proportion of registrations categorised under 'emotional abuse' ranged from 27.7% in Ulster Community & Hospitals to no cases in Craigavon & Banbridge (Tables 5.6 and Figure 5.5).

**Figure 5.5 : Registrations on the Child Protection Register by Category of Abuse (2000/01)**

Trust	CH05	CH06	CH07	CH08
North & West Belfast	53.9	30.5	6.6	13.8
South & East Belfast	46.9	52.4	9.0	9.0
Ulster Community & Hosp.	30.1	36.1	19.3	27.7
Down Lisburn	32.7	48.0	19.4	11.2
Causeway	42.9	31.0	19.0	16.7
Homefirst	48.2	27.1	23.5	9.4
Armagh & Dungannon	46.0	44.0	12.0	18.0
Craigavon & Banbridge	48.1	40.7	11.1	0.0
Newry & Mourne	72.7	29.5	9.1	9.1
Foyle	47.9	31.3	28.1	17.7
Sperrin Lakeland	60.4	27.1	2.1	14.6
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>13.4</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>16.9</b>

# Children's Services

## SECTION 6: Day Care Facilities for Children

Day care facilities for children include registered childminders, playgroups, day nurseries and out of school clubs. These are available mainly through independent providers.

The statutory sector provides a very small number of day nurseries (7), a significant decrease from the number provided in 1998/99 (35). The vast majority of day care services are provided through the independent sector – either through voluntary organisations, private companies or individuals as a business, community groups as co-operative enterprise or any of these bodies on a partnership basis. Children may attend on a full or part-time basis depending on their needs or those of their parents.

**CH15a** *Day care places for children aged under 12 per 1,000 population aged under 12*

**CH16** *Independent day care places for children aged under 5 per 1,000 population aged under 5*

**Table 6.1** ■ **Day Care Places for under 12's and Independent Day Care Places for under 5's at 31 March (1999-2001)**

Trust	CH15a			CH16		
	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
North & West Belfast	107.8	131.6	132.6	192.2	209.7	208.6
South & East Belfast	199.1	241.2	260.1	318.8	371.1	390.5
Ulster Community & Hosp.	209.5	207.3	213.5	345.2	335.0	339.3
Down Lisburn	178.2	171.3	166.5	288.1	281.4	273.8
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>170.8</b>	<b>185.3</b>	<b>190.2</b>	<b>280.9</b>	<b>295.4</b>	<b>298.9</b>
Causeway	171.9	197.9	174.8	279.6	312.2	280.9
Homefirst	141.0	140.1	155.2	268.5	285.5	276.8
<b>Northern</b>	<b>147.9</b>	<b>153.1</b>	<b>159.6</b>	<b>271.0</b>	<b>291.5</b>	<b>277.8</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	89.6	116.9	99.9	143.9	163.6	177.1
Craigavon & Banbridge	113.8	125.6	125.1	203.5	222.3	190.8
Newry & Mourne	67.2	76.4	68.3	152.3	165.0	142.3
<b>Southern</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>107.6</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>168.0</b>	<b>185.2</b>	<b>171.6</b>
Foyle	104.2	99.8	98.4	201.7	198.5	186.7
Sperrin Lakeland	103.0	109.2	119.3	215.7	219.6	239.9
<b>Western</b>	<b>103.7</b>	<b>103.7</b>	<b>107.0</b>	<b>207.3</b>	<b>206.9</b>	<b>207.8</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>137.0</b>	<b>146.8</b>	<b>149.2</b>	<b>242.9</b>	<b>256.7</b>	<b>252.2</b>

At 31 March 2001, there were 149.2 day care places per 1,000-population aged under 12 in Northern Ireland, a slight increase from 137.0 in 1999.

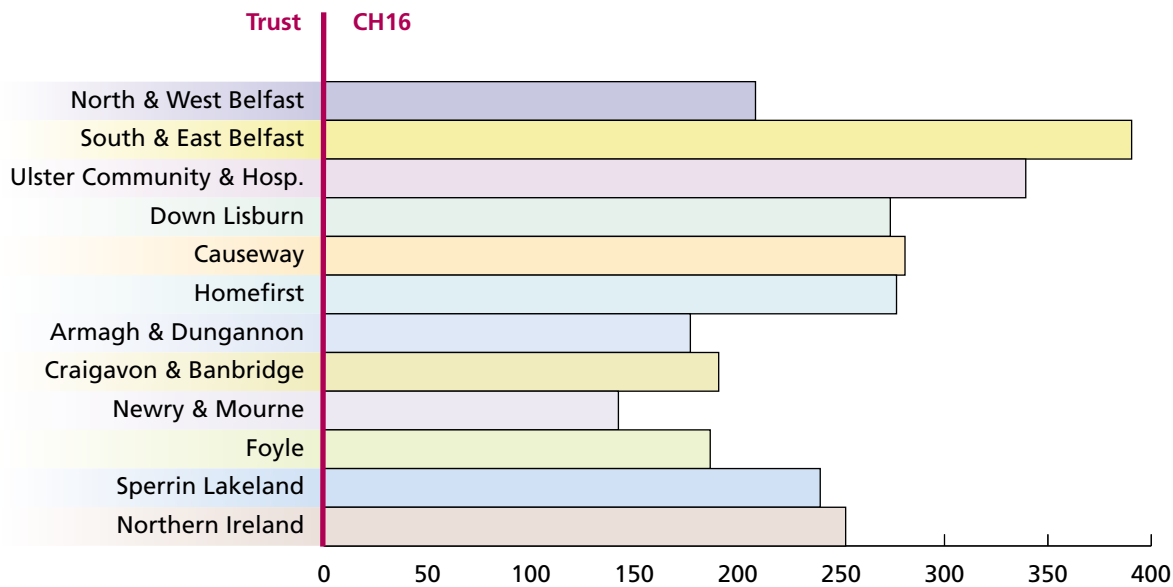
The rate of day care places available per 1,000-population aged under 12 varied significantly across Trusts. South & East Belfast had the highest rate of day care places available, 260.1 places per 1,000-population aged under 12, a significant increase from 1999 (199.1). The lowest rate of day care places available was in Newry & Mourne (68.3). Over the last three years, the rate of day care places available has increased in 9 of the eleven Trusts.

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Playgroups and day nurseries mainly provide day care for children aged under 5. There are also a significant number of places with registered childminders, which are designated for children aged under 5. South & East Belfast (390.5) had the highest rate of independent places available per 1,000-population aged under 5, whilst Newry & Mourne (142.3) had the lowest rate.

Over the last three years, the rate of independent day care places available has increased slightly from 242.9 places per 1,000-population aged under 5 in 1999 to 252.2 in 2001. Over the same period, this increase is evident in six of the eleven Trusts (Table 6.1 and Figure 6.1).

**Figure 6.1** ■ Independent Day Care Places for Children aged under 5 per 10,000-population aged under 5 (2001)



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## Day Care Facilities for under 5's by Type of Provision

- CH17** *Places for children aged under 5 with registered childminders per 1,000 population aged under 5*  
**CH18** *Places in day nurseries per 1,000-population aged under 5*  
**CH19** *Places in playgroups per 1,000-population aged under 5*

**Table 6.2** : Day Care Provision for under 5's by Type of Provision at 31 March (1999-2001)

Trust	CH17			CH18			CH19		
	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
North & West Belfast	30.5	54.0	52.9	25.9	28.7	28.7	135.8	127.0	127.0
South & East Belfast	103.0	134.7	160.7	95.9	108.9	113.8	119.9	127.5	116.0
Ulster Community & Hosp.	142.3	142.4	145.3	38.6	43.1	54.0	164.3	149.4	140.0
Down Lisburn	124.2	116.2	112.1	34.3	37.9	40.9	129.5	127.3	120.7
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>96.6</b>	<b>109.1</b>	<b>115.0</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>59.1</b>	<b>135.3</b>	<b>131.5</b>	<b>124.9</b>
Causeway	125.0	143.9	108.2	33.4	33.4	39.3	121.2	134.9	133.5
Homefirst	94.9	95.0	97.3	41.8	56.1	59.6	131.7	134.4	120.0
<b>Northern</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>99.8</b>	<b>39.9</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>129.4</b>	<b>134.5</b>	<b>123.0</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	29.0	32.6	37.2	13.9	14.9	25.5	101.0	116.0	114.4
Craigavon & Banbridge	63.6	68.0	37.2	43.6	51.7	61.6	96.3	102.6	91.9
Newry & Mourne	16.0	14.8	15.1	39.2	39.2	26.1	97.2	111.0	101.2
<b>Southern</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>109.7</b>	<b>102.3</b>
Foyle	33.6	30.3	38.9	22.8	20.3	22.1	145.3	147.8	125.7
Sperrin Lakeland	62.7	56.7	58.8	9.3	21.3	34.2	143.8	141.6	146.9
<b>Western</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>144.7</b>	<b>145.4</b>	<b>134.1</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>76.9</b>	<b>82.3</b>	<b>82.3</b>	<b>37.7</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>128.4</b>	<b>130.5</b>	<b>121.7</b>
<b>England</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>80.5</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>94.8</b>	<b>112.9</b>	<b>116.2</b>	<b>105.2</b>

At 31 March 2001, Playgroups (121.7 places per 1,000 children aged under 5) were the main form of independent day care provision in Northern Ireland. Registered childminders also provided a significant proportion of the day care services for those aged under 5, with 82.3 places available per 1,000-children aged under 5.

The rates of independent day care places provided by registered childminders varied significantly across Trusts, from 15.1 places per 1,000 children aged under 5 in Newry & Mourne to 160.7 in South & East Belfast.

Day nurseries provided the least number of places for children under 5 in Northern Ireland, 48.2 places per 1,000-population aged under 5, significantly less than the corresponding figure for England (94.8). Across Trusts, this ranged from 22.1 places per 1,000-population aged under 5 in Foyle to 113.8 in South & East Belfast. Since 1999, the rate of day care places being provided by day nurseries in Sperrin Lakeland has increased significantly, from 9.3 per 1,000-population aged under 5 in 1999 to 34.2 in 2001 (Table 6.2 and Figure 6.2).

## Children's Services

**Figure 6.2** : Day Care Places for Children aged under 5 per 1,000-population aged under 5 by Service Type

Trust	CH17	CH18	CH19
North & West Belfast	52.9	28.7	127.0
South & East Belfast	160.7	113.8	116.0
Ulster Community & Hosp.	145.3	54.0	140.0
Down Lisburn	112.1	40.9	120.7
Causeway	108.2	39.3	133.5
Homefirst	97.3	59.6	120.0
Armagh & Dungannon	37.2	25.5	114.4
Craigavon & Banbridge	37.2	61.6	91.9
Newry & Mourne	15.1	26.1	101.2
Foyle	38.9	22.1	125.7
Sperrin Lakeland	58.8	34.2	146.9
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>82.3</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>121.7</b>

### Day Care Facilities for Children aged under 12

Whilst some provision for children aged under 12 is made within day nurseries, the majority of places are provided through childminders and out of school clubs.

**CH17a** *Places with registered childminders per 1,000-population aged under 12*

**CH20a** *Places in Out of School Clubs per 1,000-population aged 4-12*

**Table 6.3** : Day Care Provision for under 12's at 31 March (1999-2001)

Trust	CH17a			CH20a		
	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
North & West Belfast	26.1	38.2	36.1	22.8	47.6	47.1
South & East Belfast	96.9	121.3	140.7	13.7	29.0	29.6
Ulster Community & Hosp.	129.1	131.0	133.2	0.0	n/a	5.7
Down Lisburn	102.4	95.8	92.4	14.0	12.7	12.7
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>93.7</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>24.5</b>
Causeway	103.3	118.9	85.1	8.0	16.1	15.6
Homefirst	65.3	53.1	67.7	6.6	14.0	14.5
<b>Northern</b>	<b>73.9</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.7</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	20.7	23.1	27.1	37.7	68.6	25.4
Craigavon & Banbridge	41.2	44.0	44.2	24.3	29.4	28.9
Newry & Mourne	6.8	6.7	7.7	9.0	15.1	15.4
<b>Southern</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>23.5</b>
Foyle	28.0	22.5	27.1	12.5	14.4	15.1
Sperrin Lakeland	36.5	35.1	37.4	11.4	17.5	18.7
<b>Western</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>16.6</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>64.9</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>20.4</b>



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Registered childminders provided 20,185 places for children aged under 12 in Northern Ireland at 31 March 2001, a rate of 64.9 places per 1,000-population aged under 12. Since 1999, the rate has increased slightly from 60.5 places per 1,000-population aged under 12 in 1999 to 64.9 in 2001.

Across Trusts, this ranged from 140.7 places per 1,000-population aged under 12 in South & East Belfast to 7.7 in Newry & Mourne. Ulster Community & Hospitals also had a significantly high rate (133.2) in comparison to the other Trusts.

Out-of-school clubs provide care to school age children at the end of the school day until the parent/carer can collect the child. Out of school clubs may be run by Trusts, voluntary organisations, community groups or privately.

At 31 March 2001, there were 20.4 places per 1,000-population aged 4-12 in Northern Ireland, a slight increase from 1999 (13.7). Across Trusts, this ranged from 5.7 places per 1,000-population in Ulster Community Hospitals to 47.1 in North & West Belfast. Over the last three years, the number of places available in out of school clubs increased in 9 of the 11 Trusts (Table 6.3).

# Children's Services

## SECTION 7: Children's Homes

At 31 March 2001, there were 36 children's homes in Northern Ireland, providing a total of 345 places. Almost 80% (270) of places available were in statutory children's homes, with the remainder in voluntary homes. There was one private children's home in Sperrin Lakeland providing 8 places at 31 March 2001.

**Table 7.1 : Statutory Children's Homes at 31 March 2001**

Trust	Homes	Places	Places per 10,000-pop. aged under 18
North & West Belfast	2	18	4.0
South & East Belfast	3	27	6.4
Ulster Community & Hosp. <sup>(1)</sup>	2	39	10.9
Down Lisburn	5	39	8.3
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>7.3</b>
Causeway	1	8	3.1
Homefirst	4	40	4.6
<b>Northern</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	1	8	2.6
Craigavon & Banbridge	2	13	4.1
Newry & Mourne	1	6	2.2
<b>Southern</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Foyle	4	53	10.3
Sperrin Lakeland	2	19	5.3
<b>Western</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>5.9</b>

(1) Details of Beechfields Children's home were not available at 31 March 2001.

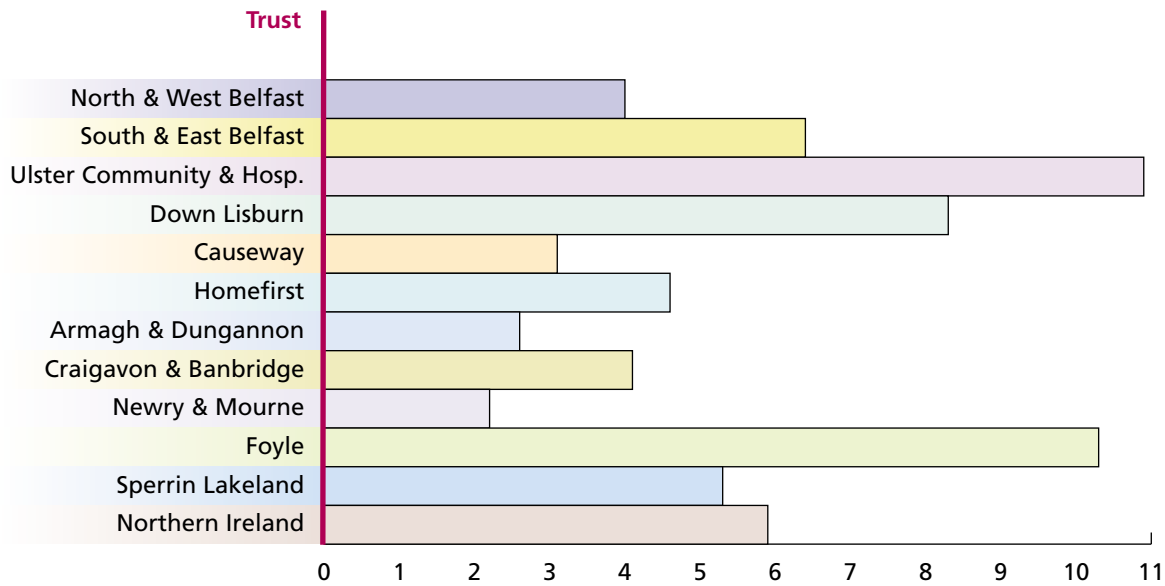
There were 27 Statutory Children's homes providing 270 places at 31 March 2001, a rate of 5.9 places per 10,000 - population aged under 18 in children's homes.

Across Boards, the majority (44.4%) of statutory childrens homes were in the Eastern Board.

Across Trusts, Ulster Community & Hospitals had the highest number of places per 10,000 population aged under 18 (10.9), whilst Newry & Mourne (2.2) had the lowest.

# Children's Services

**Figure 7.1 :** Places available in Statutory Children's Homes at 31 March 2001 per 10,000-population aged under 18



**Table 7.2 :** Voluntary Children's Homes at 31 March 2001

Trust	Homes	Places	Places per 10,000 pop. aged under 18
North & West Belfast	1	35	7.8
South & East Belfast	1	3	0.7
Ulster Community & Hosp.	3	25	7.0
Down Lisburn	0	0	0.0
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Causeway	0	0	0.0
Homefirst	1	3	0.3
<b>Northern</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Armagh & Dungannon	0	0	0.0
Craigavon & Banbridge	1	5	1.6
Newry & Mourne	1	4	1.5
<b>Southern</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Foyle	0	0	0.0
Sperrin Lakeland	0	0	0.0
<b>Western</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>1.6</b>

At 31 March 2001, there were 8 voluntary children's homes in Northern Ireland, providing 75 places. Five Trusts (Down Lisburn, Causeway, Armagh & Dungannon, Foyle and Sperrin Lakeland) did not have any voluntary children's homes. Voluntary Children's homes provided 1.6 places per 10,000-population aged under 18 at 31 March 2001. North & West Belfast had the highest number of places per 10,000-population aged under 18 (7.8).

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**Table 7.3 : Facilities Available in Childrens Homes (2000/01)**

	Yes	No	Total
Educational Facilities	4	32	36
Observation & Assessment	23	13	36
Child. With Physical & Learning Disability	17	19	36
Children with Learning Disability	11	25	36
Children with Physical Disability	4	32	36
Hostel/semi independent Unit	10	26	36
Respite Care	24	12	36
Secure Accommodation	1	35	36
Children on remand or Police Bail	4	32	36
Other	10	26	36
Boys only	1	35	36
Girls only	0	36	36
Boys & Girls	34	2	36
Catholics	1	35	36
Protestants	1	35	36
All religions	35	1	36
under 5	4	32	36
age 5-11	25	11	36
age 12-15	34	2	36
<b>Age 16+</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>36</b>

### Secure Accommodation

Secure accommodation refers to accommodation provided for the purpose of 'restricting liberty'. In 2000/01, there was only 1 secure unit in Northern Ireland, providing accommodation for 8 young people at any one time. The secure unit is located within Ulster Community & Hospitals Trust; although, admissions are drawn from across the eleven Trusts.

During 2000/01, there were 38 young people admitted to the secure unit, covering 43 admissions (20 males and 18 females). Five young people were re-admitted (4 were re-admitted once and 1 re-admitted twice) to the secure unit.

The young people admitted to the secure unit in 2000/1 were aged between 12-17 years old; although, the vast majority were aged 14 & 15 years old.

# Children's Services

## SECTION 8: Adoption & Foster Care Services

**Table 8.1 : Number of Children placed for Adoption during the year ended 31 March (1999/00 – 2000/01)**

Trust	1999/00		2000/01	
	Number	% of the LAC Population	Number	% of the LAC Population
North & West Belfast	6	1.6	15	4.1
South & East Belfast	10	3.5	9	2.9
Ulster Community & Hosp.	0	0	6	2.7
Down Lisburn	<5	0.8	<5	1.8
Causeway	5	3.1	12	9.0
Homefirst	5	1.2	16	4.2
Armagh & Dungannon	<5	4.6	5	4.6
Craigavon & Banbridge	11	9.7	17	19.3
Newry & Mourne	5	7.6	<5	3.7
Foyle	5	1.4	5	1.4
Sperrin Lakeland	<5	1.7	7	5.0
Other Agencies	5	n/a	<5	n/a
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>4.1</b>

In 2000/01, 103 children were placed for adoption, over 75% (45) more than in 1999/00 (59). Across Trusts, Craigavon & Banbridge (17) had the highest number of children placed for adoption in 2000/01, whilst Down Lisburn (<5) and Newry & Mourne (<5) had the lowest.

In both years, Craigavon & Banbridge had the highest percentage of looked after children being placed for adoption (9.7% in 1999/00 and 19.3% in 2000/01). Causeway, also had a high proportion of looked after children being placed for adoption in 2000/01 (9.0%).

# Children's Services

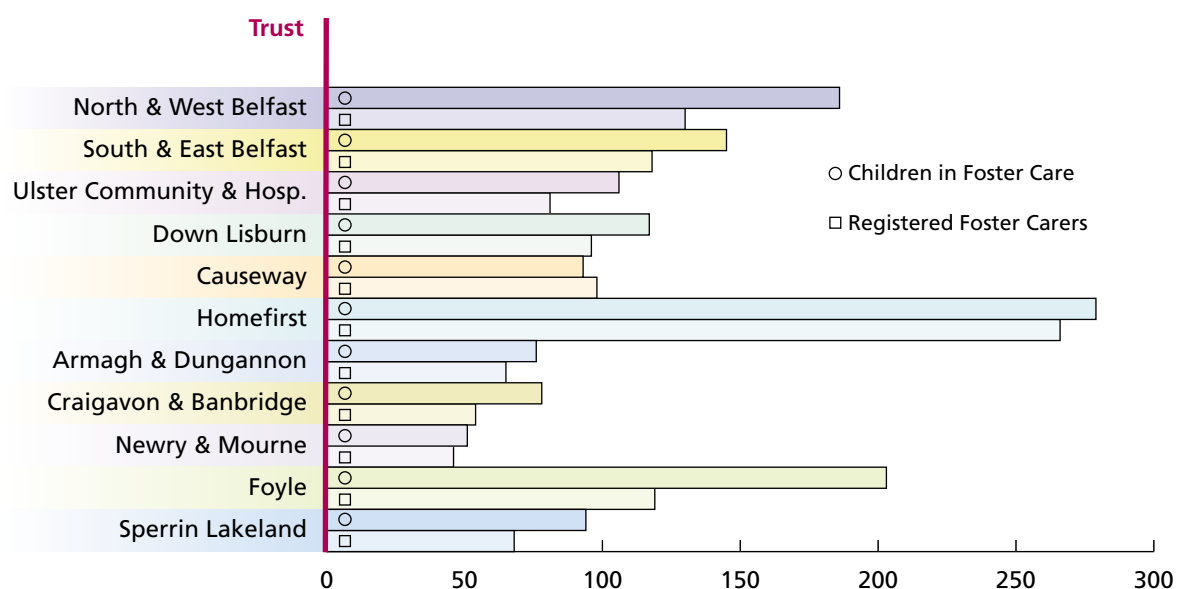
**Table 8.2 :** Children in Foster Care and Number of Registered Foster Carers at 30th September 2001

Trust	Children in Foster Care	No. of Registered Foster Carers	Ratio of Children in Foster Care to Registered Foster Carer's
North & West Belfast	186	130	1.4
South & East Belfast	145	118	1.2
Ulster Community & Hosp.	106	81	1.3
Down Lisburn	117	96	1.2
Causeway	93	98	0.9
Homefirst	279	266	1.0
Armagh & Dungannon	76	65	1.2
Craigavon & Banbridge	78	54	1.4
Newry & Mourne	51	46	1.1
Foyle	203	119	1.7
Sperrin Lakeland	94	68	1.4
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1,428</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>1.3</b>

At 30th September 2001, there were 1,428 children in foster care and 1,141 registered foster carers in Northern Ireland. At this time, there were 1.3 foster children per registered foster carer. Across Trusts, Foyle had the highest ratio of foster children to registered foster carers (1.7), whilst Causeway had the lowest ratio (0.9).

The number of children in foster care at 30th September 2001 ranged from 51 children in Newry & Mourne to 279 in Homefirst, whilst the number of registered foster carers ranged from 46 in Newry & Mourne to 266 in Homefirst.

**Figure 8.1 :** Children in Foster Care and Number of Registered Foster Carers at 30th September 2001



## Children's Services

**Table 8.3 : Carers in Receipt of Enhance Allowances, Fee paid or Contracted Carers and Children subject to Residence Orders Remaining with Carers at 30th September 2001**

Trust	No. of Carers in receipt of enhanced Allowances	No. of Fee Paid or Contracted Carers	Children subject to Residence Orders Remaining with Carers
North & West Belfast	32	45	6
South & East Belfast	9	57	0
Ulster Community & Hosp.	7	18	0
Down Lisburn	18	23	<5
Causeway	28	9	<5
Homefirst	54	17	30
Armagh & Dungannon	14	7	<5
Craigavon & Banbridge	22	<5	7
Newry & Mourne	6	<5	0
Foyle	40	11	0
Sperrin Lakeland	15	<5	7
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>58</b>

At 30th September 2001, 245 registered foster carers were in receipt of enhanced allowances. Across Trusts, this ranged from 6 in Newry & Mourne to 54 in Homefirst. South & East Belfast and Ulster Community & Hospitals also had low numbers of foster carers in receipt of enhanced allowances (9 and 7 respectively).

There were 196 fee paid or contracted carers at 30th September 2001. Over 50% (102) of fee paid or contracted carers were from North & West Belfast (45) and South & East Belfast (57).

Fifty-eight children who were the subject of residence orders remained with carers at 30th September 2001, over half (30) were in Homefirst. Four Trusts indicated that no children who were the subject of residence orders remained with carers at 30th September 2001.

