



# Community Planning Partnership Covid Summary



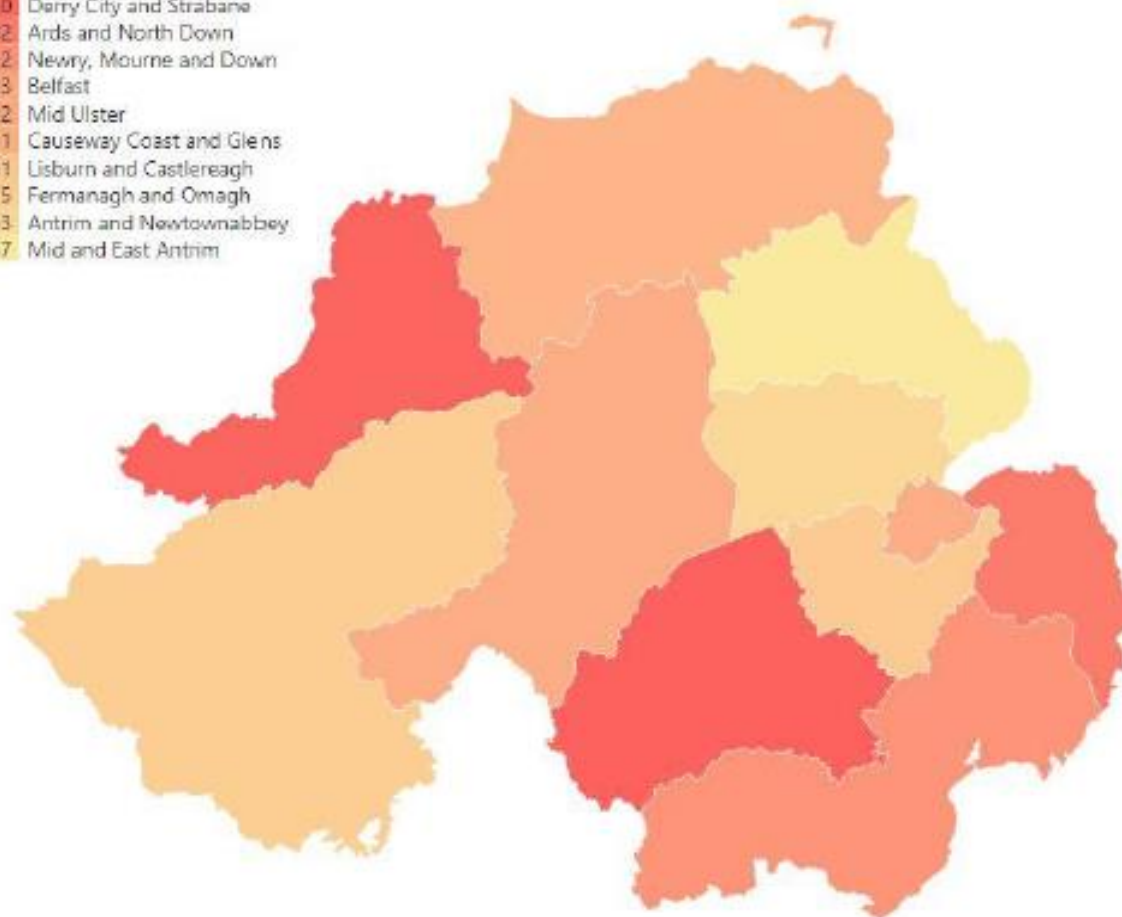
# 1. Impact of Covid-19

## The virus

# Covid-19 hospital admissions (at 26<sup>th</sup> May)

ABC had the highest rate of hospitalisation – 515 per 100,000 population

Value	Local Government District
515	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon
510	Derry City and Strabane
482	Ards and North Down
452	Newry, Mourne and Down
423	Belfast
422	Mid Ulster
411	Causeway Coast and Glens
381	Lisburn and Castlereagh
375	Fermanagh and Omagh
363	Antrim and Newtownabbey
337	Mid and East Antrim



# COVID-19 Infection Rate by Sex, Deprivation and Deprivation by Age (at 26<sup>th</sup> May) (NI)

Fig 1. Standardised Infection Rate, by Sex

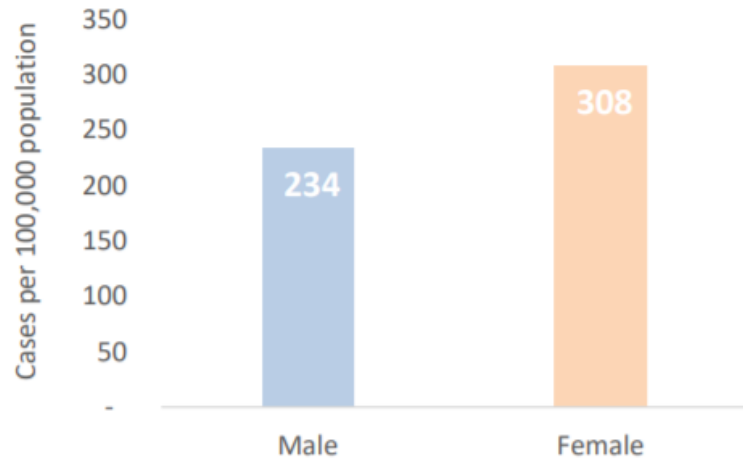


Fig 2. Standardised Infection Rate, by Deprivation Decile

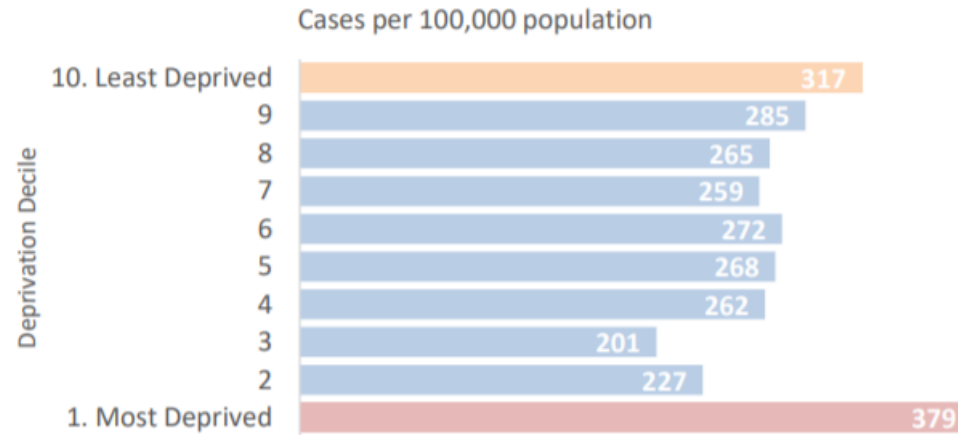


Fig 3. Standardised Infection Rate (Over 65s), by Deprivation Decile

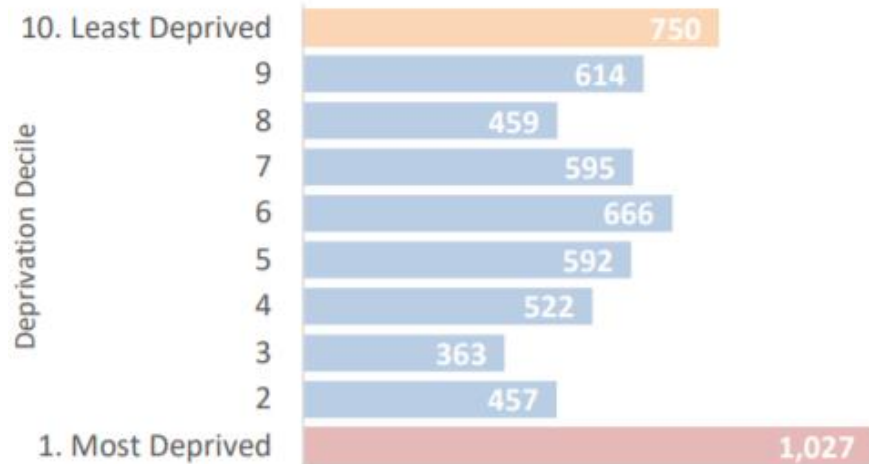
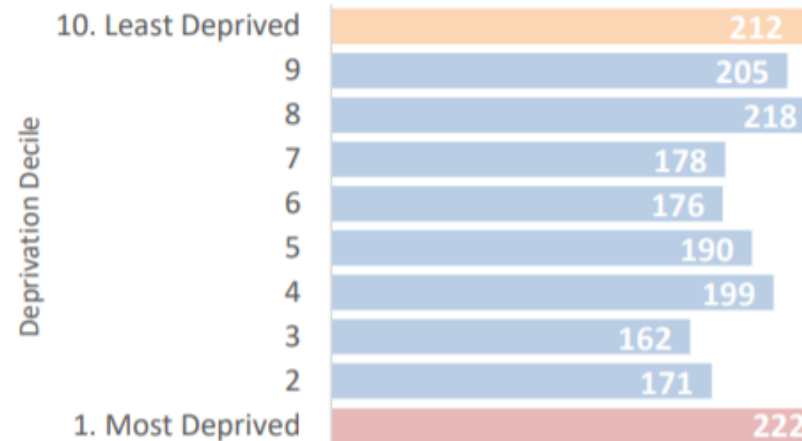
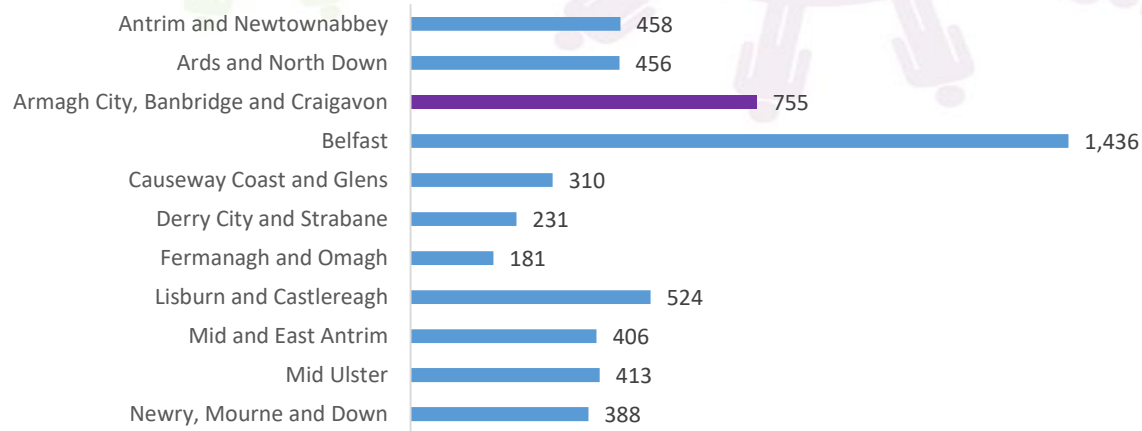


Fig 4. Standardised Infection Rate (Aged 65 and under), by Deprivation Decile

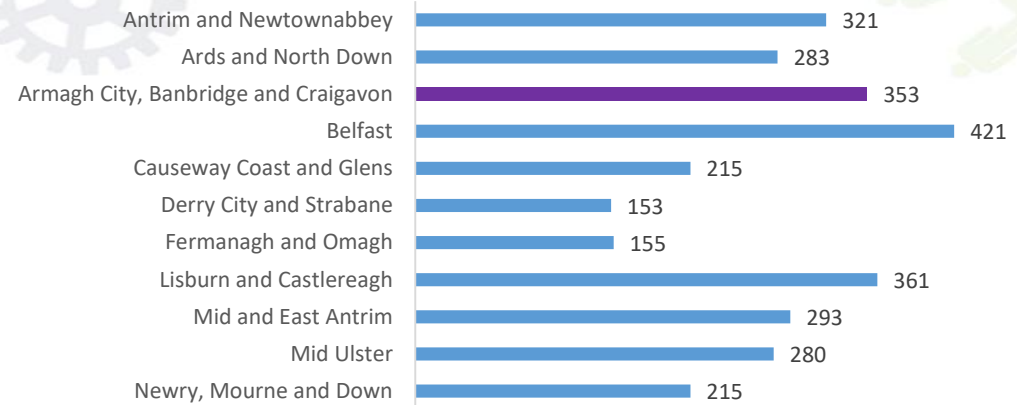


# Covid-19 Cases and Deaths

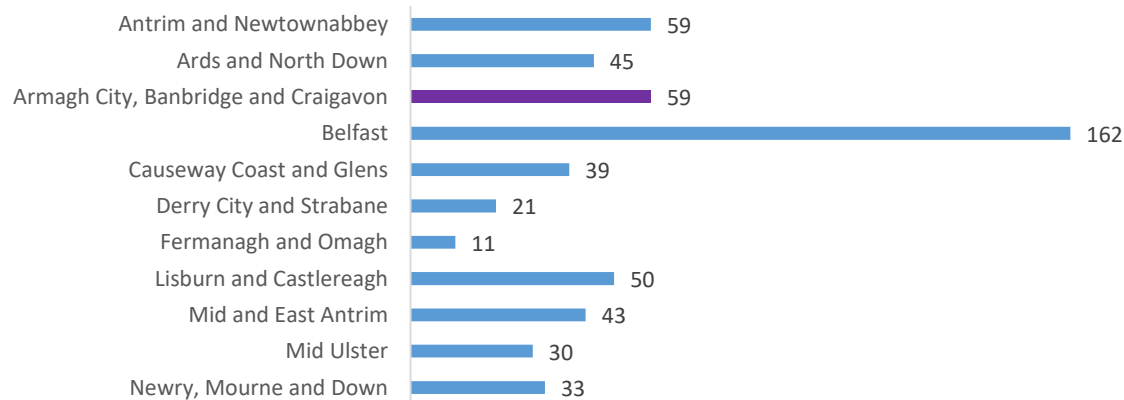
## Individuals Tested Positive to 27<sup>th</sup> July



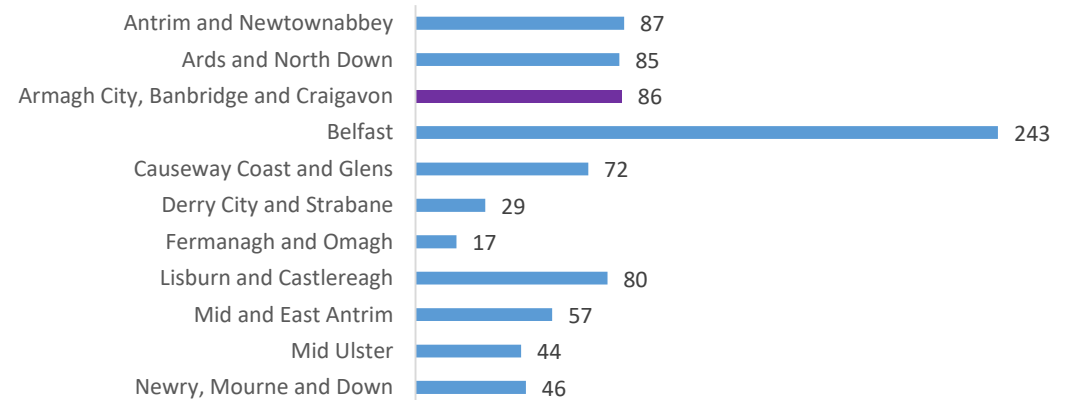
## Individuals Tested Positive per 100k Pop. To 27<sup>th</sup> July



## DOH Deaths to 27<sup>th</sup> July - 556

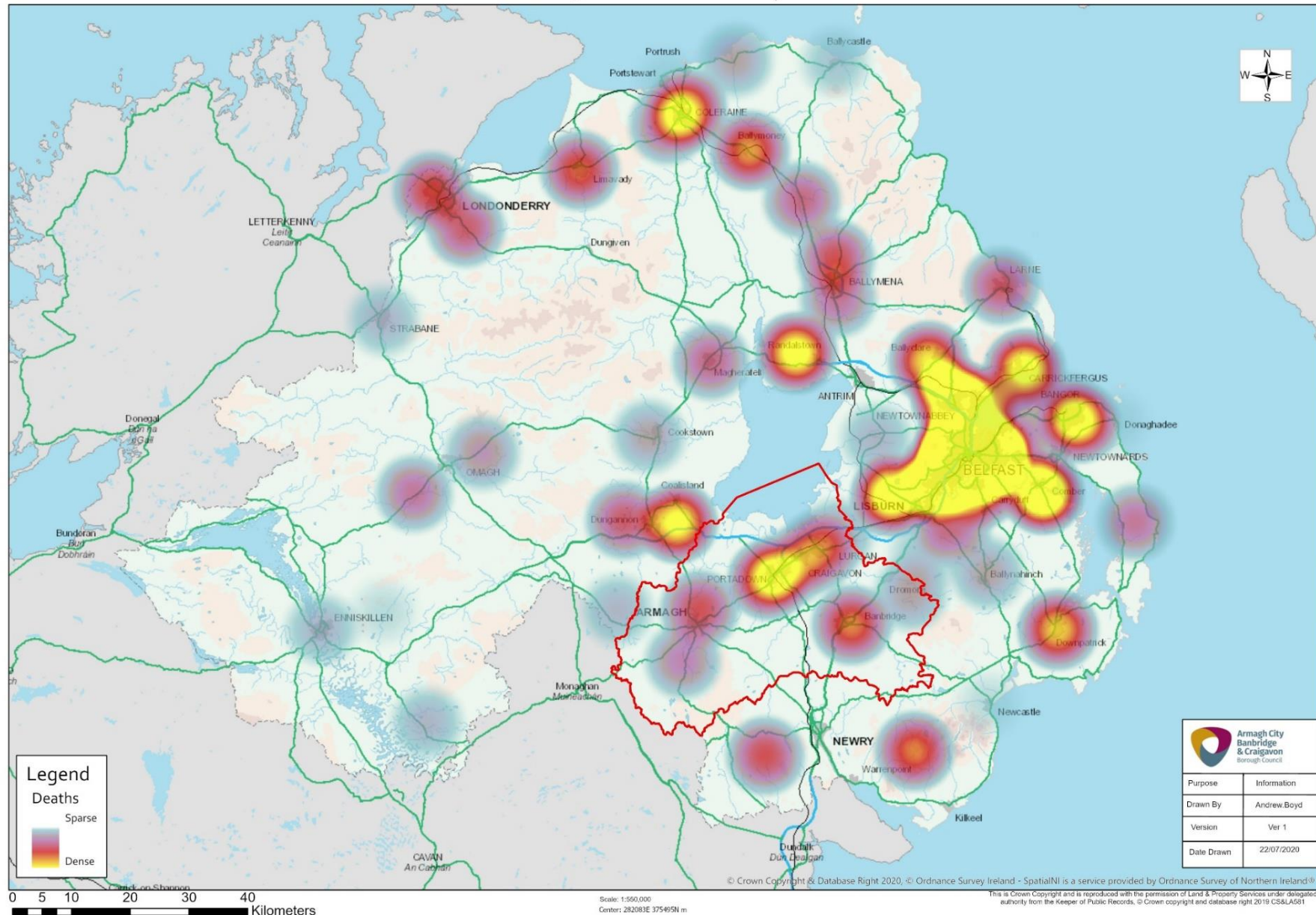


## NISRA Deaths Registered to 17<sup>th</sup> July - 846



# Covid-19 deaths NI - NISRA to 29<sup>th</sup> May

Covid 19 Deaths Heat map





## **2. Impact of Covid-19**

### **Business Survival and Job Losses**

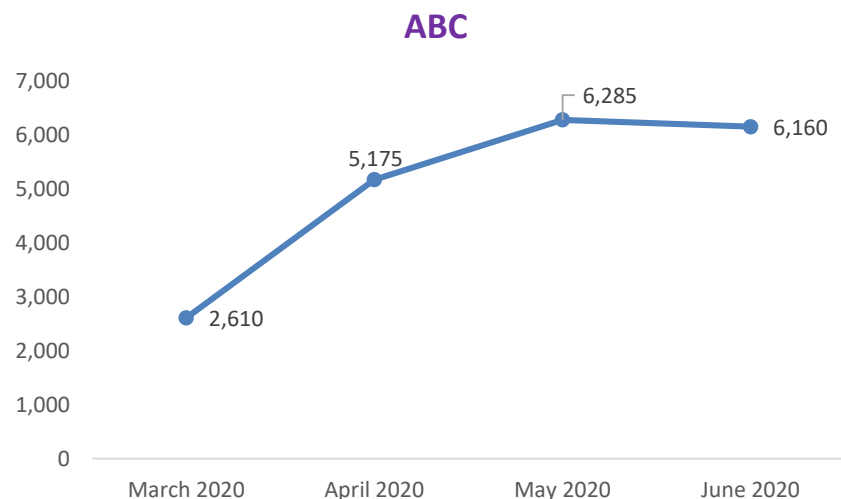
# Support for employees, self-employed, unemployment and redundancies

## Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and Self Employment Income Support Scheme – to 30<sup>th</sup> June

**27,400** employees in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon had been furloughed, 11.4% of all those furloughed in Northern Ireland.

11,300 self-employed in the borough were potentially eligible for the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme **with 9,000 claims made totalling £26.3 million (79% uptake).**

### Claimant Count



	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20		% change March to May	% change May to June
Aged 16-24	505	1,010	1,310	1,365		159.4%	4.2%
Aged 25-49	1,350	2,960	3,525	3,375		161.1%	-4.3%
Aged 50+	725	1,170	1,405	1,385		93.8%	-1.4%
All	2,610	5,175	6,285	6,160		140.8%	-2.0%

### Redundancies

38 confirmed redundancies in the borough this year, as notified at 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

# Impact on Businesses

## Covid-19 Business Impact Survey – BPA & Council

Survey ran from 27<sup>th</sup> April to 10<sup>th</sup> May receiving 288 responses, of which 99 were from town centre businesses.

36% of businesses responding were continuing to operate in some way.

70% of town centre businesses who responded were **not** trading due to covid restrictions.

84% of respondents were familiar with the support available, with almost half already accessing it. 11% were not familiar and required more information.

When asked what the three biggest challenges your business faces as a result of COVID-19 responses referred to:

- Access to finance / cash flow
- Retaining customer / consumer confidence
- Health and safety of customers and staff
- Survival of / access to supply chain
- Loss of stock / orders / customers
- Existing customers lost to online shopping
- Compliance with social distancing and any other requirements

# Research and Forecasts

The Ulster University Economic Policy Centre estimate that the economic impact of COVID-19 will not be felt equally across Northern Ireland. It is estimated that Northern Ireland GVA will decline by 12.7% in 2020. Estimates for GVA decline in 2020 are higher in all councils than the decline experienced during the 2008-09 recession.

	Q2 % decline in GVA	Full year % decline in GVA
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	-38.2%	-16.3%
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	-38.0%	-15.2%
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	-32.2%	-13.3%
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	-30.2%	-12.0%
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	-30.4%	-11.9%
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	-27.6%	-11.5%
<b>Belfast</b>	-26.4%	-10.6%
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	-26.3%	-10.6%
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	-25.9%	-10.6%
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	-23.6%	-9.5%
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh</b>	-21.4%	-9.3%

Source: UUEPC analysis; CPP

The Centre for Progressive Policy assesses the borough as vulnerable to long-term decreases in GVA (55% of NI council areas classed as vulnerable).

75% of respondents to the Food Initiatives Survey believe that businesses closing and unemployment is the main issue that communities will face in the next 6 months.



# **3. Impact of Covid-19**

## **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

# Mental Health and Wellbeing

## Department of Health COVID-19 Impact Assessment (June 2020)

The Department of Health COVID-19 impact assessment predicts the biggest negative impacts on disease outcomes of the crisis will be on mental wellbeing and development and management of long-term mental health conditions.

In Northern Ireland early indications back this up. Most mental health services saw initial decrease but pressures are now increasing.

Mental health bed occupancy in Northern Ireland at 95% with clinicians seeing new presentations previously unknown to mental health services.

Causes of mental health and wellbeing problems:

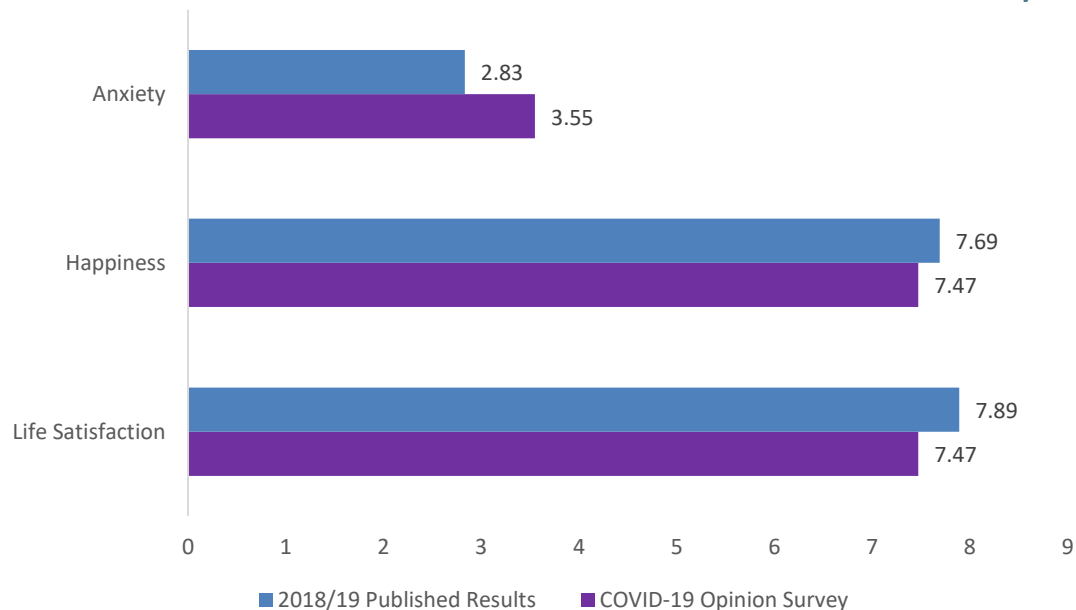
- Social distancing and isolation
- Bereavement
- Unemployment
- Financial hardship
- Inability to access health services
- Increased stress and work pressures

# Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental health was identified as a main issue by 66% of respondents to the CVSP Food Initiatives Survey that communities will be dealing with over the next 6 months. Again social isolation and loneliness were identified as a major cause.

Poor mental health / anxiety / depression were also reported by 23% overall in the CPP and CVSP surveys when asked how the COVID-19 crisis has affected people and communities in your area.

Results from Phase 1 of the NISRA COVID-19 Opinion Survey show significant differences in Personal Wellbeing Indicators in Northern Ireland between results from this survey and the latest published figures for 2018/19.



Life satisfaction and happiness are both significantly lower and anxiety is significantly higher.

There was no difference in the rating of people feeling what they do in life is worthwhile.



## **4. Impact of Covid-19**

### **Social Isolation and Loneliness**

# Social Isolation and Loneliness

Social isolation and loneliness were identified in both the CPP and CVSP surveys when asked how the COVID-19 crisis has affected people and communities in your area. Loneliness / isolation were the most common answers in both, identified by 29% of respondents to the CPP survey and 41% of respondents to the CVSP survey.

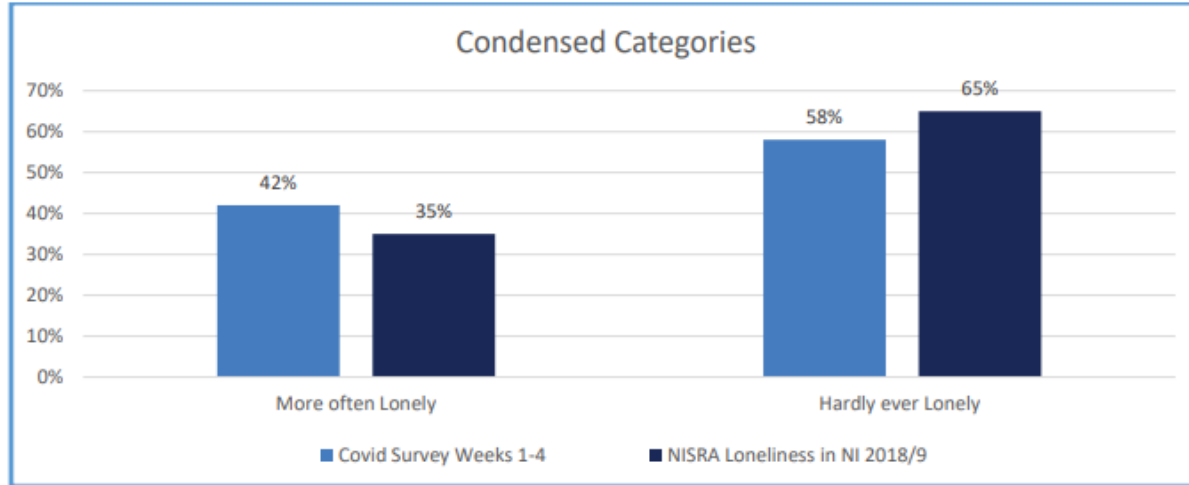
Isolation and loneliness were also mentioned by 34% of respondents to the Food Initiatives Survey when asked what they believed the main issues that communities will face in the next 6 months would be.

Results from the Age NI survey show that older people:

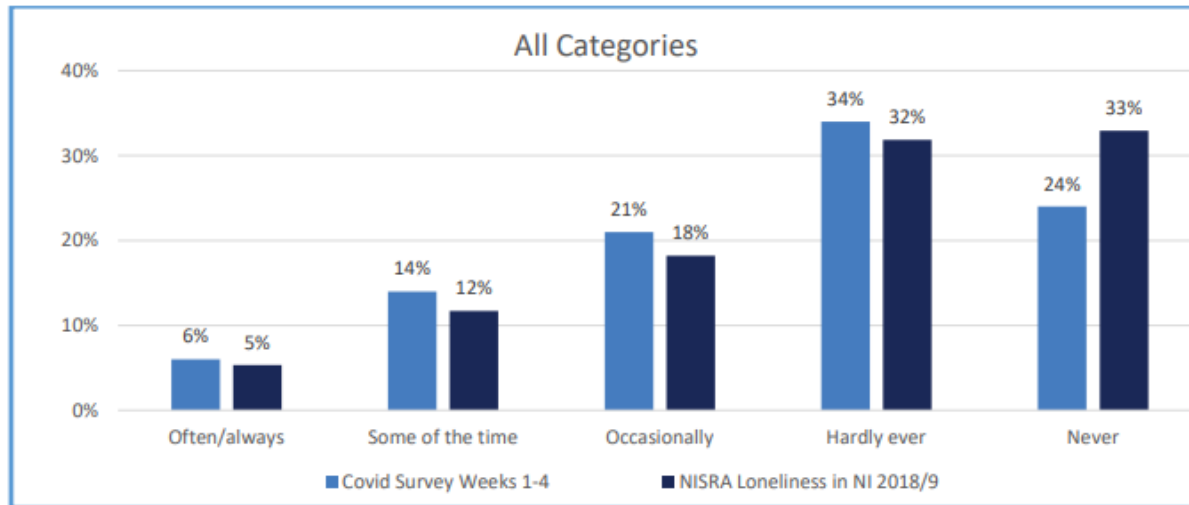
- Feel lonely and isolated
- Feel disconnected from family, friends and community
- Miss normal groups and social interactions
- Fear going out
- Not online so can't communicate or get information this way

# Loneliness

## Frequency of loneliness in people during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) (Phase 1) reporting period



Results from Phase 1 of the NISRA COVID-19 Opinion Survey show that approximately four out of ten people in Northern Ireland reported feeling “more often lonely”. This was significantly higher than the latest Northern Ireland figures reported in the 2018/19 publication.



Some 6% of people in Northern Ireland reported feeling lonely “often/always”, similar to 2018/19 results. Those who reported never feeling lonely dropped from a third in 2018/19 to around a quarter in the Covid Survey.



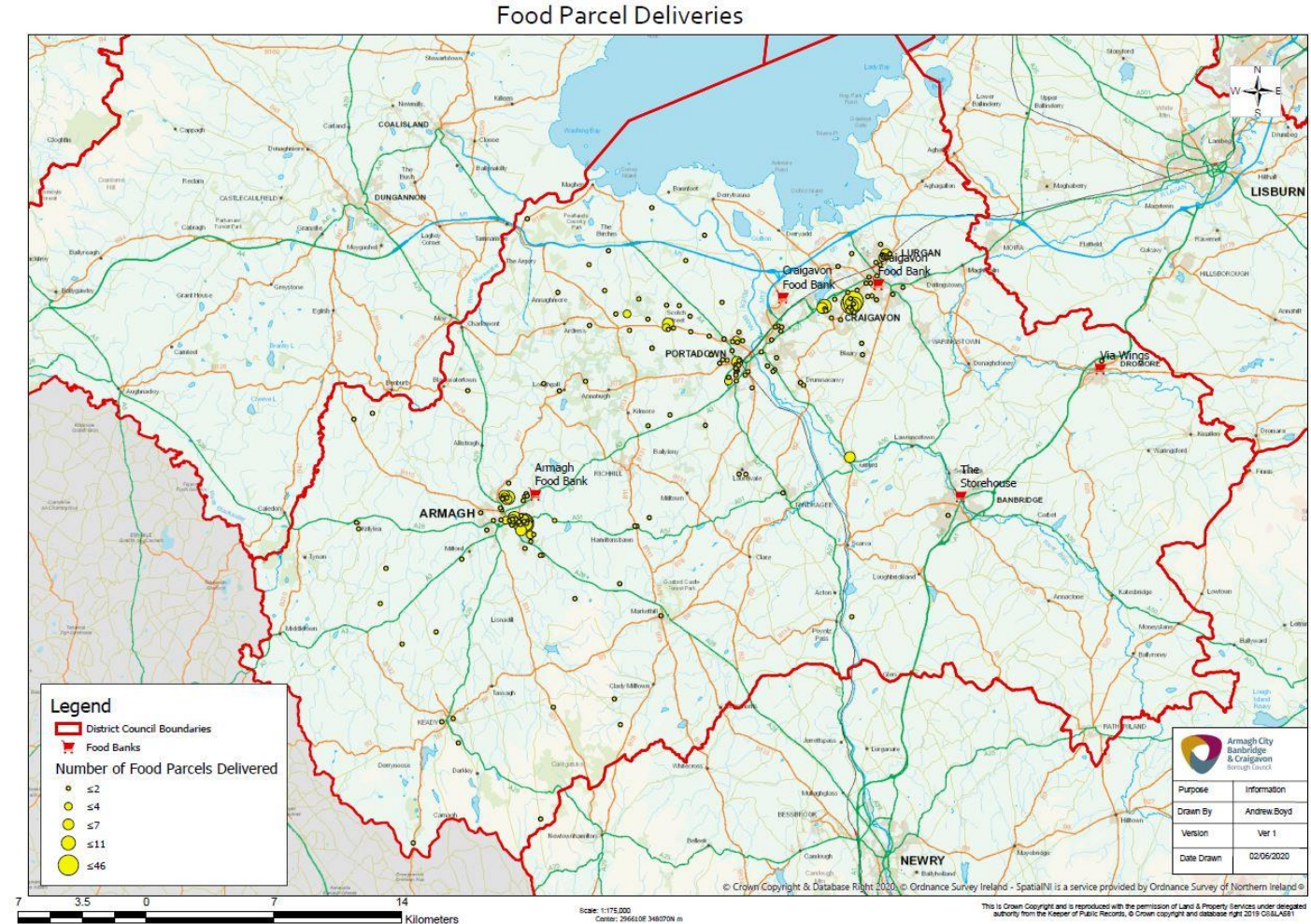
# **5. Impact of Covid-19**

## **Hardship and Poverty**

# Food Insecurity and Food Poverty

From 6<sup>th</sup> April to 14<sup>th</sup> June Council issued **10,548** food parcels through the DfC food box scheme, with a peak of 1,363 food boxes per week.

Respondents to the Food Initiatives Survey reported 4,400 homes receiving weekly food parcels, benefitting over 11,500 people per week. (Please be aware there may be double counting in these figures and are used to give an idea of the scale of the community response)



# Food Insecurity and Food Poverty

## **Food Standards Agency COVID-19 Consumer Tracker Waves 1 and 2**

Survey of adults aged 16 to 75 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

- 23% concerned about food affordability in May (down from 28% in April)
- Of the 23% concerned about food affordability, 44% had cut down or skipped a meal in the last month.
- Food insecurity more of an issue for younger age groups, those in households with a child and those with a physical or mental health condition
- 8% of respondents in April and 7% in May used emergency food providers to access food.

Some of the reasons for food insecurity:

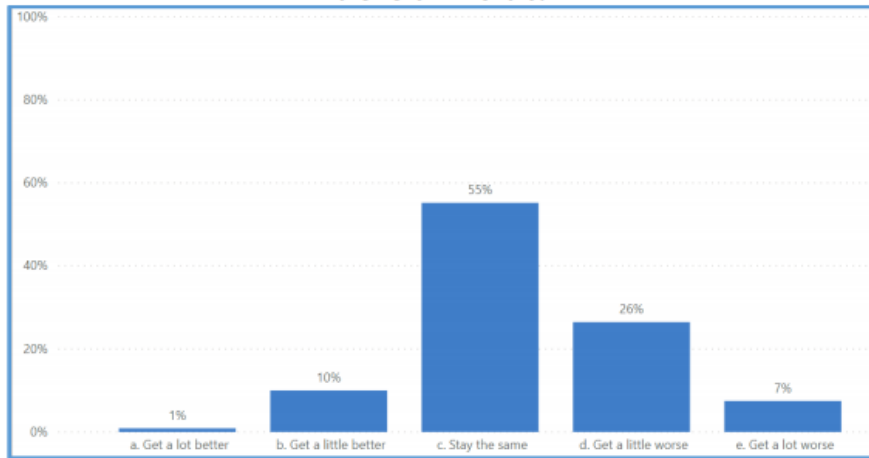
- Issues around getting deliveries e.g. unavailability of delivery slots, lack of internet or not having a bank card
- Impact of mental health on ability to source food
- Domestic abuse
- Reduced access to social and family support
- Low income / sudden loss of income

65% of respondents to the Food Initiatives Survey believe that the need for food support would increase or stay the same over the next 6 months.

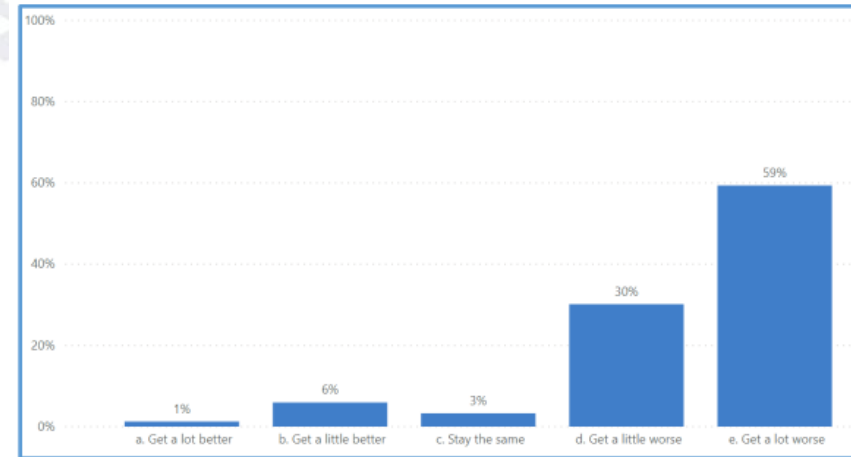
# Financial Concerns

## NISRA COVID-19 Opinion Survey Phase 1 (NI)

How do you expect the financial position of your household to change over the next 12 months?



How do you expect the general economic situation if this country to develop over the next 12 months?



## CPP and CVSP Surveys

21% of respondents to the surveys mentioned that the COVID-19 crisis had an economic or financial impact on people and communities in their area.

## Food Initiatives Surveys

46% of respondents used changes in income or those on a low income as criteria when assessing the need for food.

# Impact on Community Planning Indicators

	Percentage of people who feel they have an influence when it comes to any of the local decisions made in their neighbourhood	↑
	Percentage of people reporting that fear of crime has a minimal impact on their quality of life	↑
	Number of accidental dwelling fires	↑
➤	Number of preventable deaths per 100,000 population (age standardised preventable mortality rate)	↑
➤	Number of overnight trips made by visitors from outside Northern Ireland	↑
➤	Percentage of the workforce in employment qualified to level 1 and above, level 2 and above, level 3 and above, and level 4 and above	↑
➤	Employment rate (age 16-64)	↑
➤	Number of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses	↑
➤	Business birth rates	↑
➤	Survival rates of newly born businesses	↑
	Number of buildings at risk saved	↑

	Percentage of people who feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood	↔
	Percentage of people who participate in sport or physical activity on at least one day a week	↔
➤	Percentage of people (aged 16+) engaging with arts/cultural activities in the past year	↔
	Number of high quality parks/green spaces (those holding Green Flag Award Status)	↔
➤	City and town centre vacancy rates	↔
	Percentage of people who see town centres as safe and welcoming places for people of all walks of life	↓
➤	Gap in life expectancy between most deprived areas and the borough overall	↓
➤	Level of social housing need	↓



## 6. Strengths and Opportunities

# Partnership Working

## Food Initiatives Survey

- 72% of respondents worked with other groups as part of their food initiative.
- 59% provided signposting to other organisations.
- 55% reported that partnership working and collaborating worked well, between both existing and new relationships.
- 94% were interested in working with other organisations in the future to provide a coordinated approach to meeting critical food needs in their community.

## CPP and CVSP Surveys

- 24% of CPP respondents and 13% of CVSP respondents reported working with other partners and organisations as one of the ways their own organisation responded to COVID-19.
- 47% of all respondents stated that working together has enabled the local response to COVID-19.
- 19% of all respondents want to see better partnership working in the longer term.
- 39% of CPP survey responses and 30% of CVSP survey responses see existing partnerships and working together as strengths and assets to build on.
- 20% of all respondents mentioned working together as an opportunity.

# Community Spirit

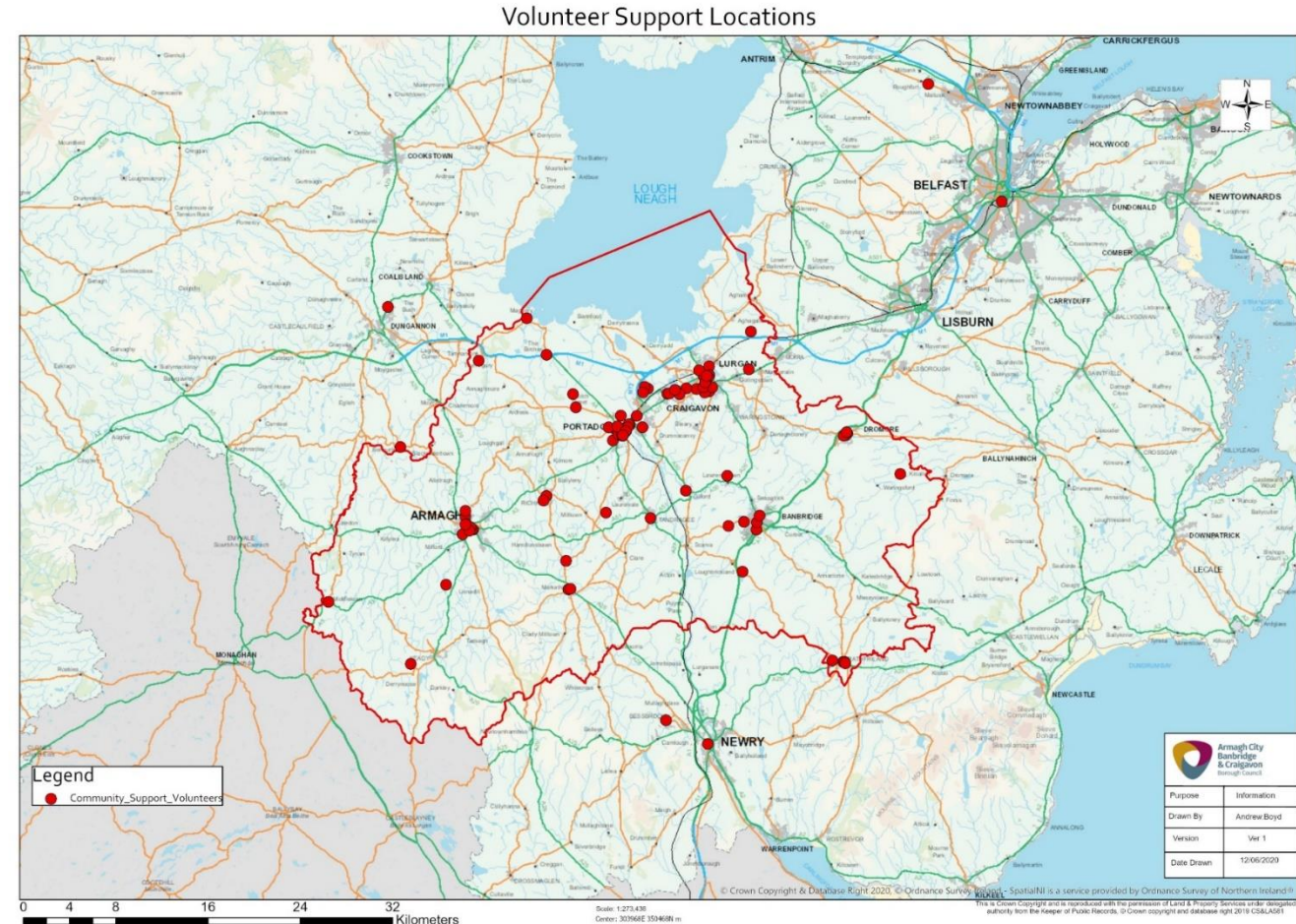
## CPP and CVSP Survey

41% of responses to the CVSP survey and 27% of CPP respondents noted that the community response / spirit had enabled the local response to COVID-19. Volunteers were also mentioned by 11% of all respondents.

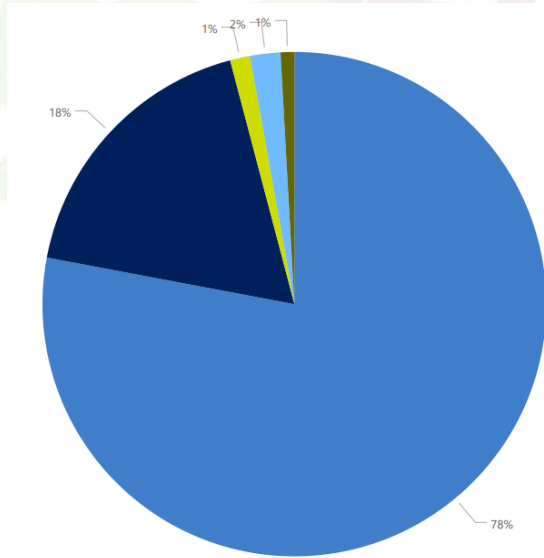
28% of all respondents when asked how the COVID-19 crisis had affected people and communities in their area highlighted the positive change in communities coming together and helping those in need and the general community spirit.

Community spirit and community groups/volunteers were mentioned by 52% of respondents as a strength or asset to build on. 26% of respondents stated community spirit and volunteers are an opportunity.

In the CVSP survey the number of new volunteers ranged from 1 to 5 up to 140 to 150.



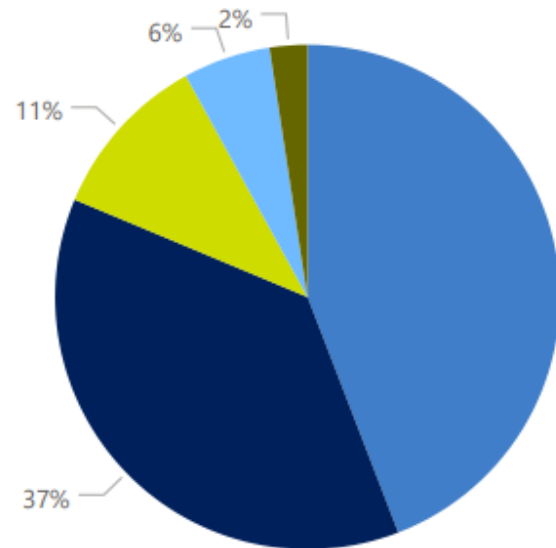
# Community Support



**If I needed help, there are people who would be there for me.**

Almost all people (96%) agreed that if they needed help, people would be there for them.

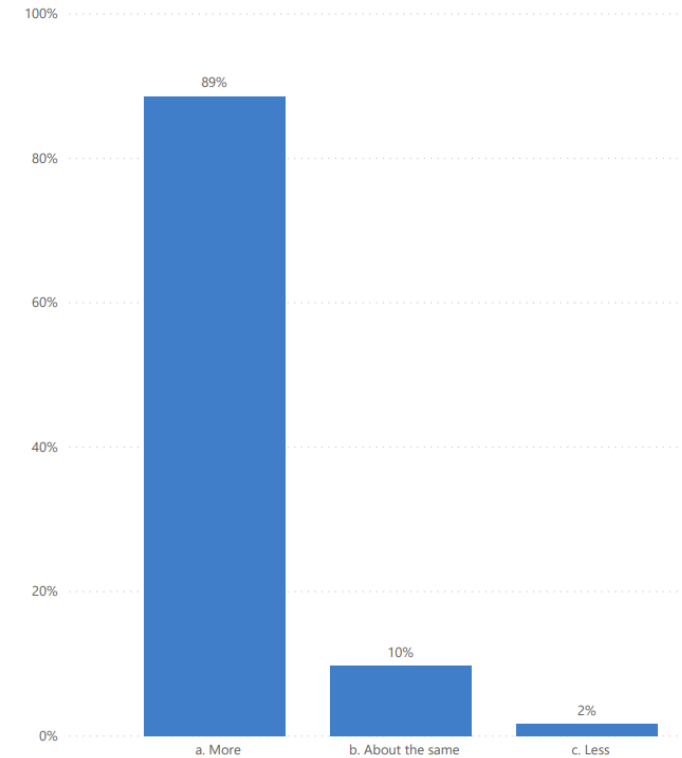
- a. Strongly agree
- b. Somewhat agree
- c. Neither agree nor disagree
- d. Somewhat disagree
- e. Strongly disagree



**If I need help, other local community members would support me during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.**

Just over 8 out of 10 people (81%) agreed that if they needed help, other local community members would support them during the outbreak.

**Do you think people are doing things to help others more, about the same, or less since the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?**



**Results from NISRA COVID-19 Opinion Survey Phase 1 (NI)**

# Sources

Coronavirus Related Health Inequalities Report - <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/coronavirus-related-health-inequalities>

Department of Health Daily Dashboard - <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrljoiZGYxNjYzNmUtOTlmZS00ODAxLWE1YTEtMjA0NjZhMzlmN2JmliwidCI6IjIjOWEzMGRILWQ4ZDctNGFhNC05NjAwLTRiZTc2MjVmZjZiNSIsImMiOjh9>

Weekly Deaths Bulletin - <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/weekly-deaths>

Postcodes of COVID related deaths - <https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/publications/foi-dof-2020-0160-post-codes-covid-19-related-deaths-northern-ireland-alphanumerical-order>

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and Self-Employment Income Support Scheme - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hmrc-coronavirus-covid-19-statistics>

Claimant Count - <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/labour-market-and-social-welfare/claimant-count>

Redundancies - <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/labour-market-and-social-welfare/redundancies>

Business Impact Survey - [Not currently available online](#)

UUEPC 2020 Discussion Paper 2 - <https://www.ulster.ac.uk/epc/publications>

Food Initiatives Survey - <https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/resident/covid-impact/>

Rebuilding Health and Social Care Services - <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/rebuilding-hsc-services>

CPP and CVSP Surveys - <https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/resident/covid-impact/>

NISRA Coronavirus Opinion Survey - <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/nisra-coronavirus-covid-19-opinion-survey>

AgeNI Survey – [Not currently available online for further information contact Elaine Curry, AgeNI info@ageni.org](#)

Food Standards Agency COVID-19 Consumer Tracker - <https://www.food.gov.uk/research/research-projects/the-covid-19-consumer-research>