**Section 75**

Religious Belief

43.8% of residents in the borough on Census Day 2021 belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion and 46.7% belong to or were brought up in a Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) religion. A further 1.2% belonged to or had been brought up in other religions while 8.2% neither belonged to, nor had been brought up in a religion.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Religion or Religion Brought Up In | Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon | % |
| Catholic | 95,868 | 43.8% |
| Protestant and Other Christian | 102,063 | 46.7% |
| Other | 2,697 | 1.2% |
| None | 18,028 | 8.2% |
| Total | **218,656** | **100.0%** |

*Table 1: Religion or religion brought up in of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Religion or Religion Brought Up In – Table MS-B23, Census 2021, NISRA.*

Political Opinion

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council has 41 elected members. A breakdown of results of the Local Government Election in May 2019 for the borough are as follows:

* Democratic Unionist Party – 11
* Ulster Unionist Party – 10
* Sinn Fein – 10
* Social Democratic and Labour Party – 6
* Alliance – 3
* Independent – 1

A total of 79,309 votes were polled in the borough from an eligible electorate of 147,977 giving a turnout of 53.6%. This breakdown is taken as an approximate representation of the political opinion of people within the borough.

Racial Group

Results from the 2021 Census showed that 96.7% of the usually resident population of the borough were white and 3.3% were from minority ethnic groups. The main ethnic minorities were Mixed (1,652 individuals), Black African (1,132 individuals) and Chinese (683 individuals).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon | % |
| White | 211,429 | 96.69% |
| Irish Traveller | 534 | 0.24% |
| Roma | 205 | 0.09% |
| Indian | 617 | 0.28% |
| Chinese | 683 | 0.31% |
| Filipino | 406 | 0.19% |
| Pakistani | 278 | 0.13% |
| Arab | 116 | 0.05% |
| Other Asian | 581 | 0.27% |
| Black African | 1,132 | 0.52% |
| Black Other | 519 | 0.24% |
| Mixed | 1,652 | 0.76% |
| Other ethnicities | 506 | 0.23% |

*Table 2: Ethnic group of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table: MS-B01 Ethnic Group, Census 2021, NISRA.*

Results from the 2021 Census show that 85.5% of residents in the borough were born in Northern Ireland. The borough had 8.6% of residents, or 18,836 individuals, who were born outside the United Kingdom or Republic of Ireland.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Country of Birth | Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon | % |
| Northern Ireland | 186,924 | 85.49% |
| England | 7,003 | 3.20% |
| Scotland | 1,419 | 0.65% |
| Wales | 332 | 0.15% |
| Republic of Ireland | 4,142 | 1.89% |
| Other EU countries | 13,490 | 6.17% |
| Other non-EU countries | 555 | 0.25% |
| Africa | 1,114 | 0.51% |
| Middle East and Asia | 2,520 | 1.15% |
| North America, Central America and Caribbean | 622 | 0.28% |
| South America | 246 | 0.11% |
| Antarctica, Oceania and Other | 289 | 0.13% |

*Table 3: Country of birth of residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table MS-A16 Country of Birth, Census 2021, NISRA.*

Results from Census 2021 show that 6.8% of residents in the borough aged 3+ years (14,376 individuals) spoke a language other than English as their main language. In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough in 2021, the most prevalent main languages other than English were Polish (1.7%) and Lithuanian (1.2%).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Main Language | Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon | % |
| English | 196,026 | 93.17% |
| Polish | 3,551 | 1.69% |
| Lithuanian | 2,611 | 1.24% |
| Irish | 429 | 0.20% |
| Romanian | 768 | 0.37% |
| Portuguese | 1,777 | 0.84% |
| Arabic | 234 | 0.11% |
| Bulgarian | 1,469 | 0.70% |
| Chinese (not otherwise specified) | 183 | 0.09% |
| Slovak | 375 | 0.18% |
| Hungarian | 357 | 0.17% |
| Spanish | 116 | 0.06% |
| Latvian | 468 | 0.22% |
| Russian | 322 | 0.15% |
| Tetun | 269 | 0.13% |
| Other languages | 1,447 | 0.69% |
| Total (Aged 3+) | 210,402 | 100% |

*Table 4: Main language of residents aged 3+ in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Table MS-B12 Main Language, Census 2021, NISRA.*

Age

The population of the borough was estimated to be 218,656 on Census Day 2021, the profile of which is shown below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Age Group | Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon | % |
| 0 – 15 years | 48,243 | 22.06% |
| 16 – 24 years | 21,774 | 9.96% |
| 25 – 49 years | 72,023 | 32.94% |
| 50 – 64 years | 41,626 | 19.04% |
| 65 and over | 34,990 | 16.0% |
| Total | 218,656 | 100.0% |

*Table 5: Age profile of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census Day 2021. Source: Table MS-A06 Age Structure, Census 2021*

Gender

The 2021 Census showed that in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 49.5% (108,268) of usual residents were male and 50.5% (110,388) were female.

Census 2021 updates for the following sections have not yet been released so data presented is from Census 2011.

Marital Status

The 2011 Census provides information on the marital and civil partnership status of those aged 16 and over. Over half of residents aged 16+ in the borough were married (51.0%).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Marital and Civil Partnership Status** | **Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon** | **%** |
| **Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)** | 52,296 | 33.6% |
| **Married** | 79,220 | 51.0% |
| **In a registered same-sex civil partnership** | 110 | 0.1% |
| **Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)** | 5,639 | 3.6% |
| **Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved** | 8,087 | 5.2% |
| **Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership** | 10,135 | 6.5% |
| **Total (Aged 16+)** | 155,487 | 100.0% |

*Table 6: Marital and civil partnership status of residents aged 16+ in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Source: Marital and Civil Partnership Status – KS103NI (administrative geographies), Census 2011, NISRA.*

Sexual Orientation

The 2011 Census did not include a question on sexual identity.

The Continuous Household Survey provides results on the sexual identity of persons aged 16 and over. For the combined years of 2016/17 – 2018/19, in the borough 98% of respondents to the survey identified as Heterosexual/Straight, 1% as Bisexual and less than 0.5% for each of Gay/Lesbian and Other. Less than 0.5% also responded don’t know/refusal. (Note figures may not sum to 100% due to rounding).

Results from the 2019 Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey showed for adults aged 18 and over in Northern Ireland overall:

* I am ‘gay’ or ‘lesbian – 2%
* I am heterosexual or ‘straight’ – 90%
* I am bi-sexual – 1%
* Other answer – 1%
* I do not wish to answer this question – 7%

(Note figures may not sum to 100% due to rounding).

Disability

According to the 2011 Census, one fifth (20%) of people (39,861 individuals) in the borough had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities.

The Family Resources Survey showed, using data for 2015/16 to 2017/18, 19% of individuals in the borough were disabled, similar to the level in Northern Ireland overall (21%).

Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities showed that as of May 2020 there were:

* 2,120 or 4.4% of under 16 population and 6,070 or 18.1% of 65 and over population claiming Disability Living Allowance.
* 5,550 or 16.6% of 65 and over population claiming Attendance Allowance.
* 15,130 Personal Independent Payment claims in payment (experimental statistics).

Dependants

The 2011 Census showed that 36% or 27,827 households in the borough contained dependent children.

Results from the 2011 Census also show that 12% of the borough’s population (or 23,101 individuals) provided unpaid care. Of those who provided unpaid support:

* 58% provided 1 – 19 hours per week
* 17% provided 20 – 49 hours per week
* 25% provided 50+ hours per week.

Benefit statistics from the Department for Communities show that at May 2020 there were 7,940 claimants, or 4.7% of 16 and over population, claiming Carer’s Allowance in the borough.