Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough

Census 2021

Summary Report 3: Household Spaces & Accommodation

**Second Phase of main statistics (December 2022)**

The second phase of main statistics from Census 2021 was published 15 December 2022 and provides key statistics for a number of census topics such as health, disability and unpaid care and housing and accommodation at Northern Ireland and Local Government District levels (LGD).

This report covers census information on household spaces and accommodation including household spaces (occupied or vacant), accommodation type, housing adaptations, type of central heating available to household and renewable energy systems available to the household. The analysis focuses on information for Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Where information is available, comparisons will be made with the 2011 census results to see how things have changed in the 10 year period since the last census. Some comparatives with other LGD’s will also be included.

**Household Spaces**

On Census Day 2021 there were a total of 88,383 households in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. Of these, 84,642 (95.8%) were occupied while 3,741 (4.2%) were vacant.

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon have the third lowest vacancy rate of all LGD’s and showed the biggest decline in the vacancy rate since Census 2011.

*Figure 1: Household Spaces by LGD, 2011 and 2021. Source: Census 2011 & Table MS-E04, 2021.*

**Accommodation Type**

On Census Day 2021, detached properties accounted for almost 45% of occupied households with just over 50% of all usual residents in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough living in detached houses. Flats, maisonettes or apartments accounted for just 5.3% of occupied households housing just 3.2% of all usual residents.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Occupied Households | | Usual Residents | |
|  | **No** | **%** | **No.** | **%** |
| Detached | 37,768 | 44.6% | 108,711 | 50.1% |
| Semi-detached | 24,811 | 29.3% | 62,316 | 28.7% |
| Terrace (including end-terrace) | 17,431 | 20.6% | 38,747 | 17.9% |
| Purpose-built block of flats | 3,560 | 4.2% | 5,202 | 2.4% |
| Part of a converted or shared house (including bed-sits) | 686 | 0.8% | 1,256 | 0.6% |
| In a commercial building | 239 | 0.3% | 351 | 0.2% |
| Caravan or other mobile or temporary structure | 147 | 0.2% | 434 | 0.2% |
|  | **84,642** | **100.0%** | **217,017** | **100.0%** |

*Table 1: Accommodation Type in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon by households and usual residents, 2021. Source: Table MS-E05 & Table MS-E06, Census 2021.*

Between Census Day 2011 and Census Day 2021, there has been a 19.6% increase in the number of flat, maisonette or apartment spaces in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough. The largest increase has been in the number of semi-detached properties which has increased by almost 22% over the decade from 2011-2021. The number of terrace properties has fallen by 5.5%.

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|  | Census 2011 | Census 2021 | Percentage Change |
| Detached | 35,240 | 39,225 | 11.3% |
| Semi-detatched | 20,967 | 25,497 | 21.6% |
| Terrace (including end-terrace) | 19,505 | 18,438 | -5.5% |
| Flat, maisonette or apartment | 4,217 | 5,045 | 19.6% |
| Caravan or other mobile structure | 191 | 180 | -5.8% |
| All Household Spaces | **80,120** | **88,385** | **10.3%** |

*Table 2: Household Spaces by Accommodation Type in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, 2011 & 2021. Source: Census 2011 & Table MS-E07, 2021.*

**Adaption of Accommodation**

The majority of occupied households in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough have no reported adaptations (82% of all occupied households). Of the households who reported having made adaptions to their property, the majority (11.6%) had made just one adaptation while 1.3% had made 3 or more adaptions. Table 3 shows the reported number of adaptations made to the accommodation for all occupied households in the borough.

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| Number of adaptions made | Occupied Households | Percentage |
| No adaptions | 69,375 | 82.0% |
| 1 or more adaptions | 15,267 | 18.0% |
| 1 adaption | 9,812 | 11.6% |
| 2 adaptions | 4,360 | 5.2% |
| 3 adaptions | 937 | 1.1% |
| 4 or more adaptions | 158 | 0.2% |
| Total | 84,642 | 100.0% |

*Table 3: Occupied households by number of adaptions in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, 2021. Source: Table MS-E08, 2021.*

The question on adaptations of accommodation in the census was a multi-tick question. The table below presents information on the individual types of adaptions made to the accommodation for all occupied households in the borough. Internal wheelchair usage is the most prevalent type of adaptation of all occupied households in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough accounting for 9.6% of adaptions made. Approximately 8.6% of occupied households in the borough have been adapted for external wheelchair access with a further 6.6% of adaptions relating to other physical or mobility difficulties.

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| Type of adaption | No. of households with this adaption | Percentage of all households with this adaption |
| Internal wheelchair usage | 8,120 | 9.6% |
| External wheelchair access | 7,240 | 8.6% |
| Other physical or mobility difficulties | 5,553 | 6.6% |
| Visual difficulties | 359 | 0.4% |
| Hearing difficulties | 626 | 0.7% |
| Other types of adaption | 161 | 0.2% |

*Table 4: Occupied households by type of adaptions in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, 2021. Source: Table MS-E09, 2021.*

**Central Heating (Household based)**

The Census 2021 central heating (household based) statistics classify the exact nature of central heating that a household has. This is presented in Table 5.

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|  | Occupied Households | Percentage |
| Oil only | 55,166 | 65.2% |
| Mains gas only | 12,253 | 14.5% |
| Electric (for example storage heaters) only | 1,048 | 1.2% |
| Tank or bottled gas only | 471 | 0.6% |
| Solid fuel (for example coal) only | 537 | 0.6% |
| Renewable heating system only | 384 | 0.5% |
| Wood (for example logs or waste wood) only | 100 | 0.1% |
| Other central heating only | 184 | 0.2% |
| Two or more types of central heating | 14,262 | 16.9% |
| No central heating | 235 | 0.3% |
| Total | **84,640** | **100.0%** |

*Table 5: Occupied households by central heating (household based) in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, 2021. Source: Table MS-E11, 2021.*

In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, oil is the most common type of central heating system with 55,166 (or 65.2%) of occupied households having this central heating system. A total of 235 (0.3%) of occupied households in the borough have no access to any type of central heating system.

As we would expect, oil and mains gas are the most common type of central heating systems in Northern Ireland overall. Figure 2 presents the percentage of occupied households with oil only and mains gas only by LGD in 2021.

*Figure 2: Occupied households by central heating system – oil only and mains gas only (household based) by LGD, 2021. Source: Table MS-E11, 2021.*

Oil only central heating is the most prevalent for almost 50% of all occupied households in Northern Ireland compared to approximately 32% of households with mains gas only. In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, oil only is the most prevalent central heating system in 65.2% of households compared to 14.5% with mains gas only. However, as presented in figure 2, the ratio varies across the LGD’s. Oil only households are the most prevalent in all LGD’s except Belfast where mains gas is the most prevalent central heating system for 71% of occupied households (compared to 20% oil only) and Ards and North Down where mains gas accounts for 46% of central heating systems compared to 40% that are oil only.

Table 6 presents the central heating source by household for Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon from Census 2011. The question has changed slightly so the results may not be directly comparable but the figures show there has been an increase in gas central heating in the borough since 2011 and a decline in the number of households with no central heating. The percentage of households with two or more types of central heating has remained relatively unchanged.

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|  | Census 2011 % of Households |
| Oil central heating | 73.1% |
| Gas central heating | 2.5% |
| Electric (including storage heaters) central heating | 3.2% |
| Solid fuel (for example wood, coal) central heating | 3.1% |
| Other central heating | 6.3% |
| Two or more types of central heating | 17.0% |
| No central heating | 0.5% |

*Table 6: Households by central heating system, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, 2011. Source: Census 2011*

**Renewable Energy Systems**

The Census 2021 asked a multi-tick question on renewable energy systems giving respondents the option to select more than one type of renewable energy systems their household had access to.

In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough, just 5.3% of occupied households had any renewable energy system. This is the same for Northern Ireland overall. Newry, Mourne and Down had the greatest percentage of households with a renewable energy system at 7.6% while Belfast had the least at 3.3%.

*Figure 3: Percentage of households with a renewable energy system by LGD, 2021. Source: Table MS-E13, 2021.*

Of the 4,483 occupied households within the borough who indicated that they had access to renewable energy systems, almost 58% had solar panels for electricity while 45% had solar panels for heating water.

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|  | Number of households | % of households with access to a renewable energy system |
| Solar panels for electricity | 2,581 | 57.6% |
| Solar panels for heating water | 2,022 | 45.1% |
| Biomass | 228 | 5.1% |
| Wind turbine | 101 | 2.3% |
| Air source | 86 | 1.9% |
| Geothermal | 68 | 1.5% |
| Other | 184 | 4.1% |

*Table 7: Number of households with a renewable energy system in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, 2021. Source: Table MS-E13, 2021. Note: access to each system is reported individually, even if in combination with other systems so figures will not sum.*