

INFORMATION
ANALYSIS
DIRECTORATE



Carers' Statistics for Northern Ireland

Quarter ending 30th September 2014



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

Published 27 November 2014

Reader Information

Theme	Social Care – Carers’ Statistics
Document Purpose	For information
Authors / Statisticians	Philip Carson, Heidi Rodgers, Karen Moore
Publication Date	27 th November 2014
Issued by	Community Information Branch Information & Analysis Directorate Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety Stormont Estate Belfast BT4 3SQ Email cib@dhsspsni.gov.uk
Internet address	http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/statistics/socialcare.htm
Target Audience	Social Services Directors, Chief Executives of HSC Board and Trusts in Northern Ireland, health care professionals, academics and social care stakeholders.
Main uses of document	The main uses of these data are to monitor a Commissioning Plan Direction target, to assess HSC Trust performance, to inform and monitor related policy and to respond to ad-hoc queries and parliamentary/ assembly questions. The bulletin is also used by academics/ researchers, the voluntary sector and those with an interest in carers.
Copyright	This publication is Crown copyright and may be reproduced free of charge in any format or medium. Any material used must be acknowledged, and the title of the publication specified.
Price	Free

We would greatly welcome any comments that you have regarding the content of this publication. Feedback forms are available on our [website](#).

Key Findings

This is the quarterly publication of “Carers’ Statistics for Northern Ireland”. Figures are presented regionally and by Health and Social Care Trust in respect of completed and declined carers’ assessments, completed carers’ reviews, completed and declined carers’ reassessments and reasons why offers of assessment / reassessment were declined by carers.

During quarter ending 30 September 2014:

Carers Assessments

- 2,645 carers’ assessments were offered to carers in Northern Ireland. This represented a decrease of 4% (100) from the previous quarter (2,745) and an increase of 6% (145) from the same quarter last year (2,500).
- Of the 2,645 carers’ assessments offered, 41% (1,090) were completed and 59% (1,555) were declined.
- The 1,090 carers’ assessments which were completed represented a decrease of 5% (56) from the previous quarter (1,146) and a decrease of 4% (47) from the same quarter last year (1,137).
- The 1,555 carers’ assessments which were declined represented a decrease of 3% (44) from the previous quarter (1,599) and an increase of 14% (192) from the same quarter last year (1,363).

Carers Reviews

- 661 carers’ reviews were completed. This was a decrease of 19% (154) from the previous quarter (815) and an increase of 43% (198) from the same quarter last year (463).

Carers Reassessments

- 426 carers’ reassessments were offered to carers in Northern Ireland. This represented an increase of 21% (74) from the previous quarter (352) and an increase of 6% (23) from the same quarter last year (403).
- Of the 426 carers’ reassessments offered, 64% (271) were completed and 36% (155) were declined.
- The 271 carers’ reassessments which were completed represented an increase of 50% (90) from the previous quarter (181) and an increase of 19% (44) from the same quarter last year (227).
- The 155 carers’ reassessments which were declined represented a decrease of 9% (16) from the previous quarter (171) and a decrease of 12% (21) from the same quarter last year (176).

About Us



Statistics and research for the **Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety** is provided by the Information and Analysis Directorate (IAD). IAD is responsible for compiling, processing, analysing, interpreting and disseminating a wide range of statistics covering health and social care.



The statisticians within IAD are outposted from the Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA) and the statistics are produced in accordance with the principles and protocols set out in the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/statistics

IAD comprises four statistical sections: Hospital Information, Community Information, Public Health Information & Research and Project Support Analysis.

This publication is produced by Community Information Branch.

Our Vision and Values

- *Provide up-to-date, quality information on children and adult social services and community health;*
- *to disseminate findings widely with a view to stimulating debate, promoting effective decision-making and improvement in service provision; and*
- *be an expert voice on social care information.*

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/socialcare.htm

About Community Information Branch

The purpose of Community Information Branch (CIB) is to promote effective decision making in children and adult social services by providing quality information and analysis.

We collect, analyse, and publish a wide range of community information that is used to help monitor the delivery of personal social services policy. Information collected by CIB is used to assess HSC Trust performance, for corporate monitoring, policy evaluation, and to respond to parliamentary/assembly questions.

Information is widely disseminated through a number of regular key statistical publications and ad hoc reports, details of which are available online.

Contents

Overview	7
Introduction	9
Carers Assessments	10
Figure 1: Carers Assessments Completed, Declined and Offered (quarters ending 30 September 2013 - 30 September 2014)	11
Figure 2: Proportion of Carers Assessments Completed and Declined by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	11
Figure 3: Proportion of Carers Assessments Declined by Age Group of Carer (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	12
Figure 4: Proportion of Carers Assessments Completed and Declined for Carers of Children and Adults by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	12
Figure 5: Reasons Given for Declining a Carers Assessment (quarters ending 31 December 2012 – 30 September 2014)	14
Figure 6: Percentage of Carers Assessed by Programme of Care (of Cared for Person) and by HSC Trust (quarters ending 30 September 2013 & 30 September 2014)	15
Carers Reviews	16
Figure 7: Completed Carers Reviews (quarters ending 30 September 2013 – 30 September 2014)	16
Figure 8: Completed Carers Reviews by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	17
Carers Reassessments	18
Figure 9: Proportion of Carers Assessments and Carers Reassessments Completed and Declined (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	19
Figure 10: Carers Reassessments Completed, Declined and Offered (quarters ending 30 September 2013 - 30 September 2014)	19
Figure 11: Proportion of Carers Reassessments Completed and Declined by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	20
Figure 12: Proportion of Carers Reassessments Declined by Age Group of Carer (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	20
Figure 13: Proportion of Carers Reassessments Completed and Declined for Carers of Children and Adults by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	21
Figure 14: Reasons Given for Declining a Carers Reassessment (quarters ending 31 December 2012 – 30 September 2014)	22

Appendices

A: Technical Notes	23
B: Definitions	25
C: Tables	28
Table 1: Carers Assessments Completed, Declined and Offered (quarters ending 31 December 2012 – 30 September 2014)	28
Table 2: Carers Assessments Completed, Declined and Offered by Age Group of Carer and HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	28
Table 3: Carers Assessments Completed, Declined and Offered by Person being Cared for and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	29
Table 4: Reasons Given for Declining a Carers Assessment by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	29
Table 5: Percentage of Carers Assessed by Programme of Care (of Cared for Person) and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	30
Table 6: Completed Carers Reviews and Carers Reassessments Completed, Declined and Offered (quarters ending 31 December 2012 – 30 September 2014)	30
Table 7: Completed Carers Reviews by Age Group of Carer and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	31
Table 8: Completed Carers Reviews by Person being Cared for and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	31
Table 9: Carers Reassessments Completed, Declined and Offered by Age Group of Carer and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	32
Table 10: Carers Reassessments Completed, Declined and Offered by Person being Cared for and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	32
Table 11: Reasons Given for Declining a Carers Reassessment (quarter ending 30 September 2014)	33
D: CA1 and CA1b Information Returns	34

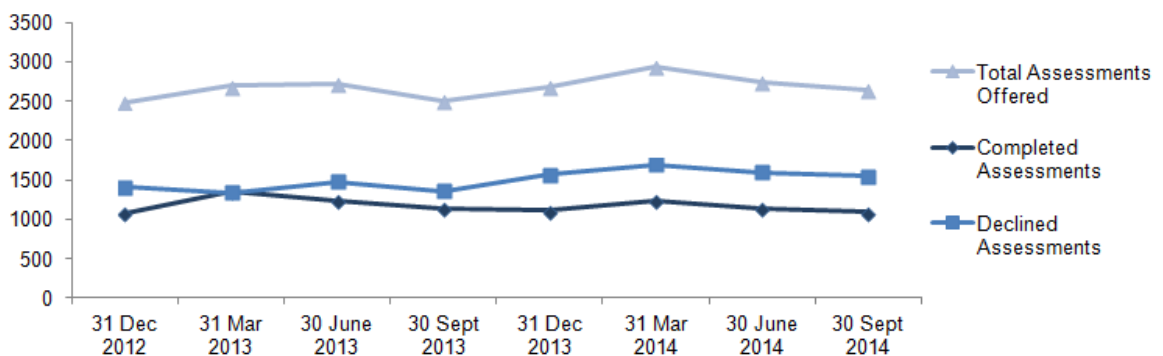
Overview

(i) Quarterly Trends

Carers Assessments

During quarter ending 30 September 2014, 1,090 carers' assessments had been completed in Northern Ireland. This represented a 5% decrease on the previous quarter and a 4% decrease on the same quarter in 2013.

1,555 carers' assessments had been declined during the quarter; this represented a 3% decrease on the previous quarter. The number of carers' assessments declined exceeded the number of completed carers' assessments with the exception of quarter ending 31 March 2013. The most common reason for a carer to decline a carer's assessment remained that they felt that they did not need any support or additional support to cope with their caring duties (41%).



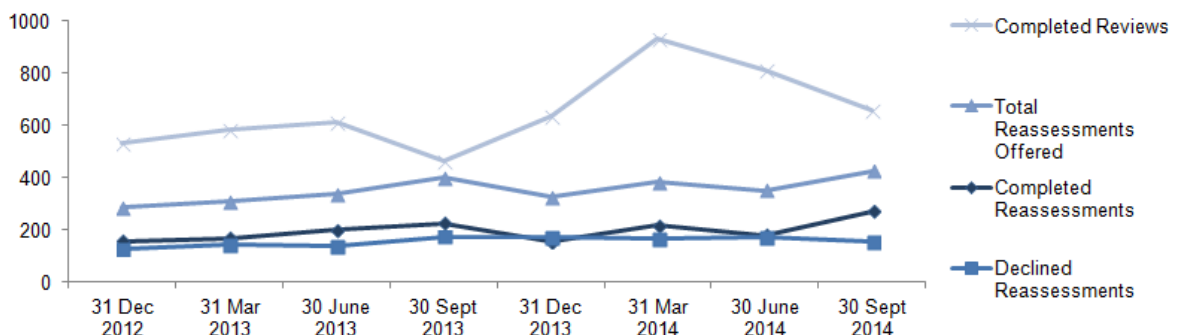
Carers Reviews and Reassessments

The quarterly numbers of completed carers' reviews have been quite variable across previous quarters. However, the 661 carers' reviews completed during quarter ending 30 September 2014 represent a 19% decrease on the previous quarter and a 29% decrease compared to the peak seen during quarter ending 31 March 2014.

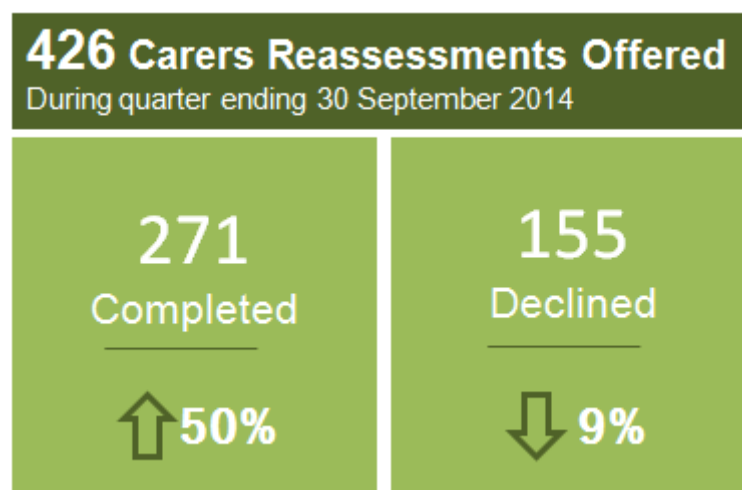
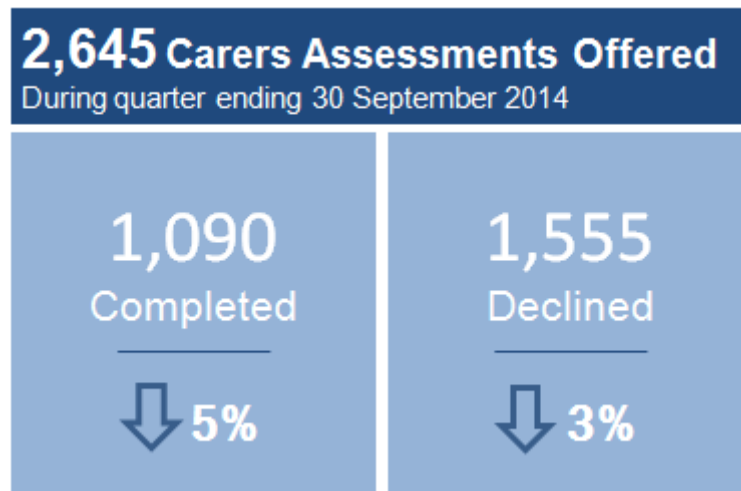
The total number of carers' reassessments offered by Health and Social Care Trusts increased by 21% from 352 in the previous quarter to 426 during quarter ending 30 September 2014. Furthermore, it represented a 6% increase from the same quarter in 2013.

The number of carers' reassessments declined (155) was less than the number of carers' reassessments completed (271) during quarter ending 30 September 2014. This has been the case for all previous quarters except for quarter ending 31 December 2013.

The most common reason for declining a carer's reassessment during this quarter was that the carer felt that they did not need any additional support (61%).



(ii) Current Position and Comparison against Previous Quarter



Introduction

Carers are people who, without payment, provide help and support to a family member or a friend who may not be able to manage without this help because of frailty, illness or disability. Carers can be adults caring for other adults, parents caring for ill or disabled children or young people who care for another family member and are a vital part of the DHSSPS's vision of providing support for people to live more independent lives and helping people remain in their own homes and live independently for longer.

In recognition of the need to support carers in their caring role and their need to have access to a social life, educational, training and employment opportunities, a carers' strategy, "[Caring for Carers](#)", was developed. The strategy, published in January 2006, was inter-departmental and inter-agency, dealing with health and personal social services, employment, training, education, availability of information and support services.

Carers may need support to allow them to continue in their caring role and to ensure their own health and well-being does not suffer as a result. They have a right to a life outside caring. All carers are individuals and, as such, present varying needs. Proper **assessment** is the first step to accessing services and it is vitally important that carers are offered the opportunity to discuss their own needs and be considered for services in their own right.

The [Carers and Direct Payments Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2002](#) imposed a statutory duty on Health and Social Care Trusts to inform carers of their right to an assessment and to be considered for services to meet their own needs. The Carers' Assessment looks at each carer as an individual with their own personal circumstances, and will identify any particular needs they may have as a result. It is important that the needs of individual carers are properly understood and that service providers are prepared to respond with flexibility, offering carers real choice as to how their needs will be met. The "Carers Support and Needs Assessment" component of the [Northern Ireland Single Assessment Tool \(NISAT\)](#) is used for assessing the needs of carers in all programmes of care, thus ensuring a standardised approach to assessment regardless of the location of the carer in Northern Ireland.

This bulletin presents for the **quarter ending 30 September 2014**, statistics relating to the numbers of completed and declined carers' assessments, the main reasons why carers declined offers to be assessed, carers' reviews completed, carers' reassessments completed and declined. Analyses are presented in respect of carers and the persons cared for both regionally and across Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland.

Detailed definitions are available in Appendix B of this report.

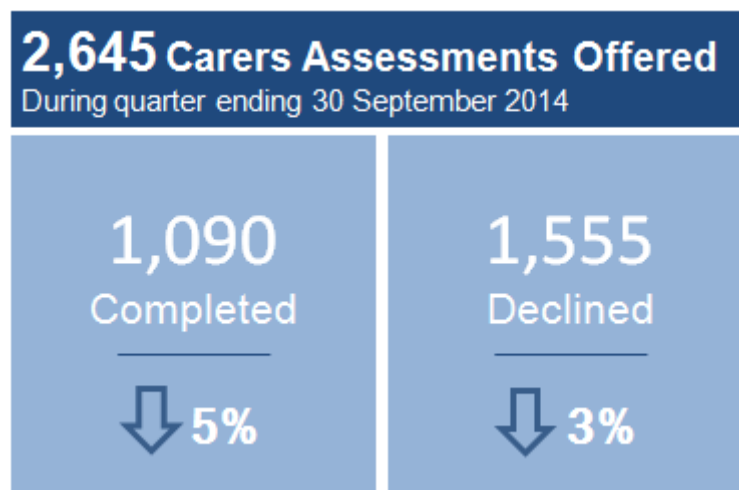
Carers Assessments

Quarter ending 30th September 2014

A **Carers Assessment** is carried out to determine the support needs of the person in commencing or sustaining their caring role; or in addressing the risks to the sustainability of that caring role; or the risks to the carer's own health and wellbeing.

During quarter ending 30 September 2014, 2,645 carers' assessments were offered to carers in Northern Ireland. This represented a decrease of 4% (100) from the previous quarter (2,745) and an increase of 6% (145) from the same quarter last year (2,500).

Of the 2,645 carers' assessments offered, 41% (1,090) were completed and 59% (1,555) were declined (Table 1).



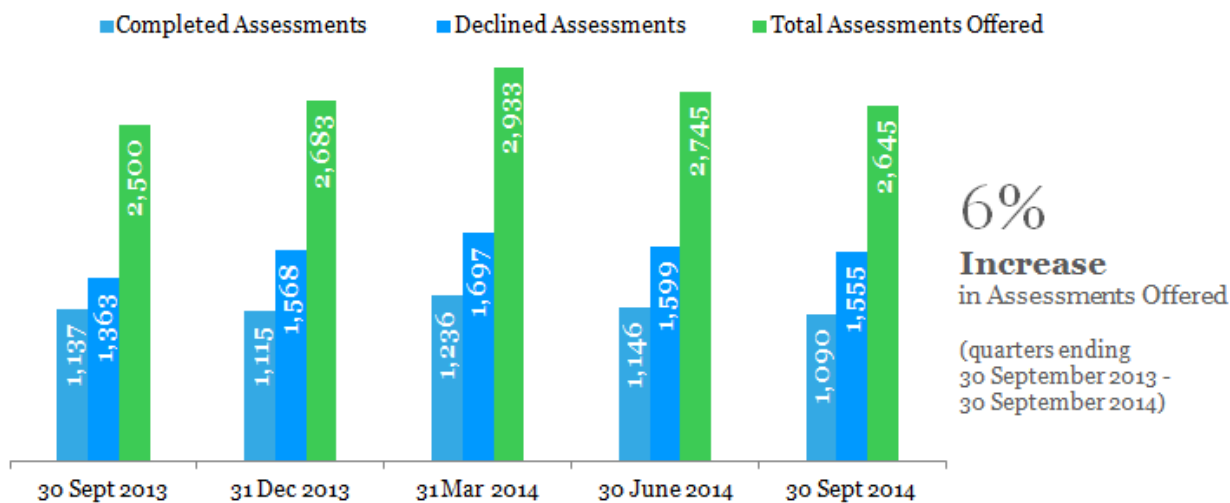
The 1,090 carers' assessments which were completed represented a decrease of 5% (56) from the previous quarter (1,146) and a decrease of 4% (47) from the same quarter last year (1,137).

The 1,555 carers' assessments which were declined represented a decrease of 3% (44) from the previous quarter (1,599) and an increase of 14% (192) from the same quarter last year (1,363) (Figure 1).

The number of declined carers' assessments has continually been higher than the number of completed carers' assessments with the exception of quarter ending 31 March 2013 (Table 1).

Figure 1 overleaf presents the number of carers' assessments during the last five quarters.

Figure 1: Carers Assessments Completed, Declined and Offered (quarters ending 30 September 2013 - 30 September 2014)

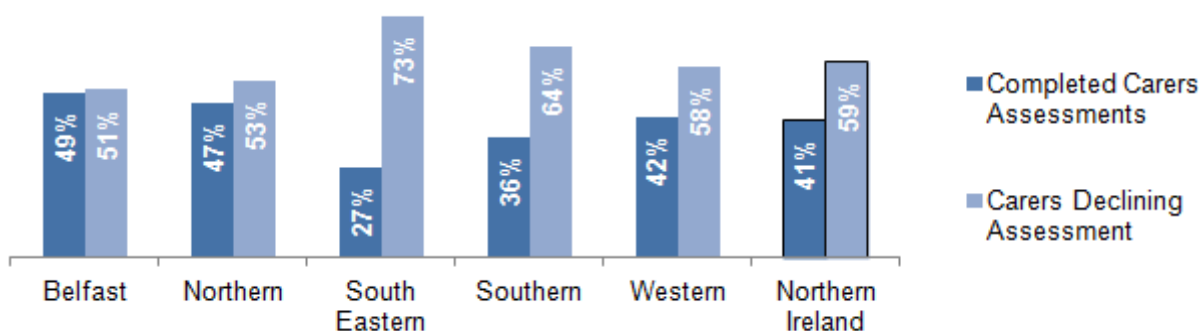


Of all carers' assessments offered in Northern Ireland, the Northern Trust offered the most (27%) whilst the Western Trust offered the least (12%) (Table 2).

The Northern Trust had the highest number of completed carers' assessments (336) while the Western Trust had the fewest (130).

Similarly, the Northern Trust had the highest number of declined carers' assessments (383) while the Western Trust had the fewest (176).

Figure 2: Proportion of Carers Assessments Completed and Declined by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)



During quarter ending 30 September 2014, each Trust had more carers' assessments declined than completed. This ranged from 51% of assessments declined in the Belfast Trust to 73% in the South Eastern Trust (Figure 2).

Figure 3: Proportion of Carers Assessments Declined by Age Group of Carer (quarter ending 30 September 2014)

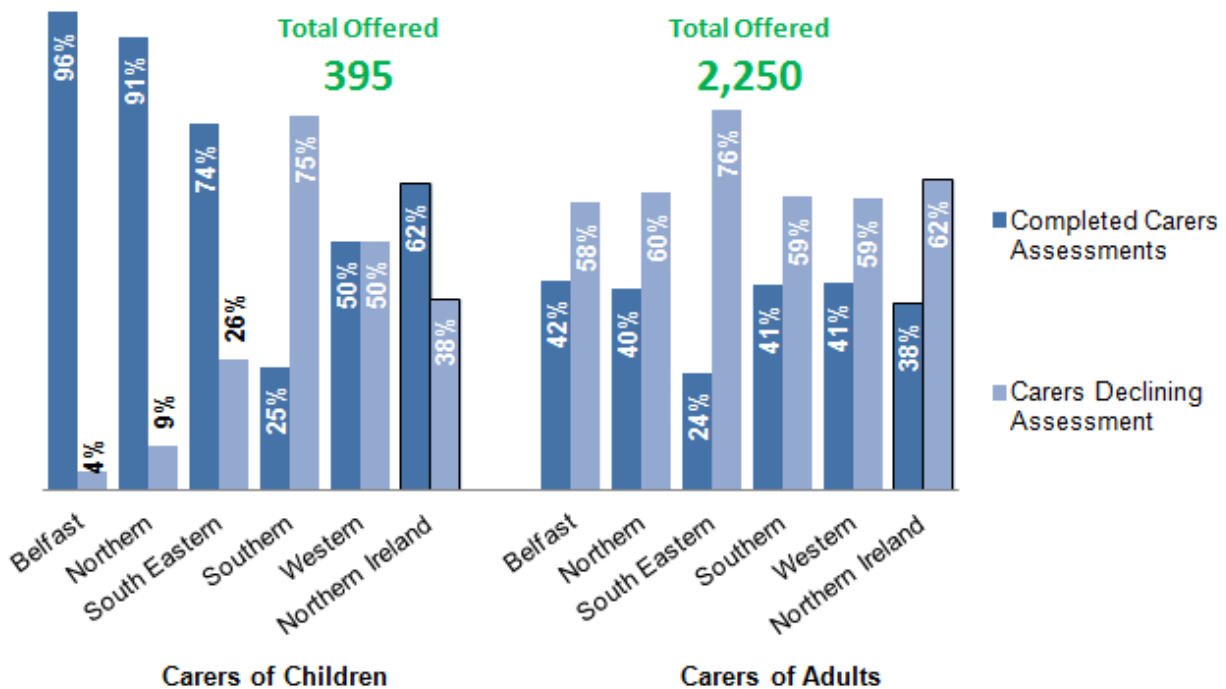
Proportion of Carers Assessments Declined			
Aged 16&17	Aged 18-64	Aged 65-74	Aged 75&Over
8%	55%	66%	69%

For all carers' assessments, the likelihood of an offer being declined increased with the age group of the carer. Of those carers aged 16 & 17, only 8% declined a carer's assessment; 55% of those aged 18-64; 66% of those aged 65-74; and 69% of those aged 75 & over also declined a carer's assessment (Figure 3).

Of the 2,645 carers' assessments offered, 395 (15%) were offered to carers of children and 2,250 (85%) were offered to carers of adults (Table 3).

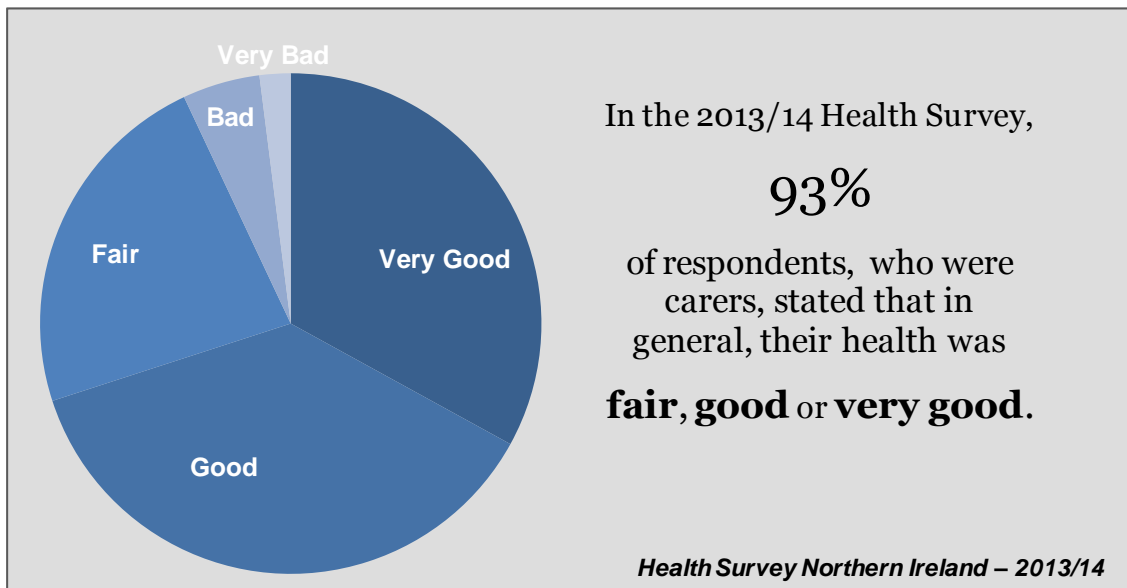
Differences existed in the uptake of carers' assessments depending on whether the person being cared for was a child or an adult, with a higher proportion of carers' assessments being completed for carers of children (62%) than for carers of adults (38%) (Figure 4). Please note however that carers of children is based on low numbers which can add to the volatility of the figures.

Figure 4: Proportion of Carers Assessments Completed and Declined for Carers of Children and Adults by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)



Note: The analysis of carers of children is based on low numbers which can add to the volatility of the figures.

The Southern Trust offered the highest number of carers' assessments for carers of children (150). However, the Southern Trust also had the largest proportion of declined carers' assessments for carers of children (75%). All of the Trusts had a higher proportion of carers of adults declining a carer's assessment than completing one. Over three quarters (76%) of carers of adults declined a carer's assessment in the South Eastern Trust compared with over half (58%) in the Belfast Trust.



The most frequent reason for declining a carer's assessment has consistently been that the carer felt that they did not need any support or additional support; in the last two years this has ranged from 49% during quarter ending 30 September 2013 to 34% during quarter ending 30 June 2014. During quarter ending 30 September 2014, 41% declined an assessment for this reason, with it the most frequent reason reported in all Trusts (Table 4).

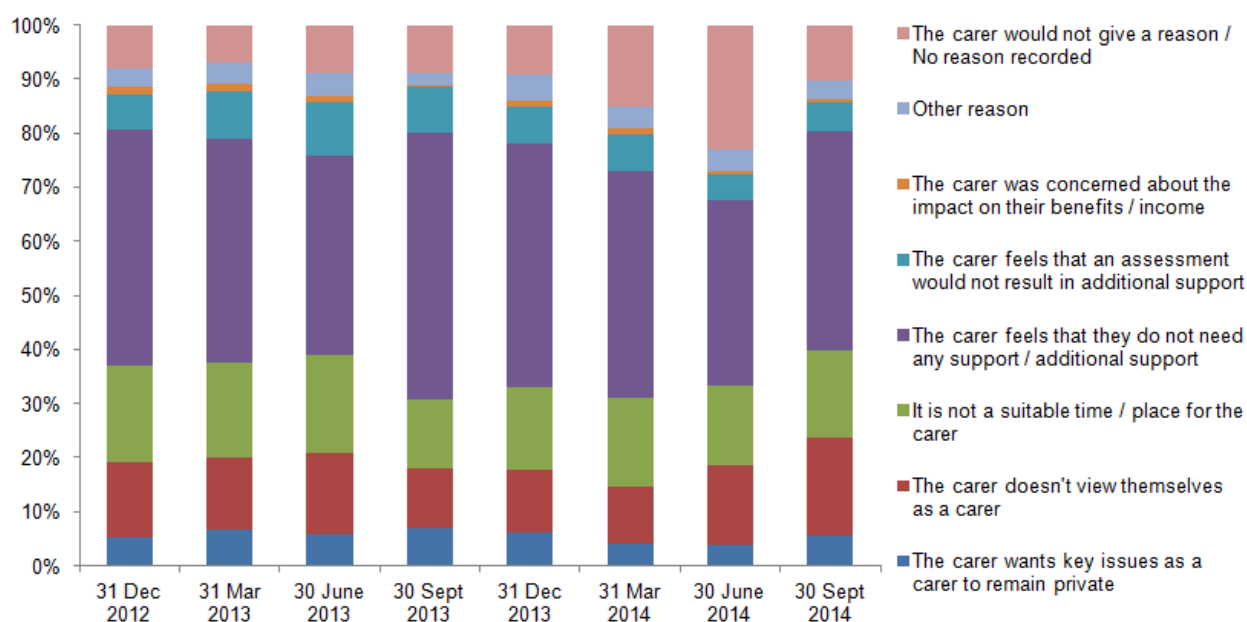
41%
of carers who declined an assessment felt that they **did not need any support or additional support.**

In the Belfast Trust, 25% of those who declined an assessment did not view themselves as a carer. A similar proportion, 24%, in the Northern Trust felt that it was not a suitable time or place for an assessment.

Regionally, the proportions of reasons for declining a carer's assessment have remained largely similar over the past eight quarters (Figure 5).

* The Health Survey Northern Ireland is produced by the Public Health Information and Research Branch (PHIRB) and can be found at: <http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/statistics/lcb.htm>

Figure 5: Reasons Given for Declining a Carers Assessment (quarters ending 31 December 2012 – 30 September 2014)



However, recently there has been a decrease in the number of carers providing no reason for declining a carer's assessment; the proportion was thirteen percentage points lower during quarter ending 30 September 2014 (10%) than the previous quarter (23%). This decrease can largely be attributed to decreased figures in the Southern Trust who reported large numbers of carers declining an assessment for this reason in the previous quarter.

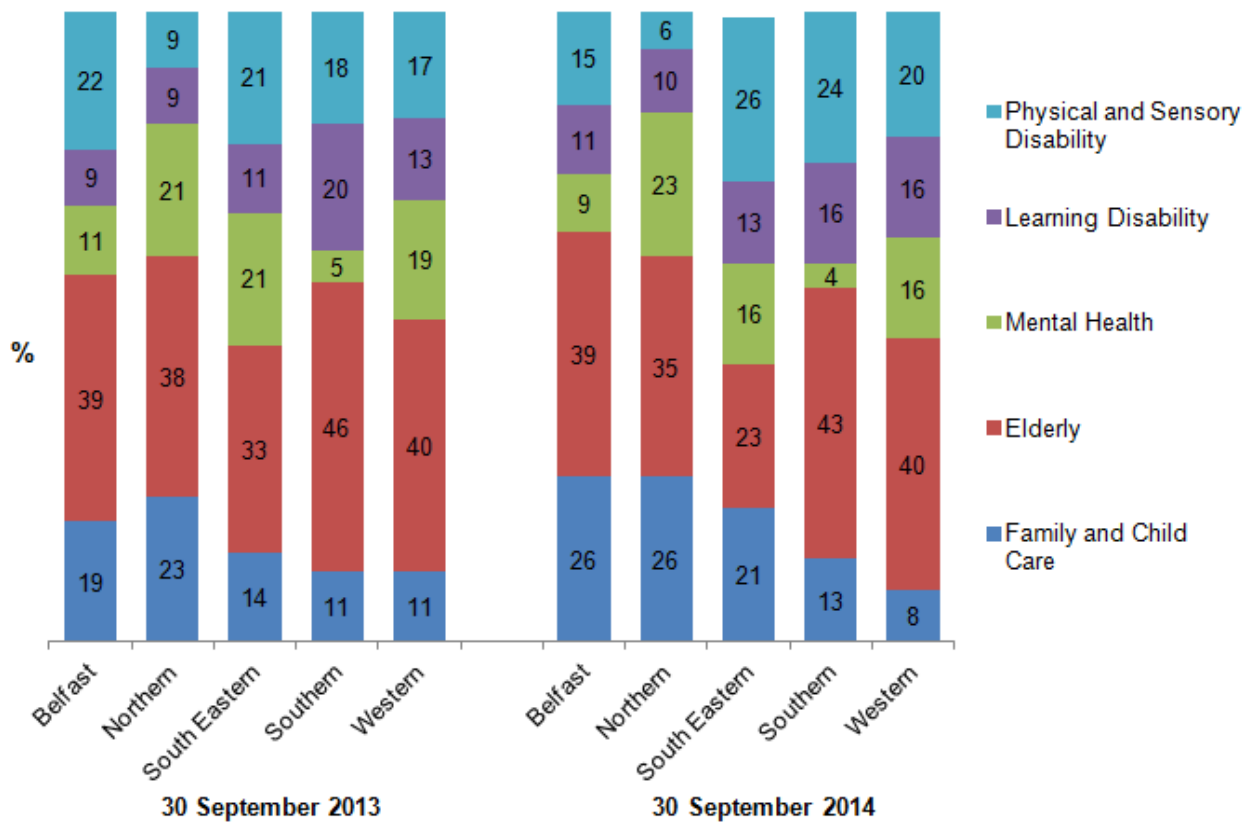
Concern about the impact on their benefits / income has consistently been the least frequent reason cited by carers for declining a carer's assessment; with less than 1% of carers declining for this reason during quarter ending 30 September 2014.

Across all Trusts, the highest percentage of carers who had been assessed during quarter ending 30 September 2014 were caring for someone in the Elderly Programme of Care (POC) except for the South Eastern Trust where 26% of carers were caring for someone in the Physical and Sensory Disability POC (Table 5).

The Northern Trust had the highest percentage of carers assessed who were caring for someone in the Mental Health POC (23%), compared to 4% within the Southern Trust.

Approximately one in six (16%) carers assessed within the Southern and Western Trusts were caring for someone in the Learning Disability POC compared to 10% within the Northern Trust.

Figure 6: Percentage of Carers Assessed by Programme of Care (of Cared for Person) and by HSC Trust (quarters ending 30 September 2013 & 30 September 2014)



The distribution of carers assessed by POC (of the cared for person) was largely similar during quarter ending 30 September 2014 to that of the same quarter in 2013 (Figure 6). However, the percentage of carers assessed who were caring for someone in the Family and Child Care POC increased within the Belfast, Northern, South Eastern and Southern Trusts. The percentage of carers assessed who were caring for someone in the Elderly POC was the same during quarter ending 30 September 2014 as it was during the same quarter in 2013 for the Belfast and Western Trusts.

Carers Reviews

Quarter ending 30th September 2014

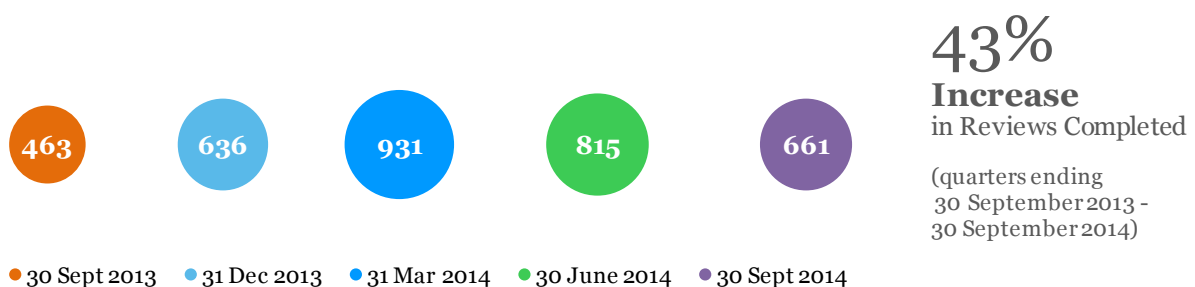
A **Carers Review** is carried out to determine whether or not the package of support provided to the carer continues to sustain them in their caring role. This is achieved by identifying if the goals set at the commencement of the package or since a previous review are currently being met, or if there are any changes which should be made to the package in order for it to continue to support the carer.

During quarter ending 30 September 2014, 661 carers' reviews were completed in Northern Ireland. This was a decrease of 19% (154) from the previous quarter (815) and an increase of 43% (198) from the same quarter last year (463) (Table 6).



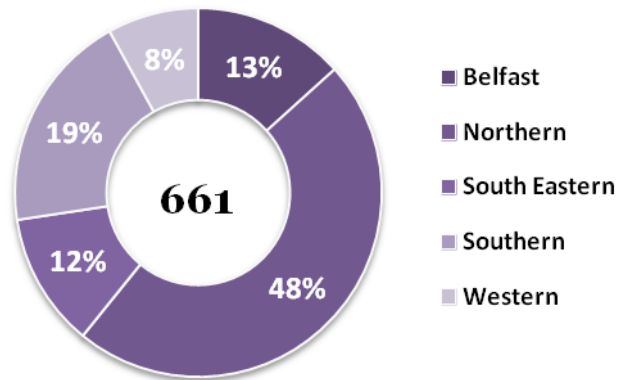
The quarterly numbers of completed carers' reviews have been quite variable across previous quarters. Figure 7 below presents the number of carers' reviews during the last five quarters.

Figure 7: Completed Carers Reviews (quarters ending 30 September 2013 - 30 September 2014)



Of the 661 carers' reviews that were completed during quarter ending 30 September 2014, 48% were completed by the Northern Trust. With 8%, the Western Trust completed the least number of carers' reviews during the quarter (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Completed Carers Reviews by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)



Furthermore, the Northern Trust completed 68% of the carers' reviews of carers aged 65 years and over (Table 7) and 58% of the carers' reviews to carers of adults (Table 8).

Carers Reassessments

Quarter ending 30th September 2014

A **Carers Reassessment** is required when a carer's circumstances change resulting in a change in their level of need. For example, this could be additional family commitments, changes in work pattern, or varying physical or mental health. The Reassessment can be either a complete rework of the original Carers Assessment or an amendment to aspects of it.

During quarter ending 30 September 2014, 426 carers' reassessments were offered to carers in Northern Ireland. This represented an increase of 21% (74) from the previous quarter (352) and an increase of 6% (23) from the same quarter last year (403).

Of the 426 carers' reassessments offered, 64% (271) were completed and 36% (155) were declined (Table 6).



The 271 carers' reassessments which were completed represented an increase of 50% (90) from the previous quarter (181) and an increase of 19% (44) from the same quarter last year (227).

The 155 carers' reassessments which were declined represented a decrease of 9% (16) from the previous quarter (171) and a decrease of 12% (21) from the same quarter last year (176).

Comparisons between the initial carers' assessments and the carers' reassessments show that a higher proportion of carers' assessments were declined (59% compared to 36%) (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Proportion of Carers Assessments and Carers Reassessments Completed and Declined (quarter ending 30 September 2014)

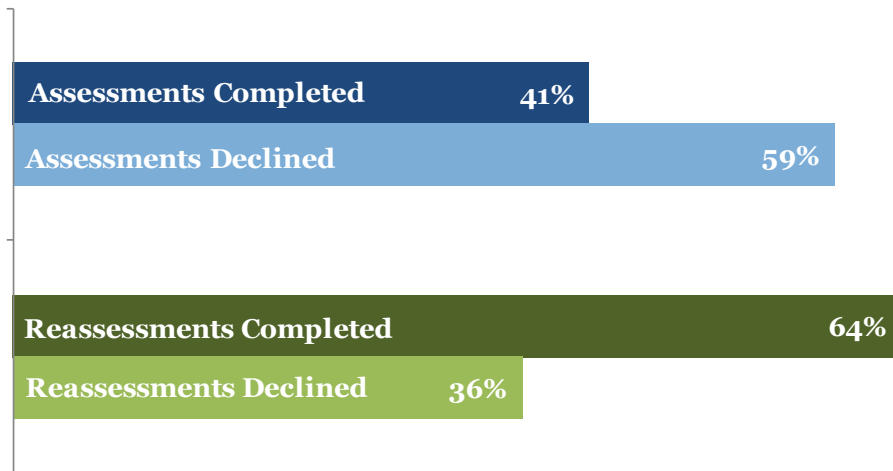
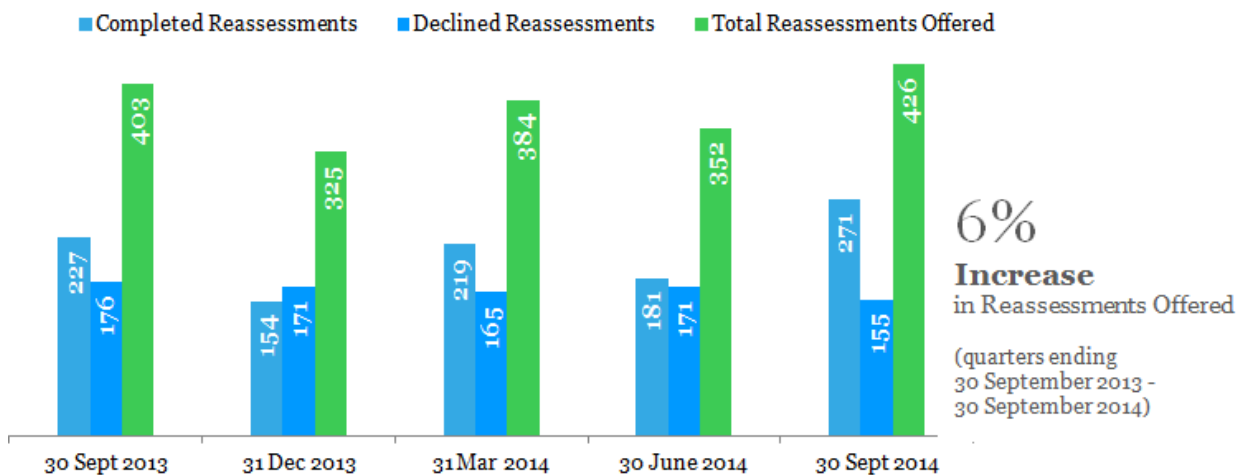


Figure 10 below presents the number of carers' reassessments during the last five quarters.

Figure 10: Carers Reassessments Completed, Declined and Offered (quarters ending 30 September 2013 - 30 September 2014)

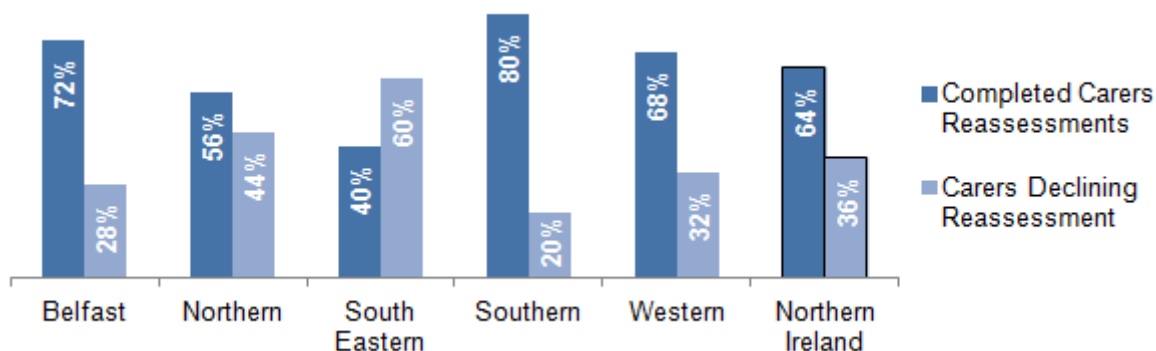


Of all carers' reassessments offered in Northern Ireland, the Belfast Trust offered the most (27%) while the Western Trust offered the least (10%) (Table 9).

The Belfast Trust had the highest number of completed carers' reassessments (82) while the Western Trust had the fewest (30).

The South Eastern Trust had the highest number of declined carers' reassessments (47) while the Western Trust had the fewest (14).

Figure 11: Proportion of Carers Reassessments Completed and Declined by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)



During quarter ending 30 September 2014, the Belfast, Northern, Southern and Western Trusts had more carers' reassessments completed than declined (72%, 56%, 80% and 68% completed respectively) (Figure 11).

Figure 12: Proportion of Carers Reassessments Declined by Age Group of Carer (quarter ending 30 September 2014)

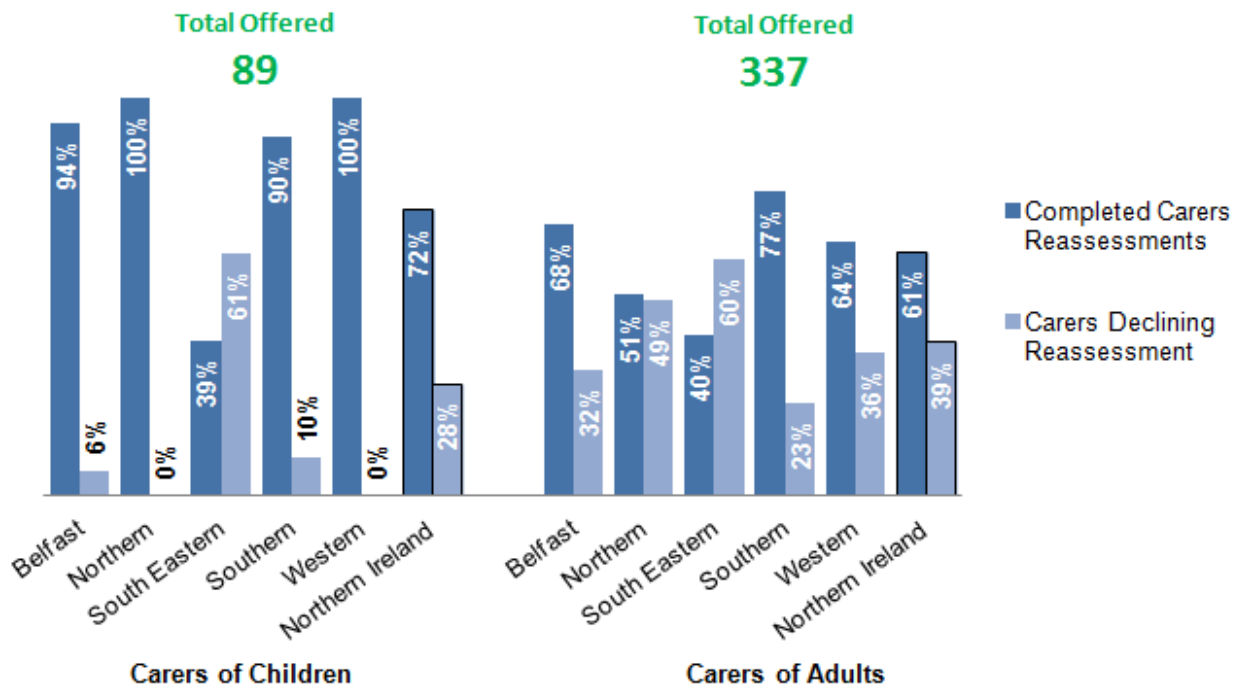
Proportion of Carers Reassessments Declined			
Aged 16&17	Aged 18-64	Aged 65-74	Aged 75&Over
0%	32%	49%	40%

Of those carers aged 16 & 17, none declined a carer's reassessment; 32% of those aged 18-64; and 49% of those aged 65-74. However, 40% of those aged 75 & over declined a carer's reassessment, a larger proportion than those aged 18-64 but less than those aged 65-74 (Figure 12).

Of the 426 carers' reassessments offered, 89 (21%) were offered to carers of children and 337 (79%) were offered to carers of adults (Table 10).

Like initial carers' assessments, the uptake of carers' reassessments was higher for carers of children than for carers of adults; 72% of carers caring for children and 61% of carers caring for an adult completed a carer's reassessment (Figure 13). It should be noted again however that carers of children is based on low numbers which can add to the volatility of the figures.

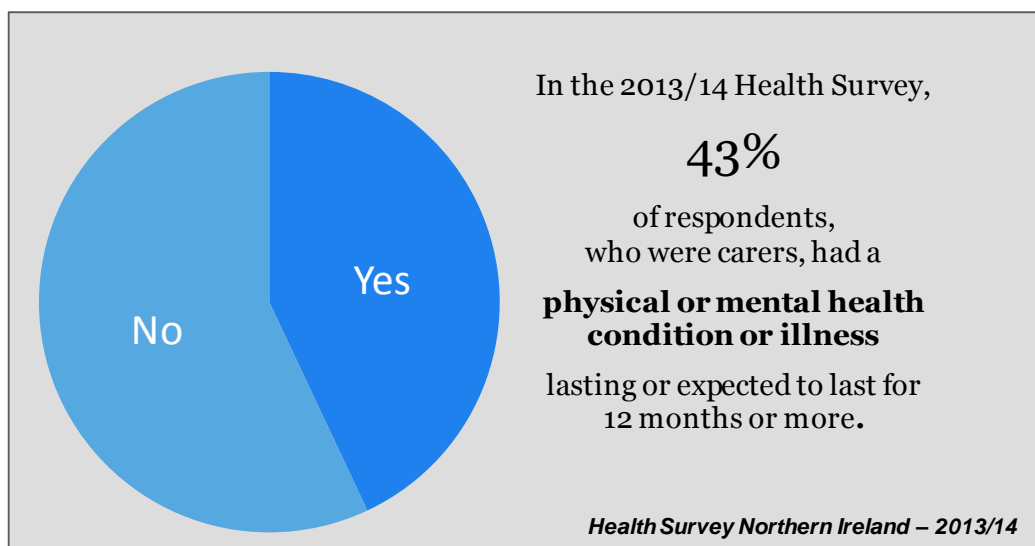
Figure 13: Proportion of Carers Reassessments Completed and Declined for Carers of Children and Adults by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)



Note: The analysis of carers of children is based on low numbers which can add to the volatility of the figures.

The Belfast, Northern and Western Trusts offered the fewest carers' reassessments to carers of children (16, 11 and 5 respectively). All of these carers' reassessments were completed apart from one offered in the Belfast Trust which was declined.

The number of carers' reassessments offered to carers of adults ranged from 39 in the Western Trust to 98 in the Belfast Trust.



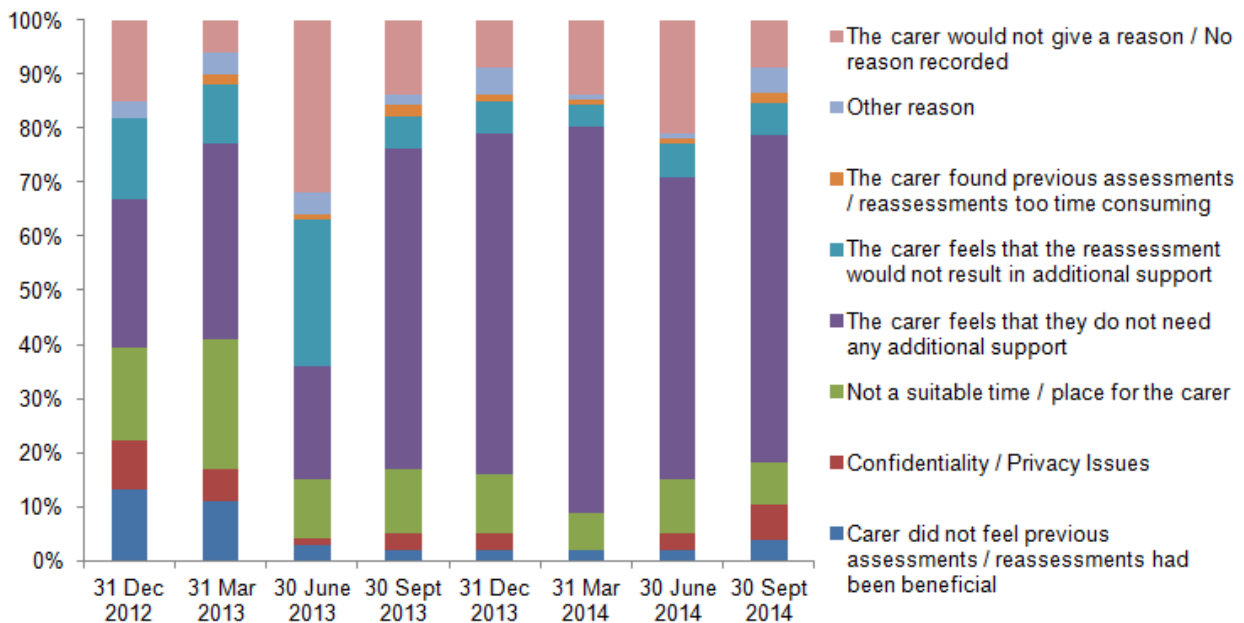
61%

*of carers who declined a reassessment felt that they **did not need any additional support.***

The most common reason given for declining a carer's reassessment during the quarter was that the carer felt that they did not need any additional support (61%). In fact, this has become the most prominent reason in recent quarters. During quarter ending 30 September 2014, fewer than one in ten (9%) carers provided no reason for declining a reassessment (Table 11).

Regionally, the proportions of reasons for declining a carer's reassessment have been variable over the past eight quarters as shown in Figure 14.

Figure 14: Reasons Given for Declining a Carers Reassessment (quarters ending 31 December 2012 – 30 September 2014)



In recent quarters, there has been variability in the number of carers providing no reason for declining a carer's reassessment; the proportion was 12 percentage points lower during quarter ending 30 September 2014 (9%) than the previous quarter (21%).

During quarter ending 30 September 2014, the least frequent reason cited by carers for declining a carer's reassessment was "the carer found previous assessments/ reassessments too time consuming" (2%).

Appendix A: Technical Notes

Data Collection

The information presented in this publication derives from the quarterly CA1 and CA1b community information returns; these relate to completed and declined carers' assessments, completed carers' reviews, and completed and declined carers' reassessments.

The CA1 and CA1b returns were developed and agreed following a prolonged period of consultation by the DHSSPS with Health and Social Care (HSC) Trusts and the HSC Board.

Each quarter, CA1 and CA1b information returns are completed and returned to Community Information Branch (CIB) within DHSSPS by each of the five HSC Trusts.

The CA1 and CA1b information return templates are detailed in Appendix D and are also available with associated guidance notes on the DHSSPS [website](#).

Data Quality

CA1 and CA1b are validated and quality assured by HSC Trusts senior management before being submitted to CIB within DHSSPS. Further validations and consistency checks are carried out by statisticians in CIB using historical and/or other independent data to monitor emerging trends and variations within and between Trusts.

Statement of Administrative Sources

A detailed 'Statement of Administrative Sources' is available on the DHSSPS [website](#).

Rounding Conventions

Percentages have been rounded to whole numbers and as a consequence some percentages may not sum to 100.

Disclosure Conventions

To prevent disclosure of the identity of individual carers', it may be necessary to suppress the values of cells with low counts which could otherwise be derived by means of simple arithmetic.

Our policy statement on confidentiality and security is contained within the DHSSPS Statistics Charter and is available on our [website](#).

Revisions Policy

These data are revised by exception. If revisions are required, background circumstances are reported and revision dates are noted in subsequent publications of these series of statistics.

Our policy statement on revisions and errors is contained within the DHSSPS Statistics Charter and is available on our [website](#).

Related Publications

This publication can be downloaded from the DHSSPS website at:
http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/stats_research/stats-cib/statistics_and_research-cib-pub/adult_statistics/carers'_statistics.htm

Other information relating to social care can be found at:
<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/statistics/socialcare.htm>

The Health Survey Northern Ireland is produced by the Public Health Information & Research Branch (PHIRB) and can be found at:
<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/statistics/lcb.htm>

Data for the UK

The statistics detailed in this report relate to Northern Ireland only. Similar information for England, Scotland and Wales may be found as detailed below.

England

Survey of Carers' in Households – 2009/10 England

www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/carersurvey0910

Personal Social Services Survey of Adult Carers' in England – 2009/10

www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/psscscarersurvey0910

Community Care Statistics 2013-14: Social Services Activity Report, England – Provisional Release

<http://www.hscic.gov.uk/catalogue/PUB14397>

Wales

Welsh Health Survey 2011: Health of carers

<http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/welsh-health-survey/?lang=en#/statistics-and-research/welsh-health-survey/?tab=previous&lang=en>

Scotland

Information about Carers' Statistics in Scotland can be found at the following link:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Health/Data/Carers>

Official Statistics

These are 'Official Statistics' as defined in Section 6 of the [Statistics and Registration Services Act 2007](#). They were produced by CIB within the DHSSPSNI.

User Feedback

Any comments you have regarding this or any other publication produced by CIB are welcome. Your views help us to improve the service we provide to users of this information and to the wider public.

Feedback can be provided on our website at:

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/statistics/feedback-statistics.htm>

Future Publications

'Carers' Statistics for Northern Ireland (quarter ending 31 December 2014)' is due for publication on 12 March 2015.

Upcoming releases for all social care statistics produced by CIB can be found on the GOV.UK Statistics Release Calendar at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements?utf8=%E2%9C%93&topics%5B%5D=social-care&organisations%5B%5D=department-of-health-social-services-and-public-safety>

Appendix B: Definitions

Carers and Direct Payments (Northern Ireland) Act 2002

The [Carers and Direct Payments Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2002](#) came into effect on 2 May 2002. This Act gives carers the right to a separate assessment of their needs and places an obligation on HSC Trusts to identify and provide information to carers. All carers providing or intending to provide care on a regular and substantial basis therefore have a legal right to have their needs assessed. The results of a carer's assessment should be recorded separately from that of the person cared for.

A Carer

A carer is someone who provides or intends to provide a **substantial** amount of care on a regular basis. The term 'carer' includes a person who may or may not be a relative and who may or may not be living with the person for whom they are caring. A carer provides help and support to someone, such as a family member, friend or neighbour, who may not be able to manage at home without this help because of frailty, illness or disability. A carer can be an adult caring for another adult, parents caring for ill or disabled children or young people of 16 or 17 years of age who care for someone.

It does not include someone who is providing care by virtue of a contract of employment, a volunteer working on behalf of a voluntary organisation, a foster carer or anyone who is providing personal assistance for payment either in cash or kind.

Substantial Care

The term 'substantial' is not defined in the [Carers and Direct Payments Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2002](#) but is left to professional judgement. It should not be based simply on the number of hours spent caring, but also take into consideration the impact of the caring role on the carers own health and well-being, key factors relating to the sustainability of the role and the extent of risk to the sustainability of the role.

Carers Assessment

Carers have a right to an assessment of their needs even when the person cared for has refused an assessment for community care services, or the provision of services, provided the person cared for would be eligible for community based services.

A carer's assessment is the process of gathering data for the purpose of determining a carer's needs and eligibility for services to sustain their caring role. All services offered to a carer should be the outcome of an assessment of need. The assessment must be formally documented, placed on file and a copy given to the carer. The "Carers Support and Needs Assessment" component of the [Northern Ireland Single Assessment Tool \(NISAT\)](#) for assessing the health and social care needs of older people is the "tool of choice" for use in assessing the needs of carers in all programmes of care, thus ensuring a standardised approach to assessment regardless of where they live in Northern Ireland. This component was issued to Trusts in June 2009 along with associated guidance.

The assessment focuses on the needs of the carer and the purpose of the assessment is to:

- give the carer an opportunity to talk about their caring role;
- determine the support needs of the carer;
- determine whether the carer is eligible for support; and
- determine if the needs identified can be met by the Trust or other services and to make an appropriate referral.

The focus of the assessment is on the carer's ability to care and the support they need to continue in their caring role. The assessment takes account of the carer's circumstances, age, views and preferences, available support, family and other commitments. The assessment is not a test for the carer but is about recognising, valuing and supporting the carer. The process can be important in itself even

where service provision does not flow from the assessment. The decision about services to be provided should be informed by the assessments of both the carer and the person being cared for.

Carers Review

A carer's review is carried out to determine whether or not support provided continues to meet the needs of the carer in sustaining their caring role. This procedure is normally planned. A reassessment would arise out of the review if the services are found to be inadequate. In the event that the outcome of the review is that the type of service is appropriate but that the level of service is inappropriate, then this should be considered as a review only and not a review plus reassessment. Reviews must be formally documented and the carer advised of the outcome.

Carers Reassessment

A carer's reassessment is either a complete rework of the carer's assessment or an amendment to aspects of the original carer's assessment. It is normally carried out in response to the changing needs of the carer. Reassessments must be formally documented and a copy given to the carer.

Carers Assessments / Reassessments Offered

The number of carers' assessments / reassessments offered is the total of those completed plus those declined (see definitions below).

Carers Assessments Completed

This refers to all carers' assessments completed during the quarter, which were focused on a carer's need for support to sustain their caring role, whether they took place on the same day as the assessment of the person cared for or were conducted on a separate date.

Carers Reassessments Completed

This refers to all carers' reassessments completed during the quarter in response to the changing need of the carer.

Carers Declining a Carers Assessment / Reassessment

This refers to all carers that declined the offer of a carer's assessment / reassessment by Trust staff, during the quarter, for whatever reason.

Programme of Care (POC)

Programmes of Care (POC) are divisions of health care, into which activity and finance data are assigned, so as to provide a common management framework. They are used to plan and monitor the health service, by allowing performance to be measured, targets set and services managed on a comparative basis. In total there are nine POC's of which five are applicable to information on carers:

Family and Child Care (POC3)

This programme is mainly concerned with activity and resources relating to the provision of social services support for families and/or children.

Elderly Care (POC4)

This programme includes all community contacts with those aged 65 or over except where the reason for contact was mental illness or learning disability. All community contacts where the reason for the contact was dementia are included regardless of age, as well as all work relating to homes for the elderly, including those for the Elderly Mentally Infirm

Mental Health (POC5)

This programme includes all community contact where the primary reason for the contact was due to mental health.

Learning Disability (POC6)

This programme includes all community contacts where the primary reason for contact was due to learning disability. All community contacts with Down's Syndrome patients who develop dementia, for any dementia related care or treatment are included as are all contacts in learning disability homes and units.

Physical and Sensory Disability (POC7)

This programme includes all community contacts by any health professional where the primary reason for the contact is physical and/or sensory disability. All patients and clients aged 65 and over are excluded and allocated to the Elderly Care Programme.

CA1: Number of Carers for whom Assessments have been Completed during the Quarter

This return records the number of carers for whom a carer's assessment has been completed, the number of carers declining a carer's assessment and the main reason given by the carer for declining a carer's assessment during the quarter. The percentage of carers who have been assessed during the quarter is also recorded by Programme of Care of the cared for person.

Reasons for Refusing a Carers Assessment

- A1 – the carer wants key issues as carer to remain private;
- A2 – the carer doesn't view themselves as a carer;
- A3 – it is not a suitable time/place for the carer;
- A4 – the carer feels that they do not need any support/additional support;
- A5 – the carer feels that an assessment would not result in additional support;
- A6 – the carer was concerned about the impact on their benefits/income;
- A7 – other reason (please specify); and
- A8 – the carer would not give a reason/no reason recorded.

CA1b: Number of Carers for whom Reviews and Reassessments have been Completed during the Quarter

This return records the number of carers for whom a carer's review has been completed, the number of carers for whom a carer's reassessment has been completed, the number of carers declining a carer's reassessment and the main reason given by the carer for declining a carer's reassessment during the quarter.

Reasons for Refusing a Carers Reassessment

- B1 – the carer did not feel previous assessments/re-assessments had been beneficial;
- B2 – confidentiality/privacy issues;
- B3 – it is not a suitable time/place for the carer;
- B4 – the carer feels that they do not need any additional support;
- B5 – the carer feels that the re-assessment would not result in additional support;
- B6 – the carer found previous assessments/re-assessments too time consuming;
- B7 – other reason (please specify); and
- B8 - the carer would not give a reason/no reason recorded.

The CA1 and CA1b information return templates are detailed in Appendix D and are also available with associated guidance notes on the DHSSPS [website](#).

Appendix C: Tables

Please note that all tables can be found in excel format at:

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/statistics/socialcare/carers-assessments-and-reassessments.htm>

Table 1: Carers Assessments Completed, Declined and Offered (quarters ending 31 December 2012 – 30 September 2014)

	31-Dec-12	31-Mar-13	30-Jun-13	30-Sep-13	31-Dec-13	31-Mar-14	30-Jun-14	30-Sep-14
Completed Assessments	1,081	1,353	1,240	1,137	1,115	1,236	1,146	1,090
Declined Assessments	1,407	1,342	1,483	1,363	1,568	1,697	1,599	1,555
Total Assessments Offered	2,488	2,695	2,723	2,500	2,683	2,933	2,745	2,645

Source: Carers Return CA1

Table 2: Carers Assessments Completed, Declined and Offered by Age Group of Carer and HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)¹

Age Group of Carer	18 - 64			65 - 74			75 and over			Total		
HSC Trust	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Assessments Offered	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Assessments Offered	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Assessments Offered	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Assessments Offered
Belfast	210	113	323	43	67	110	41	120	161	294	300	594
Northern	246	238	484	53	109	162	37	36	73	336	383	719
South Eastern	90	188	278	34	115	149	10	52	62	134	355	489
Southern	139	265	404	41	57	98	16	19	35	196	341	537
Western	84	87	171	19	27	46	27	62	89	130	176	306
Northern Ireland	769	891	1,660	190	375	565	131	289	420	1,090	1,555	2,645

Source: Carers Return CA1

¹ Figures for those aged 18-64 also include 33 completed carers' assessments and 3 carers who declined a carer's assessment, for those carers who were aged 16 or 17.

Table 3: Carers Assessments Completed, Declined and Offered by Person being Cared for and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)

Person being Cared for	Children			Adults			Total		
	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Assessments Offered	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Assessments Offered	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Assessments Offered
Belfast	77	3	80	217	297	514	294	300	594
Northern	83	8	91	253	375	628	336	383	719
South Eastern	28	10	38	106	345	451	134	355	489
Southern	37	113	150	159	228	387	196	341	537
Western	18	18	36	112	158	270	130	176	306
Northern Ireland	243	152	395	847	1,403	2,250	1,090	1,555	2,645

Source: Carers Return CA1

Table 4: Reasons Given for Declining a Carers Assessment by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)¹

HSC Trust	Main Reason a Carer Declined a Carers Assessment								Total
	The carer wants key issues as a carer to remain private	The carer doesn't view themselves as a carer	It is not a suitable time / place for the carer	The carer feels that they do not need any support / additional support	The carer feels that an assessment would not result in additional support	The carer was concerned about the impact on their benefits / income	Other reason	The carer would not give a reason / No reason recorded	
Belfast	5	76	45	105	11	4	7	47	300
Northern	29	72	92	144	24	-	-	20	383
South Eastern	25	40	21	216	17	-	-	0	355
Southern	16	66	47	116	24	-	-	71	341
Western	9	31	43	53	4	-	-	22	176
Northern Ireland	84	285	248	634	80	11	53	160	1,555

Source: Carers Return CA1

¹ "-" represents a cell count less than 4 and has been suppressed in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a suppressed cell may be deduced from the totals, appropriate cells have also been suppressed.

Table 5: Percentage of Carers Assessed by Programme of Care (of Cared for Person) and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)

HSC Trust	Programme of Care					% Total
	% Family and Child Care (POC3)	% Elderly (POC4)	% Mental Health (POC5)	% Learning Disability (POC6)	% Physical and Sensory Disability (POC7)	
Belfast	26	39	9	11	15	100
Northern	26	35	23	10	6	100
South Eastern	21	23	16	13	26	100
Southern	13	43	4	16	24	100
Western	8	40	16	16	20	100

Source: Carers Return CA1

Table 6: Completed Carers Reviews and Carers Reassessments Completed, Declined and Offered (quarters ending 31 December 2012 – 30 September 2014)

	31-Dec-12	31-Mar-13	30-Jun-13	30-Sep-13	31-Dec-13	31-Mar-14	30-Jun-14	30-Sep-14
Completed Reviews	533	587	611	463	636	931	815	661
Completed Reassessments	157	169	200	227	154	219	181	271
Declined Reassessments	128	142	137	176	171	165	171	155
Total Reassessments Offered	285	311	337	403	325	384	352	426

Source: Carers Return CA1b

Table 7: Completed Carers Reviews by Age Group of Carer and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)^{1,2}

HSC Trust	Age Group of Carer		Total
	18 - 64	65 and over	
Belfast	69	19	88
Northern	184	130	314
South Eastern	71	7	78
Southern	119	9	128
Western	28	25	53
Northern Ireland	471	190	661

Source: Carers Return CA1b

¹ Figures for those aged 18-64 also includes 12 completed carers' reviews for those carers who were aged 16 or 17.

² Figures for those aged 65 and over also includes 61 carers aged 75 and over who completed a carer's review.

Table 8: Completed Carers Reviews by Person being Cared for and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)

HSC Trust	Person Being Cared for		Total
	Child/Children	Adult/s	
Belfast	19	69	88
Northern	71	243	314
South Eastern	55	23	78
Southern	95	33	128
Western	5	48	53
Northern Ireland	245	416	661

Source: Carers Return CA1b

Table 9: Carers Reassessments Completed, Declined and Offered by Age Group of Carer and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)^{1,2}

Age Group of Carer	18 - 64			65 and over			Total		
HSC Trust	Completed Carers Reassessments	Carers Declining Reassessment	Carers Reassessments Offered	Completed Carers Reassessments	Carers Declining Reassessment	Carers Reassessments Offered	Completed Carers Reassessments	Carers Declining Reassessment	Carers Reassessments Offered
Belfast	72	23	95	10	9	19	82	32	114
Northern	33	18	51	23	26	49	56	44	100
South Eastern	26	35	61	5	12	17	31	47	78
Southern	52	11	63	20	7	27	72	18	90
Western	20	8	28	10	6	16	30	14	44
Northern Ireland	203	95	298	68	60	128	271	155	426

Source: Carers Return CA1b

¹ Figures for those aged 18-64 also include 1 completed carer's reassessment for those carers who were aged 16 or 17.

² Figures for those aged 65 and over also include 21 completed carers' reassessments and 14 carers declining a carer's reassessment for those carers who were aged 75 and over.

Table 10: Carers Reassessments Completed, Declined and Offered by Person being Cared for and by HSC Trust (quarter ending 30 September 2014)

Person being Cared for	Children			Adults			Total		
HSC Trust	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Reassessments Offered	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Reassessments Offered	Completed Carers Assessments	Carers Declining Assessment	Carers Reassessments Offered
Belfast	15	1	16	67	31	98	82	32	114
Northern	11	0	11	45	44	89	56	44	100
South Eastern	14	22	36	17	25	42	31	47	78
Southern	19	2	21	53	16	69	72	18	90
Western	5	0	5	25	14	39	30	14	44
Northern Ireland	64	25	89	207	130	337	271	155	426

Source: Carers Return CA1b

Table 11: Reasons Given for Declining a Carers Reassessment (quarter ending 30 September 2014)¹

	Northern Ireland
Carer did not feel previous assessments / reassessments had been beneficial	-
Confidentiality / Privacy Issues	10
Not a suitable time / place for the carer	12
The carer feels that they do not need any additional support	94
The carer feels that the reassessment would not result in additional support	9
The carer found previous assessments / reassessments too time consuming	-
Other reason	7
The carer would not give a reason / No reason recorded	14
Total	155

Source: Carers Return CA1b

¹ "-" represents a cell count less than 4 and has been suppressed in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a suppressed cell may be deduced from the totals, appropriate cells have also been suppressed.

Appendix D: CA1 and CA1b Information Returns

NUMBER OF CARERS FOR WHOM ASSESSMENTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED DURING THE QUARTER

CA1

In Effect from 1st January 2009

Contact Name:
 Contact telephone number:
 HSC Trust:
 Quarter Ending:

Carers' Assessments

To view the guidance for this form, select the Guidance Button on the top right hand side of the screen.

Person being cared for	Age group of Carer	Number of carers for whom a carer's assessment has been completed during quarter	Number of carers declining a carer's assessment	Main reason carer declined a carer's assessment (Select each code below for a definition of what should be included)								
				A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	
Child / Children	1. 16 & 17											
	2. 18-64											
	3. 65-74											
	4. 75 and over											
	All ages											
Adult/s	1. 16 & 17											
	2. 18-64											
	3. 65-74											
	4. 75 and over											
	All ages											

Percentage of carers who have been assessed during the quarter within Programme of Care of the cared for person

Programme of Care of <u>cared for person</u>	Percentage of carers who have been assessed during the quarter within each POC
Family and Child Care (POC 3)	
Elderly (POC 4)	
Mental Health (POC 5)	
Learning Disability (POC 6)	
Physical & Sensory Disability (POC 7)	
All Programmes of Care	

Providers comment:

Other reasons for declining an assessment:

In Effect from 1st January 2009

Contact Name:

Contact telephone number:

HSC Trust:

Quarter Ending:

Carers' Reviews And Reassessments

Person being Cared for	Age group of Carer	Number of carers for whom a carer's review has been completed during quarter	Number of carers for whom a carer's reassessment has been completed during	Number of carers declining a carer's reassessment during quarter	Main reason carer declined carer's reassessment <i>(Select each code below for a definition of what should be included)</i>							
					B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
Child / Children	1. 16 & 17											
	2. 18-64											
	3. 65-74											
	4. 75 and over											
	All ages											
Adult/s	1. 16 & 17											
	2. 18-64											
	3. 65-74											
	4. 75 and over											
	All ages											

Providers comment:

Additional Information

Further information on Carers' Statistics for Northern Ireland (Quarter ending 30th September 2014) is available from:

Philip Carson
Community Information Branch
Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
Annexe 2
Castle Buildings
Stormont
BT4 3SQ

Phone: (028) 9052 8134
Fax: (028) 9052 3288
Email: cib@dhsspsni.gov.uk

This and other statistical bulletins published by Community Information Branch are available to download on the DHSSPS website at:

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/statistics/socialcare.htm>

This publication can be requested in large print or other formats.