The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM 2010) is the official measure of spatial deprivation in Northern Ireland – the main measure is at the Super Output Area (SOA) level. Results and further information on the NIMDM can be accessed via the following link: http://www.nisra.gov.uk/deprivation/nimdm_2010.htm

Following the 2011 Census, a new statistical geography 'Small Areas' has been developed. A paper outlining the background to the new statistical geography of Small Areas is available on the NISRA Geography website: http://www.nisra.gov.uk/geography/SmallAreas.htm

There are 4,537 Small Areas in 2011 compared to 5,022 OAs in 2001. This is a significant change and the NIMDM OA results cannot be used to inform deprivation measures at the Small Area level. There are therefore no deprivation measures available at the Small Area level. Users are advised, where possible, to use the NIMDM SOA level results which remain the primary measure of spatial deprivation.

A review of the NIMDM 2010 is expected to start in 2014/15 after the detailed Small Area results of the 2011 Census have been published. Changes to the statistical (SOAs/Small Areas) and administrative geographies (local government districts/wards) will be considered as part of this review.

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