The measure identifies concentrations of multiple deprivation and it is important to note that not all deprived people live in deprived areas and conversely that not everyone living in deprived areas is deprived.

The NIMDM 2005 is not a measure of affluence. The indicators which have been used in the NIMDM are chosen for their representation of deprivation and a lack of deprivation does not necessarily equate to affluence. Therefore the Super Output Areas with the highest ranks are not necessarily affluent, just less deprived.

The measures should be used where the aim is to wholly or partly take account of area or spatial concentrations of multiple deprivation. It may be more appropriate to use other indicators, where policies or funding are aimed at individuals and not areas.

How have area measures of deprivation been used to date?

The measures have been used widely within Government and beyond, to inform the targeting of projects. Some examples include:

- The International Fund for Ireland (IFI) spatially targets its resources through its Disadvantaged Areas Initiative. The IFI have used previous measures of spatial deprivation in the form of Robson (1994) and Noble (2001).
- Resources from Priority 3 of the PEACE II operational programme were distributed to 26 Local Strategy Partnerships (LSPs) who were responsible for spending the resource within their own LGD area. The Operational Programme text for Priority 3 of PEACE II states that the resources from the programme (£74m) should be allocated to LSPs on the basis of a formula based on ‘population weighted by deprivation’.
- In the 2001 budget, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced a scheme to promote economic activity in deprived areas throughout the UK. One aspect of this was the removal of stamp duty in domestic property sales up to a value of £150,000 compared to a previous value of £60,000. This stamp duty relief applies to properties in the worst 10% of deprived areas in the UK. To be equitable, 42% of wards in deprived parts of Northern Ireland were eligible.

Websites and contact details

1. The NIMDM 2005 interactive website can be found by clicking the ‘Deprivation 2005’ button on the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service website at www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk
2. Guidance on the measures as well as other information about NISRA statistics can be found on the NISRA website at www.nisra.gov.uk
3. General questions on the NIMDM 2005 can be directed to deprivation.nisra@dfpni.gov.uk

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The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2005 identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Northern Ireland. It develops previous measures published in 2001 and will allow for more effective targeting of policies and resources on deprived areas. This leaflet provides guidance on the use of the measures.

**Facts about the NIMDM 2005**

- The NIMDM 2005 provides a relative ranking of small areas across Northern Ireland allowing the most deprived areas to be identified.

- It is based on the small area geography of Super Output Areas (SOAs) which contain on average 1800 people and are more evenly sized in population than electoral wards which was the geography used in previous deprivation measures.

- There are 890 SOAs across Northern Ireland. The SOA ranked 1 (Whiterock_2 in Belfast LGD) by the NIMDM 2005 is most deprived and the SOA ranked 890 (Jordanstown_3 in Newtownabbey LGD) is least deprived.

- The NIMDM 2005 brings together 43 different indicators which cover specific aspects of deprivation: Income, Employment, Health, Education, Proximity to Services, Living Environment and Crime & Disorder. These are combined to create the overall NIMDM 2005.

- The majority of the NIMDM data relate to 2003 and this should be taken into account when reviewing the results.

- The measure is based on the widely accepted methodology developed by the Social Disadvantage Research Centre at the University of Oxford. This methodology is widely used across the UK in measuring spatial deprivation.

**How are the NIMDM 2005 results disseminated?**

- Maps showing the spread of relative deprivation across Northern Ireland and profiles of each area are available on the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Statistics (NINIS) website [www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk](http://www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk). The website can also be used to identify the most deprived areas and any pockets of deprivation within each Parliamentary Constituency, Local Government District or other smaller area.

- Subject to confidentiality constraints indicator data will also be published on NINIS. This will provide important contextual background to the measures.

- Maps showing the spread of relative deprivation across Northern Ireland are also available on the NINIS website. These indicators will be made available on the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Statistics website (NINIS).

**What can the NIMDM 2005 be used for?**

- The NIMDM 2005 is applicable to the whole of Northern Ireland.

- It makes use of the most up to date and accurate information available (time point for data was 2003).

- The analysis incorporates results at Census output area level enabling the identification of small pockets of deprivation.

- The income and employment domains can be used to identify absolute numbers of people who are affected by these types of deprivation in an area.

- The measures can be used to compare the extent of concentrations of deprivation within and across Parliamentary Constituencies and Local Government Districts.

- Users can carry out more detailed analysis of the NIMDM 2005 through comparison of results with hundreds of socio-economic indicators on the NINIS website. The example below shows the ranks of deprivation in Belfast Local Government District.

**What can’t the NIMDM 2005 be used for?**

- The NIMDM 2005 is a relative measure of deprivation and therefore it cannot be used to determine 'how much' more deprived one Super Output Area is in comparison to another e.g. it is not possible to say that Water Works_2 SOA, ranked 50 is twice as deprived as Chichester Park_1 SOA Y, ranked 100. However it can be said that Water Works_2 is more deprived than Chichester Park_1.

- The NIMDM scores and ranks cannot be used as absolute measures of deprivation within a Super Output Area or to identify absolute change over time. However, absolute measures are available through the NIMDM 2005 indicator data. These indicators can provide an absolute picture of the level of deprivation within the Super Output Areas. These indicators will be made available on the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Statistics website (NINIS).