



Department of
**Enterprise, Trade
and Investment**
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Labour Market

Statistics Bulletin

Monthly Labour Market Report

January 2011



 *Northern Ireland*
**Statistics &
Research**
agency

A NATIONAL STATISTICS PUBLICATION

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Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Investment

Monthly Labour Market Report

January 2011

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Labour Market

1

Seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey (LFS) data for Northern Ireland for the period September - November 2010 showed an increase over the quarter in the estimates for unemployed and economically inactive persons, while there was a decrease in the estimated number of employed persons. The seasonally adjusted claimant count in December 2010 increased by 300 over the month to 58,500. The Department was notified of 91 proposed redundancies in the latest reference period and 185 confirmed redundancies in December 2010.

Employment

The number of persons in employment in the period September - November 2010 was estimated at 768,000. This estimate decreased by 12,000 over the quarter, but was up 2,000 compared to the previous year. The employment rate for those aged 16-64 was estimated at 65.3%, down 1.1 percentage points over the quarter and down 0.1 percentage points over the year. NI's employment rate remained well below the UK average (70.4%) and was the lowest of the twelve UK regions.

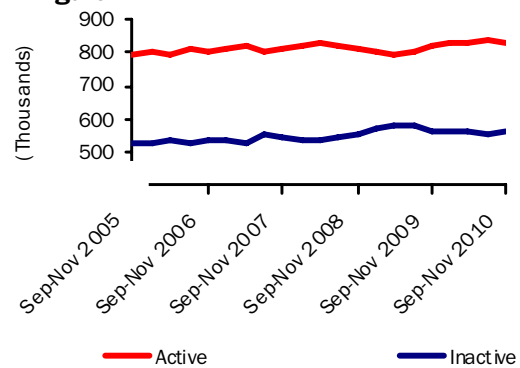
Unemployment

The unemployment rate for the period September - November 2010 was estimated at 7.8%, up 0.9 percentage points over the quarter and up 1.1 percentage points over the year. The number of unemployed persons was estimated at 65,000, up 7,000 over the quarter and 10,000 over the year. The latest male unemployment rate (9.9%) was almost double the female rate (5.3%).

Unadjusted figures show that 49.8% of the unemployed have been unemployed for 1 year or more – up 12.5 percentage points over the year. They also estimate the unemployment rate for 18-

Seasonally Adjusted Labour Market Summary for Northern Ireland (16+)

Figure 1



24 year olds at 21.0% – up 5.0 percentage points over the year.

Economically Inactive

The seasonally adjusted number of economically inactive persons in the period September - November 2010 was estimated at 565,000. This figure increased by 8,000 over the quarter and by 1,000 over the year.

The NI economic inactivity rate for those aged 16-64 stands at 29.0%. This is significantly higher than the UK average rate (23.4%) and is the highest of the twelve UK regions. Unadjusted figures estimate that 27% of the economically inactive, aged 16-64, in NI are sick/disabled, 26% are students, 25% are looking after the family/home, 13% are retired and 9% are 'other' reason.

Unadjusted figures also show that while 91% of the inactive do not want work, the remaining 9% (52,000) want employment but do not satisfy the full ILO job search criteria (by actively seeking work and being available to start a job).

Northern Ireland Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

Table 1

	Period	Estimate	Sampling Variability of estimate	Change over year	Sampling Variability of change
Employment	Sep-Nov 2010	768,000	+/-24,000	2,000	+/-29,000
Unemployment	Sep-Nov 2010	65,000	+/-12,000	10,000	+/-15,000
Economically inactive	Sep-Nov 2010	565,000	+/-21,000	1,000	+/-27,000
Unemployment rate	Sep-Nov 2010	7.8%	+/-1.4pps	1.1pps	+/-1.8pps
Employment rate ¹	Sep-Nov 2010	65.3%	+/-1.8pps	-0.1pps	+/-2.3pps
Economic inactivity rate ¹	Sep-Nov 2010	29.0%	+/-1.7pps	-0.7pps	+/-2.2pps
Claimant Count	December 2010	58,500		4,200	

Note: pps = percentage points, ¹Rates based on 16-64 population - see Section 9 for details.

Estimates from the LFS have an associated degree of statistical error as they are based on a sample of the population. The annual changes for the main LFS categories of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity were tested for statistical significance. The results showed that none of the annual changes in these categories were statistically significant i.e. the recorded change did not exceed the variability expected from a sample survey of this size (see table 1 and Section 9 for details).

Unemployment Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted NI unemployment rate showed the largest annual increase (+ 1.1 percentage points) among the twelve UK regions (see table 20). However, the NI rate (7.8%) remained below the UK average rate (7.9%) and also compared favourably to the European Union rate (9.6%) and the Republic of Ireland rate (14.1%) for October 2010.

Claimant Count

The more recent seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 300 over the month to December 2010 to 58,500 (6.5% of the workforce). This compared to the revised fall of 200 in the previous monthly period. Over the last three months the Claimant Count in NI has increased by 300. Over the year it has increased by 4,200 (7.7%) and the workforce unemployment rate has increased by 0.4 percentage points.

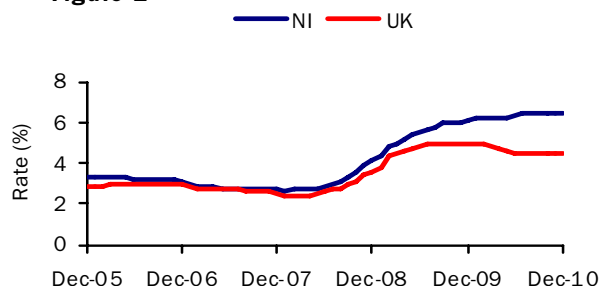
Claimant Count Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted claimant count rate in NI (6.5%) was higher than the UK average rate (4.5%) and was the second highest rate among the twelve UK regions. Over the month to December 2010 the NI Claimant Count level increased by 0.5% (300 claimants), while the UK average decreased by 0.3% (Figure 2). NI showed the second highest percentage monthly increase of all the UK regions. Over the year the NI Claimant Count level increased by 7.7%, compared to a fall of 9.0% in the UK. The annual change in NI was the highest increase among the twelve UK regions.

Seasonally Adjusted Claimant Count

Monthly Rates

Figure 2



Claimant count rates for District Council Areas

Figure 3 (unadjusted numbers as a percentage of the resident working age population) show that the highest rates at December 2010 were in Derry (7.3%), Strabane (7.0%) and Limavady (6.8%). Those that showed the highest percentage increase in levels over the year to December 2010 were Newry & Mourne (21.5%), Banbridge (18.0%) and North Down (14.5%). For further District Council data please see section 3 of the Labour Market Report.

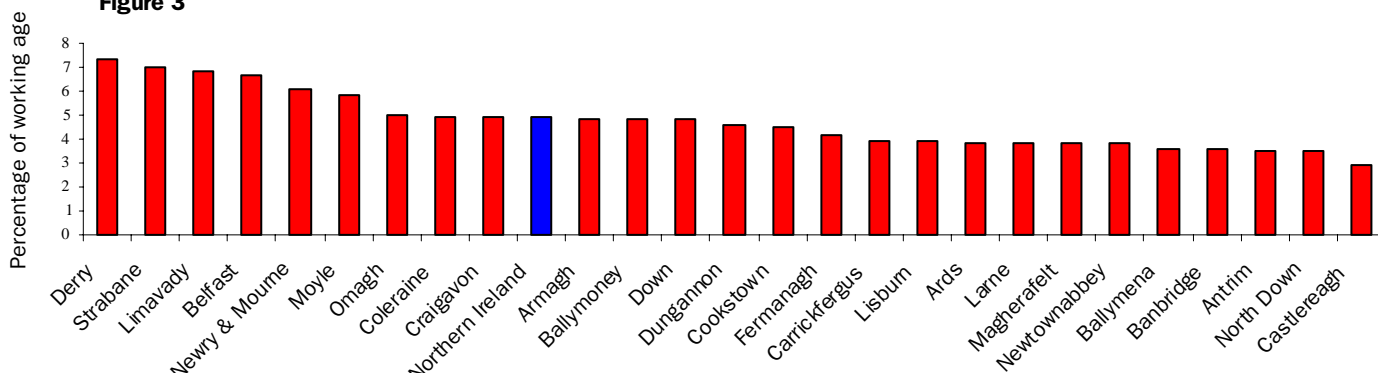
Employment and Training Measures

The Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) provides a number of services and programmes to help jobseekers find work. In September 2008 Steps to Work, the Department's new flexible approach to helping people to find work, was introduced in Northern Ireland and subsumes the main New Deal programmes. Overall, there has been an increase of 42.4% (3,578 persons) to 12,019 over the year to December 2010 in the number of those claimants who are eligible for mandatory participation on Steps to Work. However, anyone over 18 years old (or lone parents aged 16 years old or over) who is not working (or working less than 16 hours each week) is eligible. Steps to Work and New Deal statistics are currently accessible via the DEL web link below:

[Steps to Work / New Deal statistics](#)

Unadjusted Claimant Count Rates By District Council Area

Figure 3



Redundancies

The Department was notified of 91 proposed redundancies over the period mid December 2010 to mid January 2011. This compares to 301 proposed redundancies notified to the Department in the previous monthly period.

There were 185 confirmed redundancies in the month of December (Figure 5). Over the latest twelve monthly period there were a total of 2,088 confirmed redundancies, a decrease of 55% from the previous year (4,596). The highest number of confirmed redundancies took place in Belfast District Council area which had 29.8% (623) of all redundancies over the year.

Over the latest twelve month period there were a total of 3,197 proposed redundancies, a decrease of 42% from the previous year (5,548). Currently there are 1,196 outstanding redundancies (that is, proposed but not confirmed), which is 8% lower than this time last year (1,301).

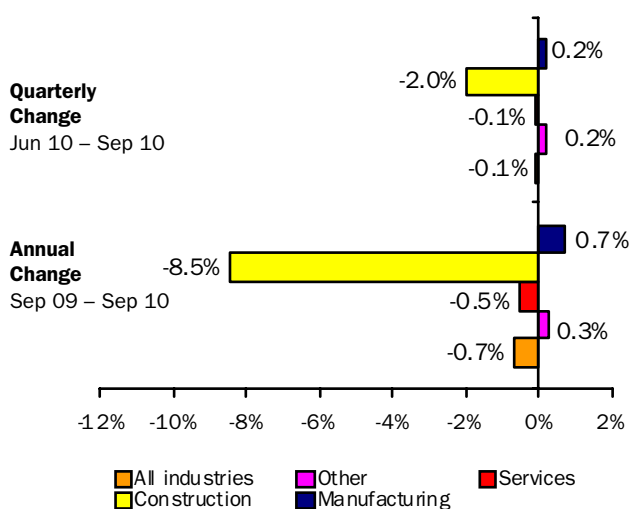
Note that since all proposed redundancies do not actually take place, the confirmed total provides a better indication of real job losses.

Quarterly Employment Survey

The QES provides an estimate of the number of jobs (rather than persons in employment) and is the preferred measure of change in employee jobs. The estimated seasonally adjusted employee jobs total in Northern Ireland at September 2010 was 697,630. This represents a decrease of 940 over the quarter and a decrease of 5,240 over the year.

Annual and Quarterly changes in employee jobs (seasonally adjusted)

Figure 4

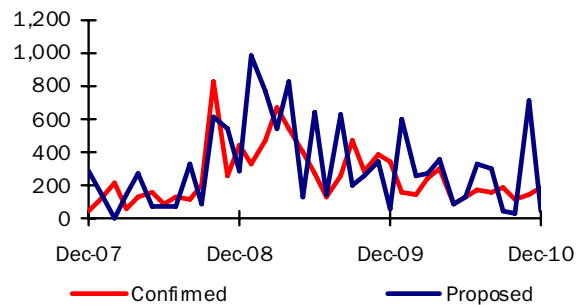


The seasonally adjusted quarterly change consisted of decreases in the Service sector (-410) and in Construction (-690). There were increases in Manufacturing (110) and Other industries (40) over the quarter.

Confirmed and Proposed Redundancies

December 07 - December 10

Figure 5

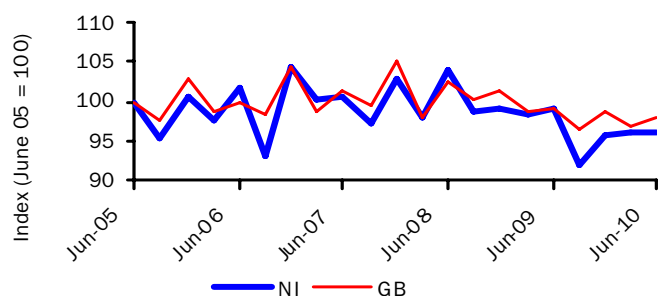


Hours Worked

The total workforce hours worked per week in Northern Ireland in June 2010 was estimated at 25.6 million hours, representing a decrease of 3.0% over the year (compared with a decrease of 1.0% in GB). Between June 2005 and June 2010, NI's total workforce hours worked per week decreased by 3.8%, compared to a 1.9% fall in GB (Figure 6). In the three months to October 2010, the average actual weekly hours worked in NI was 32.9 hours – higher than the UK average (31.3) for the period.

Index of total workforce hours worked per week, NI & GB

Figure 6



Source: Employment, Earnings and Productivity Division, ONS

Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE)

Earnings results for April 2010, which were released on 8th December 2010, show that yearly growth in median gross weekly earnings for all employees (i.e. both full- and part-time) in NI was 0.6% (to £356.6) compared to 1.8% in the UK (to £404.3). NI full-time employees' gross weekly earnings at April 2010 were £440.8, which was approximately 88% of the figure in the UK (£498.8). NI full-time earnings increased by 0.8% over the period, compared with an increase of 2.1% in the UK.

Full-time weekly private sector earnings increased by 0.6% to £383.4 and part-time earnings fell by 7.1% to £120.0 over the year in NI. This resulted in a further widening of the NI/UK private sector pay gap to 81.0% of the UK figure.

Labour Force Survey

2

Background

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a sample survey carried out by interviewing individuals about their personal circumstances and work. It provides a rich source of information on the labour force using internationally agreed definitions. However, the estimates from it are subject to sampling error and care should be taken when making inferences from them (see section 9 for details).

Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

The latest seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey estimates for September - November 2010 (see Table 2) record the unemployment rate at 7.8% (65,000 persons), up 0.9 percentage points from the previous quarter. Employment was estimated to have decreased by 12,000 (1.5%) over the quarter to 768,000.

Labour Market change over the year

In the year to September - November 2010 (see Figure 7), LFS figures show increases of 2,000 in total employment and 10,000 in unemployment, leading to a rise of 11,000 in the economically active population (figures may not sum due to rounding). The number economically inactive increased by 1,000 over the year.

**Labour Market Structure
Change over the year
Figure 7**



Employment

Latest seasonally adjusted estimates show that there were 768,000 persons in employment, which represents a rise of 0.2% (2,000 persons) over the year. Of the total, 54% (413,000) were male and 46% (354,000) were female.

There was a rise of 1.7% (+7,000) in the estimate for male employment, but a fall of 1.4% (-5,000) in female employment over the year.

Economic Inactivity

The number of economically inactive persons in the period September - November 2010 was estimated at 565,000. This figure includes those people that are past retirement age and are unlikely to re-engage with the labour market. Therefore it is the economically inactive of working age (i.e. those aged 16 - 64) that are of most interest to labour market analysts. At September - November 2010 there were an estimated 334,000 economically inactive people aged 16-64 in NI. Of the total, 37% (123,000) were male and 63% (211,000) were female.

To provide a more detailed analysis, the results below are unadjusted for seasonality, unless otherwise stated.

Unadjusted figures show that 85% of the economically inactive of working age do not want a job, while the remaining 15% want work, but are not actively seeking or available to start work.

Economically Inactive, aged 16-64

Reason for not wanting work

Figure 8

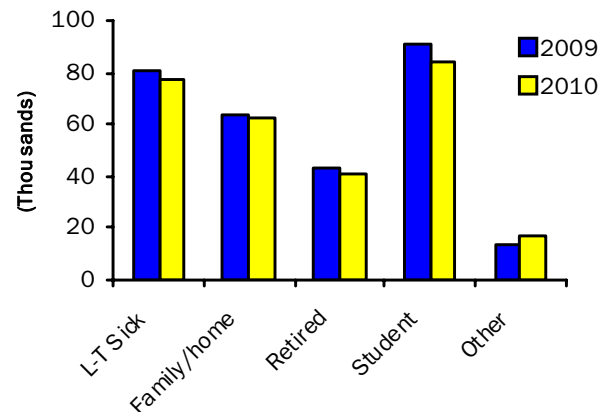


Figure 8 shows the reason given by these people for not wanting work. The largest categories were students (84,000), the long-term sick (77,000), and those looking after family/home (63,000). Among these categories, the largest change over the year occurred in those who were students (-7,000 or -7.7%).

Labour Market Structure – Seasonally adjusted
Table 2

	Total aged 16 and over	Total persons of working age 16-64	All aged 16+					All working age 16-64	
			Total economically active	Total in employment	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Unemployment rate (%)	Activity rate 16-64 (%)	Employment rate (%) 16-64
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
ALL PERSONS									
Sep-Nov 2007	1,359	1,128	816	780	37	543	4.5	71.1	67.9
Sep-Nov 2008	1,373	1,137	815	779	36	558	4.4	70.4	67.2
Sep-Nov 2009	1,386	1,144	822	766	55	564	6.8	70.3	65.4
Dec-Feb 2010	1,389	1,146	829	775	54	560	6.5	70.8	66.1
Mar-May 2010	1,392	1,147	833	774	59	559	7.1	71.2	66.1
Jun-Aug 2010	1,395	1,149	838	779	58	557	7.0	71.5	66.4
Sep-Nov 2010	1,398	1,150	833	768	65	565	7.8	71.0	65.3
Change on Quarter	3	2	-5	-12	7	8	0.9	-0.5	-1.1
Change on Year	12	6	11	2	10	1	1.1	0.7	-0.1
MALES									
Sep-Nov 2007	658	558	446	423	23	212	5.1	78.2	74.2
Sep-Nov 2008	666	563	448	420	28	218	6.3	77.9	72.9
Sep-Nov 2009	673	566	447	406	41	226	9.1	76.7	69.6
Dec-Feb 2010	674	567	451	411	40	223	8.9	77.3	70.3
Mar-May 2010	676	568	458	414	44	218	9.5	78.5	70.8
Jun-Aug 2010	678	569	459	417	41	219	9.0	78.7	71.4
Sep-Nov 2010	679	570	459	413	45	220	9.9	78.4	70.4
FEMALES									
Sep-Nov 2007	701	570	371	357	14	330	3.7	64.1	61.7
Sep-Nov 2008	707	574	368	360	8	340	2.1	63.0	61.6
Sep-Nov 2009	713	577	374	360	15	339	4.0	63.9	61.3
Dec-Feb 2010	715	578	377	363	14	337	3.7	64.4	62.0
Mar-May 2010	716	579	375	360	15	341	4.1	64.1	61.4
Jun-Aug 2010	717	580	379	362	17	339	4.5	64.4	61.5
Sep-Nov 2010	719	581	374	354	20	345	5.3	63.7	60.3

Relationship between columns: A=C+F; C=D+E; G=E/C, H=economically active of working age/total population of working age, I=in employment of working age/total population of working age, * **A and B are underlying population estimates and are therefore not seasonally adjusted.** Please see note on revisions policy in Section 9.

Working age rates based on 16-64 population for both males and females - see Section 9 for details.

Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Labour Market Structure – Sample of data available on website

Table 3

Table Name	Description	File Size
2.1a	Labour Market Structure - Seasonally Adjusted	22KB
2.1b	Labour Market Structure	20KB
2.2	Economic Activity by Age	19KB
2.3	Economic Activity Rates by Age	19KB
2.4a	Economically Inactive Who Want Work	20KB
2.4b	Economically Inactive Who Do Not Want Work	18KB
2.5	Economic Inactivity by Age	18KB
2.6	Employment by Category	18KB
2.7	Actual Weekly Hours of Work	17KB
2.8	Employment by Age	18KB
2.9	Unemployment by Age	17KB
2.10	Unemployment by Duration	18KB
2.11	International Comparisons of Employment and Unemployment	23KB
2.12	Comparisons of Working Age Rates	
	Notes and Definitions	16KB

Other Labour Force Survey Publications available on website

Table 4

Publication title	File Size
LFS Labour Market Statistics (September - November 2010)	98 KB
LFS Reweighted Back Series 2006-2009 (please enable macros)	898 KB
LFS Quarterly Supplement – July - September 2010	341 KB
Women in Northern Ireland – September 2010	200 KB
Labour Force Survey (LFS) Local Area Database 2009	659KB
*** All data below this does not yet incorporate the latest Mid-Year Population revisions. A programme of work to update these bulletins using the latest population estimates is currently underway. ***	**
LFS Reweighted Back Series 1992-2006 (please enable macros)	638 KB
LFS Historical Supplement 2008	418 KB
LFS Historical Data 1995-2008 (please enable macros)	312 KB
LFS Historical Data 1984-1991	76 KB
LFS Archive data	**

Claimant Count

3

Unadjusted Claimant Count

The claimant count in NI at December 2010 was 56,882 (6.4% of the workforce), an increase of 0.1% (56) over the previous month. There was an increase of 7.2% (3,798) over the year and the rate increased by 0.5 percentage points. Five years ago the total was 27,199 (3.1%). (The seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 300 over the month.)

Youth Claimants

17,418 under 25's (30.6% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in December 2010, a decrease of 1.3% (231 claimants) over the month and an increase of 4.1% (692) over the year. Youth claimants represent 1.9% of the workforce.

Long-term Claimants

At December 2010, 14,598 (25.7% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more, an increase of 0.7% (104 claimants) over the month and an increase of 46.2% (4,613) over the year. Long-term claimants represent 1.6% of the workforce.

Flows out from Job Seekers Allowance

The success rate of job seekers leaving the count to obtain employment in November 2010 decreased by 1.6 percentage points since the same time last year. Of the 7,952 flows from the count in November 2010, 3,308 (41.6%) found employment compared to 3,632 (43.2%) of the 8,409 claimants who left the count in November 2009. This compares to 37.7% three months ago and 41.7% five years ago.

In the period from November 2009 to November 2010 the highest proportion (43.2%) of persons leaving JSA to find employment was in November 2009, while in July 2010 the proportion finding employment was at its lowest (29.5%). The highest proportion (18.2%) of persons leaving JSA to enter education or training occurred in September 2010. Those who left JSA to claim other benefits varied between 3.2% and 5.5% in the period. Those who left JSA because they failed to sign peaked at 34.9% in March 2010.

Flows in to Job Seekers Allowance

Of the 8,409 claimants who left the count in November 2009, 37.8% returned to the count within 3 months, 9.2% returned after 3-6 months and a further 9.4% returned after 6-12 months giving a total of 56.4% of those who left the count in November 2009 returned to claiming JSA within one year. This was higher than the 54.0% of leavers in November 2008 (1 year previously) and higher than 52.4% of leavers in November 2004 (5 years previously) returning within one year.

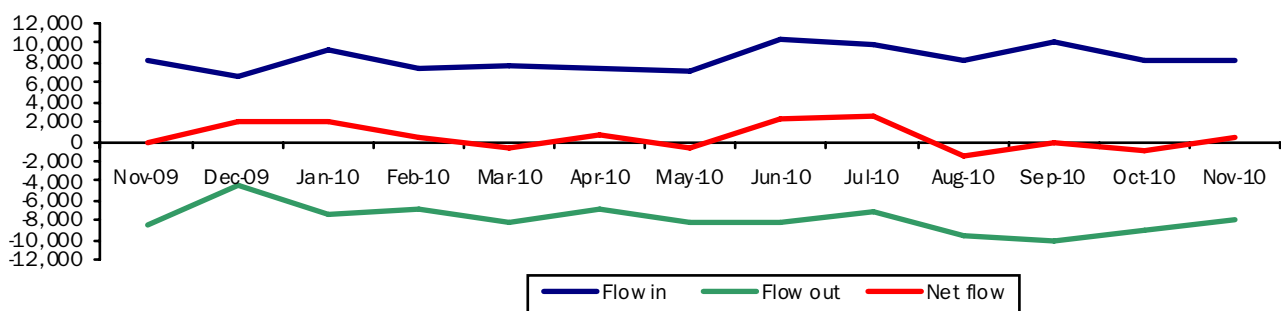
Net Flow

There was a net flow of persons out from Job Seekers for 6 months and a net flow onto Job Seekers for 6 months between November 2009 and November 2010. Net flows off Jobseekers peaked in August 2010 with a net off-flow of 1,371 persons, while net flows onto Jobseekers peaked in July 2010 with a net on-flow of 2,572.

Further information on flows data is available in section 9.

Flows in and out from JSA

Figure 9

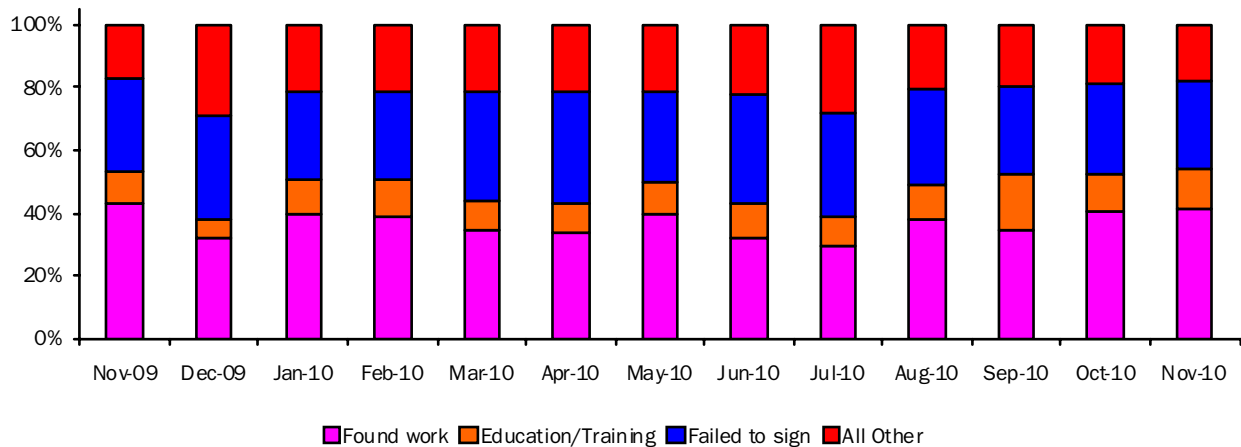


Claimant Count by District Council Area – December 2010
Number, Rate and % change over month and year (including jobs density indicator at 2008*)
Table 5

District	Number of Claimants			% Of Working Age			Change over month		Change over Year		Jobs Density
	Males	Females	All	Males	Females	All	Number	%	Number	%	Indicator*
Antrim	922	304	1,226	5.3	1.8	3.5	19	1.6	56	4.8	0.89
Ards	1,407	489	1,896	5.7	1.9	3.8	41	2.2	232	13.9	0.43
Armagh	1,330	448	1,778	7.2	2.4	4.8	-9	-0.5	167	10.4	0.69
Ballymena	1,054	383	1,437	5.3	1.9	3.6	11	0.8	22	1.6	0.96
Ballymoney	723	213	936	7.3	2.2	4.8	9	1.0	32	3.5	0.50
Banbridge	856	245	1,101	5.5	1.6	3.6	8	0.7	168	18.0	0.50
Belfast	8,948	2,774	11,722	10.5	3.1	6.7	-39	-0.3	918	8.5	1.33
Carrickfergus	740	276	1,016	5.8	2.1	3.9	-41	-3.9	-31	-3.0	0.38
Castlereagh	896	326	1,222	4.3	1.5	2.9	-67	-5.2	51	4.4	0.72
Coleraine	1,296	465	1,761	7.3	2.6	4.9	25	1.4	-8	-0.5	0.79
Cookstown	771	301	1,072	6.5	2.6	4.5	28	2.7	-23	-2.1	0.64
Craigavon	2,174	737	2,911	7.2	2.5	4.9	2	0.1	170	6.2	0.76
Derry	3,833	1,399	5,232	10.9	3.9	7.3	-50	-0.9	484	10.2	0.71
Down	1,703	474	2,177	7.4	2.1	4.8	29	1.4	112	5.4	0.52
Dungannon	1,217	465	1,682	6.4	2.6	4.6	-7	-0.4	-87	-4.9	0.76
Fermanagh	1,273	419	1,692	6.2	2.1	4.2	-13	-0.8	119	7.6	0.71
Larne	561	204	765	5.6	2.0	3.8	-19	-2.4	-82	-9.7	0.53
Limavady	1,154	349	1,503	10.2	3.2	6.8	5	0.3	82	5.8	0.54
Lisburn	2,194	754	2,948	6.0	2.0	3.9	-43	-1.4	179	6.5	0.66
Magherafelt	815	289	1,104	5.5	2.1	3.8	-5	-0.5	-21	-1.9	0.64
Moyle	456	166	622	8.5	3.1	5.8	20	3.3	-22	-3.4	0.45
Newry & Mourne	2,997	834	3,831	9.5	2.6	6.1	109	2.9	678	21.5	0.67
Newtownabbey	1,509	524	2,033	5.8	1.9	3.8	-5	-0.2	112	5.8	0.68
North Down	1,272	484	1,756	5.0	1.9	3.5	15	0.9	223	14.5	0.51
Omagh	1,253	432	1,685	7.3	2.6	5.0	8	0.5	169	11.1	0.70
Strabane	1,305	469	1,774	10.2	3.7	7.0	25	1.4	98	5.8	0.48
NI TOTAL	42,659	14,223	56,882	7.4	2.5	4.9	56	0.1	3,798	7.2	0.76

* Data relates to 2008. Jobs Density = total number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population of working age in the area

Claimant spells ended by destination
Figure 10



Occupation Data

At December 2010, 31.2% (17,610) of all claimants defined their usual (or previous) occupation as an Elementary Occupation. Elementary Occupations includes elementary agricultural, construction, process plant, goods storage, administrative, personal services, cleaning, security and sales occupations. A further 18.2% (10,285) gave their usual occupation as working in the Skilled Trades. These two groups account for approximately one half of all claimants in December 2010. The smallest occupation group, with 2.0% (1,130) of all claimants, was Managers and Senior Officials.

Overall the NI claimant count (computerised claims only) increased by 0.1% over the month to December 2010. Six of the nine occupational groups showed a decrease in levels with the largest decrease occurring in Associate Professional & Technical Occupations, which decreased by 120 (4.6%), and Administrative and Secretarial Occupations which decreased by 110 (2.4%). The groups showing the largest increase in levels were Skilled Trade Occupations (+160 or 1.6%), Process, Plant & Machine Operatives (+140 or 1.8%) and Elementary Occupations (+140 or 0.8%).

Claimant Count (unadjusted) by Usual Occupation – December 2010 (Computerised claims only)
Table 6

Occupational Groups (Usual Occupation)	December 2010		Change over month	
	Number of Claimants	% of Claimants	Number of claimants	% change
Managers and Senior Officials	1,130	2.0	-35	-3.0
Professional Occupations	1,525	2.7	-80	-5.0
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,465	4.4	-120	-4.6
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	4,430	7.8	-110	-2.4
Skilled Trade Occupations	10,285	18.2	160	1.6
Personal Service Occupations	3,100	5.5	-5	-0.2
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	7,730	13.7	-55	-0.7
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	8,100	14.4	140	1.8
Elementary Occupations	17,610	31.2	140	0.8
Not Known	65	0.1	15	30.0
NI Total	56,435	100.0	45	0.1

**Claimant Count -Sample of data available on website:
Table 7**

Table Name	Description	File Size
Table 3.1	Seasonally Adjusted Claimant Count	17.5KB
Table 3.2	Total Claimant Count	16.0KB
Table 3.3	Claimant Count Trends – Seasonally Adjusted Claimant Count	18.0KB
Table 3.4	Claimant Count Trends – Total Claimant Count	17.0KB
Table 3.5	Claimant Count Trends – Long-Term Claimant Count	16.0KB
Table 3.6	Claimant Count Trends- Youth Claimant Count	14.5KB
Table 3.7	Claimant Count by Travel-to-Work-Area	19.5KB
Table 3.8	Claimant Count by District Council Area	21.0KB
Table 3.9	Claimant Count by Parliamentary Constituency Area	20.0KB
Table 3.10	Claimant Count by NUTSiii Area	18.5KB
Table 3.11	Claimant Count by Usual Occupation	17.0KB
Table 3.12	Outflows by Destination (including percentage recycled)	21.5KB
Table 3.13	Total Annual Outflows by Destination	20.0KB
Table 3.14	Recycling of Claimants by District Council Area	19.0KB
Table 3.15	Claimant Count by Ward	81.0KB

Redundancies

4

There were 2,088 confirmed redundancies over the year to 31st December 2010, a decrease of 55% compared to the same period in the previous year (4,596). Of these, 185 confirmed redundancies took place during the calendar month of December 2010 and 150 in the previous month of November 2010. This compares to 344 in December 2009 (one year ago).

Table 8 shows the distribution of these confirmed redundancies by District Council area.

The largest number of redundancies occurred in Belfast (623), Castlereagh (306) and Craigavon (171) District Council areas.

Confirmed redundancies by District Council in year to 31 December 2010

Table 8

District Council Area	Total
Antrim	70
Ards	8
Armagh	42
Ballymena	51
Ballymoney	5
Banbridge	16
Belfast	623
Carrickfergus	40
Castlereagh	306
Coleraine	68
Cookstown	32
Craigavon	171
Derry	145
Down	0
Dungannon	42
Fermanagh	12
Larne	79
Limavady	6
Lisburn	82
Magherafelt	23
Moyle	0
Newry & Mourne	50
Newtownabbey	62
North Down	103
Omagh	1
Strabane	51
N. Ireland	2,088

Of these 2,088 confirmed redundancies, 609 or 29% were in the Manufacturing sector, with 231 redundancies (11% of all redundancies) occurring in the Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment. A further 248 redundancies (12% of all redundancies) occurred in the Construction sector.

Altogether there are 1,196 outstanding redundancies that have been notified to the Department, but have yet to take place. This compares with 1,301 this time one year ago - a decrease of 8%.

Redundancies – Sample of Data Available on Website

Table 9

Regional Redundancy data	File size
District Council (Jan 2000 –date)	33.0KB
Parliamentary Constituency (Jan 2000-date)	29.0KB
Travel to Work Area (Jan 2000 – date)	29.0KB

Industrial Sector	File size
Standard Industrial Classification 2007 (Jan 2000 – date)	70.0KB

Redundancy Legal Requirements

Under the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (Amended 8 October 2006) companies are only legally required to notify the Department of impending redundancies of 20 or more employees. Companies who propose less than 20 redundancies are not included in the statistics.

Quarterly Employment Survey

5

Seasonally Adjusted

The September 2010 seasonally adjusted employee jobs figure stands at 697,630.

This represents a seasonally adjusted decrease of 0.1% (or 940 jobs) from the revised June 2010 estimate of 698,570.

Over the quarter seasonally adjusted employee jobs decreased in the Service Sector by 0.1% (410 jobs), and also in the Construction Sector by 2.0% (690 jobs). Seasonally adjusted employee jobs increased in the Manufacturing sector by 0.2% (110 jobs), and also in Other Industries by 0.2% (40 jobs) over the quarter.

Unadjusted

The September 2010 seasonally unadjusted figure stands at 694,130.

This represents a decrease of 0.4% (3,090 jobs) since June 2010 and a decrease of 0.8% (5,260 jobs) in the past year.

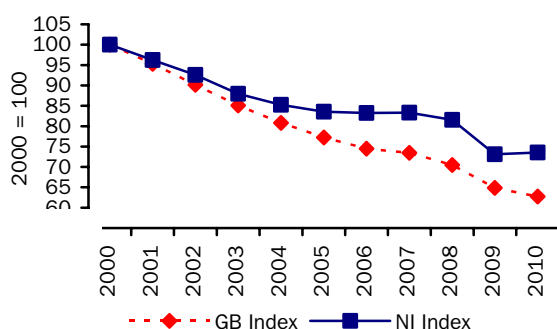
Over the year, September 2009 to September 2010, the unadjusted employee jobs figure for Construction decreased by 8.5% (3,100 jobs), while employee jobs in the Service Sector decreased by 0.5% (2,680 jobs). Manufacturing employee jobs increased by 0.6% (470 jobs) over the year.

Manufacturing Employee Jobs

The level of jobs in the Manufacturing sector in both NI and GB has declined significantly over the past 10 years.

Manufacturing jobs for NI & GB indexed (September of each year)

Figure 11



NI manufacturing jobs recorded a marked decline between 2000 and 2005, with the figure for 2005 falling to 84% of the 2000 figure. Manufacturing employee jobs in NI were fairly stable between 2005 and 2007, with the 2007 figure at 83% of the 2000 level. However manufacturing jobs have fallen again between 2007 and 2009 reaching 73% of their 2000 level. Manufacturing jobs in 2010 have increased slightly and now stand at 74% of the 2000 level.

Manufacturing jobs in GB have been in sharp decline from 2000 and the 2010 estimate stands at 62% of the 2000 level.

Changes in the Structure of Manufacturing Jobs (NI)

Over the period 2000-2010, Manufacturing jobs in NI decreased by 26,720, with 19 of the 23 manufacturing divisions recording a decrease. The largest decrease occurred in the Manufacture of wearing apparel, which recorded 7,930 fewer jobs. There were 5,640 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products, 5,560 fewer in the Manufacture of textiles, 1,790 fewer in the Manufacture of other transport equipment and 1,710 fewer in the Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers.

However, these decreases were partially offset by increases in the Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment (830), in the Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations (640) and in the Repair and installation of machinery and equipment (140).

The large decline in the Manufacture of Textiles and Wearing Apparel sectors has impacted on the structure of Northern Ireland Manufacturing jobs. In 2000 15.6% of Manufacturing jobs were located in the Textiles and Wearing Apparel sectors; by 2010 this had fallen to 3.2%.

Quarterly Employment Survey
Northern Ireland Seasonally Adjusted Employee Jobs* September 2010
Table 10

	Males	Females	All persons	% change in total	
				since last quarter	since last year
Manufacturing	58,230	15,970	74,200	0.2	0.7
Construction ¹	29,540	3,930	33,470	-2.0	-8.5
Services	227,970	342,210	570,190	-0.1	-0.5
Other ²	17,040	2,730	19,770	0.2	0.3
Total	332,780	364,850	697,630	-0.1	-0.7

¹ Figures for females in the construction industry are not seasonally adjusted

² Covers Industry Sections A, B, D and E which have not been seasonally adjusted

* Figures are rounded to the nearest 10 and may not sum due to rounding

Northern Ireland Employee Jobs* - Seasonally Adjusted Series
Table 11

		Manufacturing	Construction ¹	Services	Other Industries ²	All Industries	Public ³	Private ³
2004	March	87,340	37,200	534,170	22,610	681,330	215,523	465,790
	June	86,310	37,220	535,690	22,290	681,520	213,835	467,580
	September	85,890	37,250	541,350	22,480	686,970	217,516	469,580
	December	85,500	37,420	544,560	22,770	690,250	217,968	472,270
2005	March	85,180	37,870	551,240	22,430	696,720	218,737	478,050
	June	84,290	38,770	551,850	21,130	696,050	219,802	476,080
	September	84,160	39,310	553,790	21,310	698,570	220,811	477,810
	December	83,780	41,010	557,290	21,390	703,470	220,951	482,510
2006	March	83,940	41,910	559,290	21,390	706,530	220,729	485,970
	June	83,740	42,310	560,220	20,830	707,100	220,706	486,200
	September	83,850	42,690	562,640	20,910	710,100	221,056	489,050
	December	84,010	43,010	564,510	20,990	712,520	220,253	492,200
2007	March	83,720	43,580	567,000	21,050	715,350	220,360	495,290
	June	84,220	44,710	571,400	20,890	721,230	220,754	500,250
	September	83,950	45,330	575,100	21,070	725,440	219,550	505,890
	December	83,530	46,670	578,060	20,330	728,590	219,444	508,970
2008	March	83,590	45,940	581,380	20,250	731,160	219,953	511,630
	June	83,450	44,780	583,070	20,440	731,740	218,487	513,050
	September	82,160	43,410	578,850	20,490	724,900	216,411	508,400
	December	79,950	41,450	576,170	20,040	717,610	221,610	495,950
2009	March	77,820	39,390	573,710	19,940	710,860	222,528	488,660
	June	75,170	38,050	573,370	19,850	706,430	223,191	482,960
	September	73,710	36,580	572,870	19,710	702,870	223,936	478,890
	December	73,780	35,280	573,230	19,720	702,010	224,340	477,750
2010	March	73,570	34,870	572,060	19,710	700,210	223,727	476,670
	June	74,090	34,160	570,600	19,730	698,570	223,128	475,220
	September	74,200	33,470	570,190	19,770	697,630	221,965	475,650

¹ Figures for females in the construction industry are not seasonally adjusted

² Covers Industry Sections A, B, D and E which have not been seasonally adjusted

³ Public and Private splits may not sum to total.

* Figures are rounded to the nearest 10 and may not sum due to rounding

Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) – Sample of data available on website

The Northern Ireland Quarterly Employment Survey Table 12

Table Name	Description	File Size
5.1	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted September 2010	15.5 KB
5.2	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted 1998 – 2010	15.5 KB
5.3	NI Employee Jobs - Unadjusted 1998 – 2010	15.5 KB
5.4	NI Employee Jobs (Unadjusted) by Industry Section – September 2010	15.5 KB
5.5	NI Public Sector Jobs (Unadjusted) – September 2010	13.5 KB
5.6	NI Employee Jobs by Industry Section (Unadjusted) September 2009, June 2010 and September 2010	15.5 KB
5.7	Self Employment Jobs in NI by Broad Industry Group (June of Each Year)	15.0 KB
5.8	Workforce in Employment 1983 – 2010	15.0 KB
5.9	NI Employee Jobs by 2-digit SIC07 Class – September 2010	31.5 KB

Other Quarterly Employment Survey Publications available on website Table 13

Publication title	File Size
Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) Supplement - September 2010	493 KB

Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

6

The Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) provides information on employees' hourly, weekly and annual earnings by gender and working pattern. It has been designed by the Office for National Statistics and is carried out in Northern Ireland by statisticians within DETI. Both median and mean results are reported by ASHE, where the mean is the arithmetic average while the median is the value below which 50 per cent of employees fall. The median is often preferred for earnings data as it is influenced less by extreme values and because of the skewed distribution of earnings data.

The median gross weekly earnings for all (i.e. both full- and part-time) employees in NI in 2010 was £356.6, some 12% lower than the UK (£404.3). This represented a growth in NI median earnings for all employees of 0.6% over the year to April 2010, compared to growth in the UK of 1.8%.

NI full-time employees' median gross weekly earnings at April 2010 were £440.8, which was approximately 88% of the figure in the UK (£498.8). NI full-time earnings increased by 0.8% over the period, compared to an increase of 2.1% in the UK. The median gross weekly part-time earnings in NI at April 2010 was £149.5, down 6.0% over the year compared with an increase of 0.7% in the UK (to £153.7).

Median gross weekly earnings for full-time employees in the NI private sector increased at a slower rate (0.6% to £383.4) than in the UK, where growth was 2.0% over the year (to £473.1). This represented a widening of the NI/UK private sector pay gap, from 82.1% of the UK figure at April 2009 to 81.0% at April 2010.

There has been a narrowing of the gender pay gap for all employees in NI over the period 2009-2010. Female median hourly earnings excluding overtime were 89.9% of male earnings at April 2010, compared to 87.6% a year earlier. The NI gender pay gap remains less marked than in the UK, where the equivalent female to male earnings ratio was 80.2% at April 2010. It should also be noted that gender pay differences continue to exist for various occupational and industry groupings in NI, as evidenced by weekly and annual earnings trends.

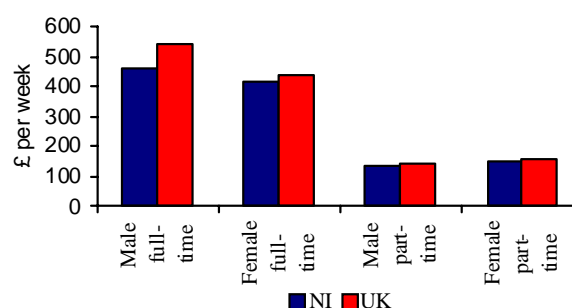
Please note, changes in NI earnings over the year and relative to the UK can be influenced by a range of factors including the timing of pay settlements,

the extent of overtime, and differences in the composition of the workforce. As ASHE is a sample survey, results are also subject to an associated level of sampling variability. Further information is available at:

http://www.detini.gov.uk/ashe_2010_ni_statistics_bulletin.pdf

Median gross weekly earnings by full-/part-time and gender, April 2010

Figure 12



Median and mean gross weekly earnings 2006-10

Table 14

£ per week	Median			Mean		
	Full-time	Part-time	All	Full-time	Part-time	All
April 2010						
Men	460.0	132.1	414.2	539.3	191.2	489.3
Women	412.2	152.6	298.0	471.8	180.3	348.6
All	440.8	149.5	356.6	511.6	183.0	417.9
April 2009						
Men	460.0	150.0	416.6	543.6	190.1	498.5
Women	402.6	161.4	297.2	460.6	187.7	350.4
All	437.1	159.1	354.6	509.1	188.3	422.9
% Change 09 - 10						
Men	0.0	-11.9	-0.6	-0.8	0.6	-1.8
Women	2.4	-5.5	0.3	2.4	-3.9	-0.5
All	0.8	-6.0	0.6	0.5	-2.8	-1.2
April 2008						
Men	439.8	139.9	404.3	520.7	214.3	479.2
Women	385.2	152.6	287.0	438.4	188.8	335.0
All	417.7	150.0	345.0	487.0	195.0	406.4
April 2007						
Men	421.7	126.9	394.2	501.4	178.6	463.7
Women	367.7	145.3	272.6	427.9	173.8	321.1
All	400.3	140.8	329.9	471.7	174.8	391.3
April 2006						
Men	421.6	122.3	390.7	500.9	169.7	456.9
Women	374.2	132.5	260.2	423.3	162.7	307.5
All	402.5	130.8	322.7	469.4	164.2	379.9

Average full-time earnings by occupation, April 2010

Table 15

	Count (thousands)	Median gross weekly pay (£)	Mean gross weekly pay (£)	Median total weekly hours	Mean total weekly hours
Managers and Senior Officials	72	598.7	674.5	38.0	38.8
Professional Occupations	86	686.6	735.1	37.0	36.7
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	82	564.6	584.7	37.6	39.7
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	65	348.5	373.8	37.5	38.4
Skilled Trades Occupations	58	409.3	434.3	40.0	41.5
Personal Service Occupations	30	316.0	331.2	37.5	39.2
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	19	260.9	288.5	38.3	39.2
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	54	370.0	396.3	40.2	43.5
Elementary Occupations	41	299.9	325.6	40.0	41.0

Average full-time earnings by industry, April 2010 (based on the 2007 UK Standard Industrial Classification – SIC 2007)

Table 16

	Count (thousands)	Median gross weekly pay (£)	Mean gross weekly pay (£)	Median total weekly hours	Mean total weekly hours
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	x	307.0	350.5	41.6	43.7
Mining and quarrying	x	x	508.5	39.6	43.6
Manufacturing	77	409.8	466.5	40.0	41.6
Electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply	5	571.8	683.6	37.0	37.4
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	5	512.1	520.4	41.9	44.5
Construction	30	436.4	513.8	40.0	42.1
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	67	350.6	421.7	39.2	39.8
Transportation and storage	18	409.8	474.8	40.0	43.4
Accommodation and food services activities	16	260.0	310.9	38.2	39.9
Information and communication	15	502.1	549.9	37.6	38.2
Financial and insurance activities	11	537.2	612.7	35.0	35.8
Real estate activities	6	434.3	469.5	37.1	38.1
Professional, scientific and technical activities	17	449.4	523.9	37.5	37.9
Administrative and support service activities	16	321.5	380.5	40.0	41.2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	63	536.8	585.8	42.0	42.0
Education	60	674.1	637.3	33.5	34.6
Human health and social work activities	80	475.6	539.2	37.5	38.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	9	365.6	417.1	37.5	38.7
Other service activities	6	x	484.6	37.6	38.9
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services-producing activities of households for own use	x	339.9	359.8	37.4	42.0

x Coefficient of Variation too large to provide a reliable estimate

Please note that the figures in the above two tables relating to numbers employed relate to PAYE employees as defined by ASHE and should not be considered an accurate estimate of employee job counts.

Sample of ASHE data available on website

Table 17

Table name	Description	File size
6.1	ASHE 2002 Headline Data for Key Variables	78 KB
6.2	ASHE 2003 Headline Data for Key Variables	163 KB
6.3	ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding supplementary information	51 KB
6.4	ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables	52 KB
6.5	ASHE 2005 Headline Data for Key Variables	52 KB
6.6	ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding methodological changes	168 KB
6.7	ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables	176 KB
6.8	ASHE 2007 Headline Data for Key Variables	165 KB
6.9	ASHE 2008 Headline Data for Key Variables	165 KB
6.10	ASHE 2009 Headline Data for Key Variables - revised	52 KB
6.11	ASHE 2010 Headline Data for Key Variables	52 KB

Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training

7

Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training Measures
Participation in the Department for Employment and Learning Schemes to November 2010
Table 18

	Steps to Work (2)	New Deal (2, 3)	Future Managers	Employment Support	Training for Success (4, 5)	Jobskills (4, 5)
<u>2008</u>						
Nov	3,350	1,950	150	750	11,400	4,200
<u>2009</u>						
Nov	7,950	750	150	750	16,550	1,400
Dec	7,500	750	200	700	16,350	1,300
<u>2010</u>						
Jan	8,150	900	200	700	15,250	1,200
Feb	8,500	850	200	700	15,900	1,100
Mar	8,750	900	250	700	15,600	1,050
Apr	9,100	950	200	700	15,550	800
May	9,250	1,250	250	700	15,400	700
June	9,500	1,200	200	700	15,250	600
July	9,800	1,250	250	700	15,200	550
Aug	10,700	1,300	200	700	14,350	300
Sept	11,950	1,300	200	700	17,800	250
Oct	12,500	1,300	200	700	18,200	200
Nov	13,400	1,350	250	700	18,400	150

Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.

(1) Figures are rounded to the nearest fifty.

(2) On 29th September 2008, Steps to Work was widely introduced in NI and subsumed the main New Deal programmes. However, New Deal continues to operate in the Foyle and Lisnagelvin office areas. Steps to Work figures relate to the last Friday of each month and are revised on a monthly basis.

(3) Includes New Deal 18-24 and 25+. New Deal figures relate to the last Sunday of each month and are revised on a monthly basis.

(4) Training for Success (TfS), was introduced in September 2007, and will ultimately replace Jobskills. In September 2008, TfS was re-structured into two separate provisions, TfS and ApprenticeshipsNI. The reported TfS figures include both provisions. In response to the economic downturn an intervention measure, Programme-Led Apprenticeships, was introduced on 7th September 2009, and the figures for this programme are now included under the TfS heading.

(5) November 2010 Jobskills and TfS figures are as at the 21st November 2010.

Vacancies data

Headline figures are presented for vacancies which have been notified to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices (JBO) of the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL). The statistics do not represent the total unsatisfied demand for staff by employers within Northern Ireland, but are only those vacant positions notified by employers to DEL. Vacancy inflow and outflow figures are shown on a standardised basis, where values are converted to a standard 4 1/3 week period.

Revisions

Enhancements have recently been made to the vacancy database used to derive the statistics below. Unfilled vacancies which are live on the count date are now available. From August 2010 publication onwards, vacancy statistics are subject to revision each month to take account of amendments to the live system. Table 19 therefore includes data which may have been revised from previous publications. While the numbers of vacancies (notified, filled and cancelled, unfilled) have changed slightly, the

overall trend in vacancy statistics is unchanged.

Standardised Vacancies notified (Inflow)

There were 4,564 vacancies notified in the period ending 5th November 2010. This was 12% lower than the number of vacancies notified in November 2009 (5,165) and was down 27% on the number of vacancies notified in November 2008 (6,239).

Standardised Vacancies filled and cancelled (Outflows)

The number of placed and cancelled vacancies in the period ending 5th November 2010 was 4,921. This was a decrease of 14% from November 2009 (5,735) and a decrease of 35% from the same period two years previously (7,565).

Unfilled Vacancies

A total of 6,454 vacancies remained unfilled on 5th November 2010, a decrease of 8% on the unfilled total in November 2009 (7,010) and a decrease of 34% on the amount unfilled in November 2008 (9,735). Of the 6,454 unfilled vacancies, 1,988 were available to jobseekers.

Vacancies Notified, Outflow and Vacancies Unfilled: November 2008 to November 2010
Table 19

Report Period Ending		Vacancies notified (Inflows) (1)			Vacancies Filled and Cancelled (Outflows) (2)			Unfilled Vacancies (3)		
		Level Unadjusted (4)	Level (standardised) (5)	Change on same month in previous year	Level unadjusted (4)	Level (standardised) (5)	Change on same month in previous year	Level Unadjusted	Change on same month in previous year	Of which Live
2008	07-Nov	7,199	6,239	-46%	8,729	7,565	-34%	9,735	-36%	-
2009	06-Nov	5,960	5,165	-17%	6,617	5,735	-24%	7,010	-28%	-
	04-Dec	4,134	4,479	-1%	4,799	5,199	-26%	6,345	-14%	-
2010	08-Jan	3,306	2,865	24%	5,318	4,609	-7%	4,333	-13%	-
	05-Feb	4,197	4,547	-17%	2,798	3,031	-27%	5,732	-12%	-
	05-Mar	4,523	4,900	-12%	3,841	4,161	-20%	6,414	-6%	-
	02-Apr	4,222	4,574	6%	4,412	4,780	2%	6,224	-4%	-
	07-May	5,278	4,574	8%	5,417	4,695	4%	6,085	-2%	2,074
	04-Jun	4,762	5,159	19%	4,420	4,788	9%	6,427	5%	2,386
	02-Jul	3,607	3,908	1%	4,555	4,935	11%	5,479	-3%	1,660
	06-Aug	4,511	3,910	-4%	4,840	4,195	5%	5,150	-10%	1,925
	03-Sep	4,764	5,161	-3%	3,104	3,363	-15%	6,810	-3%	2,385
	08-Oct	5,489	4,757	-29%	5,516	4,781	-21%	6,783	-12%	2,079
	05-Nov	4,213	4,564	-12%	4,542	4,921	-14%	6,454	-8%	1,988

Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.

(1) Vacancies notified (inflow) are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / JBOs of DEL.

(2) Outflows are those vacancies that have been notified to JobCentres / JBOs of DEL and have been placed or cancelled. This includes vacancies filled by JobCentres / JBOs or other recruitment channels and vacancies that have been withdrawn.

(3) Vacancies unfilled are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / JBOs of DEL remaining unfilled on the count date (the first Friday after the first Thursday of every month). Unfilled vacancies can be split into live and pended. Live vacancies are those for which job seekers can apply. Vacancies are pended while DEL staff await feedback from employers.

(4) Monthly flow data is collected for a 4 or 5 week period between count dates. Unadjusted levels reflect either a 4 or 5 week period.

(5) Standardised levels convert volumes to a standard 4 1/3 week month. Figures are not seasonally adjusted.

For further details of Vacancy Statistics and Employment and Training Measures visit the DEL website at the following link:

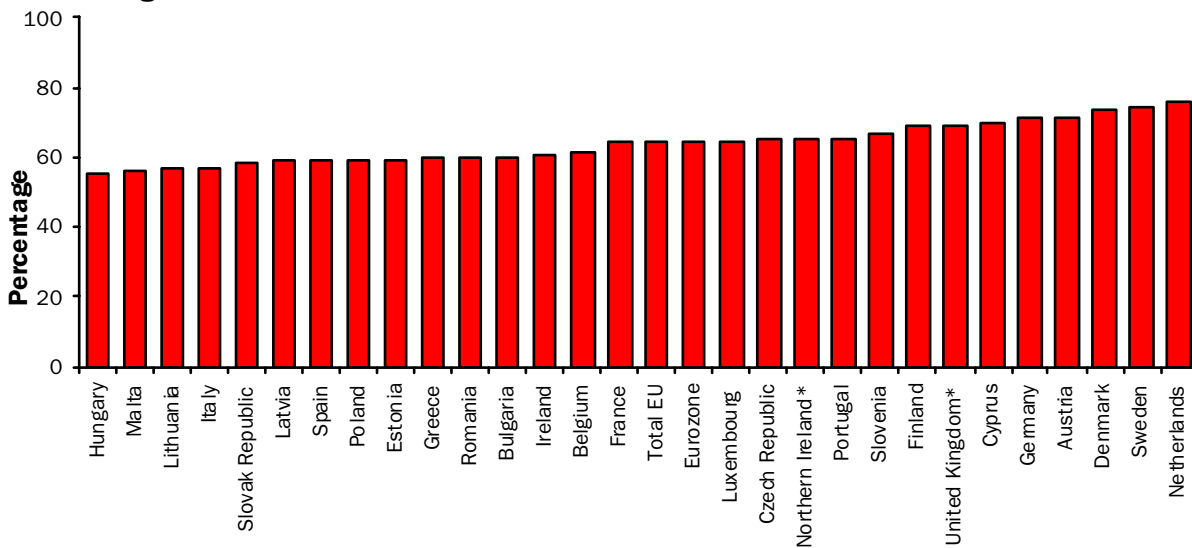
<http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/statistics-and-research/labour-market.htm> or alternatively contact the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) by telephoning (028) 9025 7714.

International - Regional Analysis

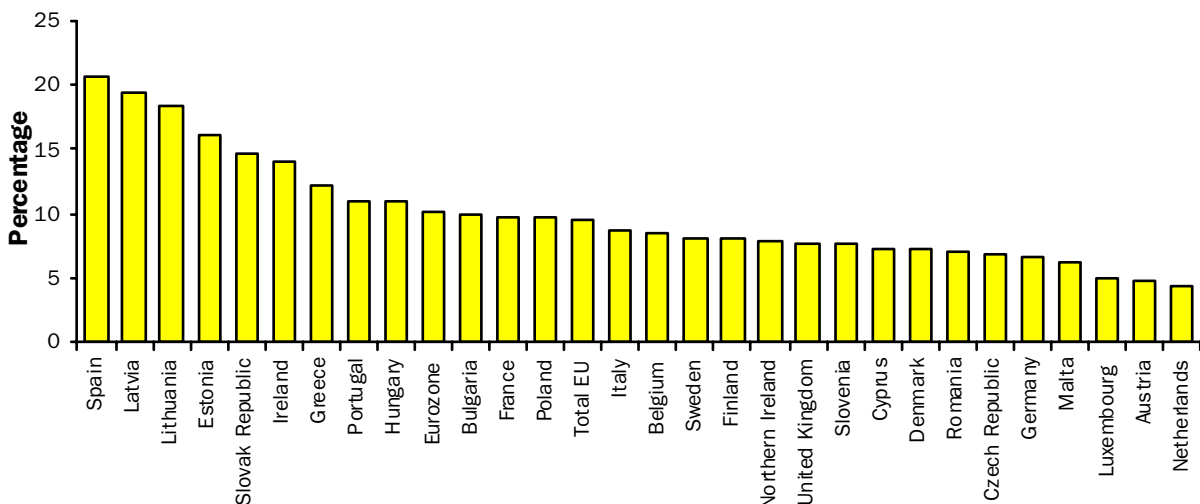


International Comparisons of ILO Employment and Unemployment

ILO Employment Rates (%) - Unadjusted
Figure 13



Unemployment Rates (%) - Seasonally Adjusted
Figure 14



Source: Eurostat

* A NI employment rate comparable to the EUROSTAT figures has been produced from the Calendar Quarter 2 2010 LFS dataset. It is based on the population aged 15-64 and differs from the working age rates published elsewhere in this publication, which take account of both the school-leaving and state pension age. The employment rate for the UK as published by EUROSTAT differs from the working age rate (16-64) published by ONS for the same reason. Figures behind the charts and further information can be found at; [International Comparisons of Employment](#)

Seasonally Adjusted Regional Summary, September - November 2010

Table 20

	Labour Force Survey (LFS) ¹						Employee Jobs ³	Claimant count rate (%) ⁴	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the year	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the month	Jobs Density Indicator ⁵
	Employment		Unemployment		Economically Inactive						
	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²					
North East	66.1	-0.9	9.6	-0.3	26.8	1.3	1,015	6.6	-7.2	-0.6	0.69
North West	69.5	0.7	7.6	-0.6	24.7	-0.3	2,875	5.0	-11.3	-1.2	0.76
Yorkshire & the Humber	68.0	-0.9	9.2	0.1	25.0	0.9	2,138	5.5	-8.9	0.1	0.75
East Midlands	70.7	-1.7	8.1	0.9	22.9	1.0	1,801	4.4	-14.4	-0.1	0.75
West Midlands	67.9	-0.8	9.9	0.3	24.5	0.7	2,204	5.7	-13.0	-0.7	0.77
East	73.8	0.0	6.6	0.3	20.8	-0.4	2,342	3.7	-10.7	-0.6	0.77
London	68.3	0.5	9.2	-0.2	24.8	-0.3	3,986	4.4	-5.1	-0.6	0.90
South East	75.1	0.2	6.1	-0.1	19.9	-0.2	3,552	2.9	-16.0	-0.4	0.82
South West	74.2	1.3	5.9	-0.5	21.0	-1.0	2,144	3.0	-11.8	0.0	0.82
England	70.8	0.0	7.8	0.0	23.1	0.1	22,056	4.3	-10.7	-0.5	0.79
Wales	67.3	0.2	8.4	-0.1	26.2	-0.3	1,135	5.0	-10.1	-0.4	0.71
Scotland	70.7	-1.4	8.4	0.9	22.7	0.7	2,237	5.0	1.8	1.6	0.80
Great Britain	70.6	-0.1	7.9	0.0	23.2	0.1	25,428	4.4	-9.6	-0.3	0.79
N Ireland	65.3	-0.1	7.8	1.1	29.0	-0.7	698	6.5	7.7	0.5	0.76
United Kingdom	70.4	-0.1	7.9	0.1	23.4	0.1	26,125	4.5	-9.0	-0.3	0.79

¹ Employment and economic inactivity rates are based on working age population (16-64); Unemployment rates are based on 16+ population.

² Data refer to percentage point change of respective rate.

³ As at September 2010 (thousands).

⁴ As at December 2010: percentage of the workforce.

⁵ Not seasonally adjusted – data relates to 2008. Jobs Density – total number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population of working age in that area.

Further Information

9

DEFINITIONS

Unemployment

The definition of unemployment used in the Labour Force Survey (LFS) is in accordance with that promulgated by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The ILO unemployed include those without a job who were able to start work in the two weeks following their LFS interview and had either looked for work in the four weeks prior to interview or were waiting to start a job they had already obtained.

Unemployment rate - the percentage of economically active people who are unemployed. Please note that it is possible for the number of unemployed to increase and the unemployment rate to fall during the same period, as the latter measure is a ratio e.g. if the number of economically active has increased at a faster rate than the number unemployed the unemployment rate will fall.

Employment

The definition of ILO employed applies to anyone (aged 16 or over) who has done at least one hour's paid work in the week prior to interview, or has a job they are temporarily away from (e.g. on holiday). Also included are people who do unpaid work in a family business and people on Government-supported employment training schemes.

The ILO measures are particularly useful for examining short term and long term trends over time and key LFS time series data are available both seasonally adjusted and unadjusted.

Sampling variability

The LFS is a sample survey, and as such, estimates obtained from it are subject to sampling variability. If we drew many samples each would give a different result. The ranges shown for the LFS data in table 1 represent 95% confidence intervals i.e. we would expect that in 95% of samples the range would contain the true value. These confidence intervals have been calculated using data that is unadjusted for seasonality, with the relevant sampling errors produced applied to the seasonally adjusted data.

If the 'annual change' for an estimate has increased or decreased by more than the 'sampling variability of the change', this change would be statistically significant. The annual changes for the main LFS categories of employment,

unemployment and economic inactivity were tested for statistical significance. The results for September - November 2010 showed that none of the annual changes in these categories were statistically significant at the 95% level.

Please see attached link for further LFS notes and definitions:

[Labour Force Survey Notes and Definitions](#)

LFS revisions

Information on the revision policy concerning labour market statistics can be found through the link below:

[Labour market statistics revisions policy](#)

Definition of 'working age'

The 'working age' definition, used in the calculation of employment and economic inactivity rates, was changed in August 2010 to include those aged from 16 to 64 for both men and women. Previously these rates were based on upper age limits of 59 for women and 64 for men, reflecting the state pension ages in the UK. However, between 2010 and 2020, the state pension age for women is increasing (by one month every two months) from 60 to 65, thereby making a change to the definition necessary.

The change in definition follows a UK wide public consultation on the issue and the approach being applied to Northern Ireland labour market statistics mirrors the approach that the Office for National Statistics (ONS) are applying to other UK regions. A consistent time series for the new headline rates has been produced and all future reference to working age rates will be based on the 16 to 64 definition. Please see link for further details

http://www.detini.gov.uk/introduction_of_new_working_age_definition.pdf.

For a limited period, employment and economic inactivity rates based on the old working age definition (i.e. 16-59/64) will be available on the DETI website at <http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/stats-surveys.htm>.

Please note that there are no implications for the headline unemployment rate, which will continue to be based on the economically active population aged 16 and over.

Claimant Count definition

Claimant Count figures are derived from records of claimants held at Social Security Offices. The term 'claimants' in the claimant count is used to include those who claim Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and National Insurance credits. The figures include severely disabled claimants, but exclude students seeking vacation work and the temporarily stopped. The Claimant Count is a very up-to-date measure of those eligible to claim a specific unemployment related benefit and data are available for a range of geographical sub-regions (e.g. District Council Areas, Parliamentary Constituency Areas, Travel-to-Work Areas and Wards). It also provides seasonally adjusted and unadjusted data and as a result is a useful measure for examining both short-term and long-term trends.

Seasonally Adjusted claimant count figures are provisional when published and subject to revision, mainly the following month and are only available at Northern Ireland level. Seasonally Adjusted totals are subject to an annual update (usually April) to take account of latest assessment trends.

The 'Flows' data that is published in section three relates to the date the claimant actually joined or left the claimant count. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) use a different methodology when collating flows. They count flows based on the month in which the flow was added to the system regardless of the actual period to which the flow related. Since the majority of flows are recorded on the system in the month they actually happen, there is not much difference between these two methodologies.

Notes on the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

Please note, changes in NI earnings over the year and relative to the UK can be influenced by a range of factors including the timing of pay settlements, the extent of overtime, and differences in the composition of the workforce. As ASHE is a sample survey, results are also subject to an associated level of sampling variability. Further information is available at:

http://www.detini.gov.uk/ashe_2010_ni_statistical_bulletin-3.pdf

[Definitions for the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings ASHE](#)

[Background Notes to the Quarterly Employment Survey \(QES\)](#)

Government Targets

Data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) are used in the measurement of targets set in the Northern Ireland Executive's Programme for Government (PSA targets) See www.pfgbudgetni.gov.uk/finalpfg.pdf for further details. The LFS and QES data feed into productivity estimates for NI and are therefore indirectly used to measure progress towards PSA 1: Productivity growth. In addition, LFS data is used to measure the proportion of the working age population qualified to Skill levels 2 and 3. This data therefore feeds into the measurement of PSA 2: Skills for prosperity.

Details of progress towards these targets can be found at:

www.pfgbudgetni.gov.uk/pfg_delivery_report_q4_08_09_final_-_pdf_version-5.pdf

For further information:

AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THIS DOCUMENT WITH ASSOCIATED HYPERLINKS IS AVAILABLE ON THE HOME PAGE OF THE BRANCH WEBSITE AT:

www.statistics.detini.gov.uk

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