



Department of  
**Finance and  
Personnel**  
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**Labour Market**

**Statistics Bulletin**

# Monthly Labour Market Report

**June 2011**



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Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
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Northern Ireland Statistics &  
Research Agency

# Monthly Labour Market Report

June 2011

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From the 1st April 2011, the responsibility for the collection of data and production of official labour market and economic statistics transferred from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (DFP). This transfer mirrored the position in Great Britain where most business surveys and labour market data collection and statistical production have been transferred from the departments with policy responsibilities to the Office for National Statistics (ONS). However, it is important to note that there are no planned changes to the production of economic and labour market statistical publications and outputs as a result of the transfer.

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# Labour Market

# 1

Seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates for Northern Ireland for the period February - April 2011 showed a decrease over the quarter in the number of unemployed and economically inactive persons, while there was an increase in the number of employed persons. The seasonally adjusted claimant count in May 2011 increased by 400 over the month to 59,500. The Department was notified of 197 proposed redundancies in the latest reference period and 163 confirmed redundancies in May 2011.

## Employment

The number of persons in employment in the period February - April 2011 was estimated at 786,000. This estimate was up 13,000 over both the quarter and the year. The employment rate for those aged 16-64 was estimated at 67.1%, up 1.2 percentage points over the quarter and up 1.1 percentage points over the year. However, NI's employment rate remained well below the UK average (70.6%) and was the second lowest rate among the twelve UK regions.

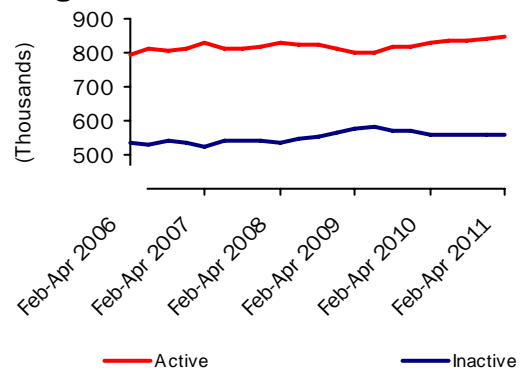
## Unemployment

The unemployment rate for the period February - April 2011 was estimated at 7.2%, down 0.8 percentage points over the quarter, but up 0.1 percentage points over the year. The number of unemployed persons was estimated at 61,000, down 6,000 over the quarter, but up 2,000 over the year.

Unadjusted figures show that 49.1% of the unemployed have been unemployed for 1 year or more – up 8.0 percentage points over the year. They also estimate the unemployment rate for 18-24 year olds at 16.5% – up 0.4 percentage points over the year.

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

Figure 1



## Economically Inactive

The seasonally adjusted number of economically inactive persons in the period February - April 2011 was estimated at 556,000. This figure fell by 4,000 over the quarter and by 3,000 over the year.

The NI economic inactivity rate for those aged 16-64 stands at 27.7%. This is significantly higher than the UK average rate (23.3%) and is the highest of the twelve UK regions. Unadjusted figures estimate that 31% of the economically inactive, aged 16-64, in NI are sick/disabled, 29% are students, 23% are looking after the family/home, 12% are retired and 6% are 'other' reason.

Unadjusted figures also show that while 91% of the inactive do not want work, the remaining 9% (51,000) 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	Feb-Apr 2011	786,000	+/-23,000	13,000	+/-29,000
Unemployment	Feb-Apr 2011	61,000	+/-11,000	2,000	+/-14,000
Economically inactive	Feb-Apr 2011	556,000	+/-21,000	-3,000	+/-26,000
Unemployment rate	Feb-Apr 2011	7.2%	+/-1.3pps	0.1pps	+/-1.7pps
Employment rate <sup>1</sup>	Feb-Apr 2011	67.1%	+/-1.8pps	1.1pps	+/-2.3pps
Economic inactivity rate <sup>1</sup>	Feb-Apr 2011	27.7%	+/-1.7pps	-1.2pps	+/-2.2pps
Claimant Count	May 2011	59,500		3,900	

Note: pps = percentage points, <sup>1</sup>Rates 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 the estimates 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 latest NI seasonally adjusted unemployment rate (7.2%) was lower than the overall UK average rate (7.7%) and was fourth lowest among the twelve UK regions. The NI rate was also below the European Union (9.5%) and Republic of Ireland (14.7%) rates for March 2011. Comparable figures for the three months to March 2011 estimate the NI unemployment rate for 18-24 year olds at 17.8%, compared to a UK average rate of 17.5%.

### Claimant Count

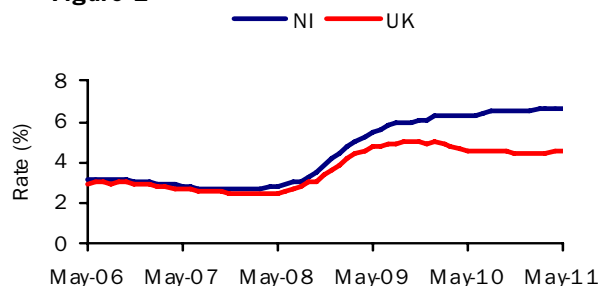
The more recent seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 400 from last month's revised total. It now stands at 59,500 (6.7% of the workforce) in May 2011. The latest monthly increase was higher than the increase of 100 for the previous monthly period. Over the year the Claimant Count in NI has increased by 3,900 (7.0%) and the workforce unemployment rate has increased by 0.4 percentage points.

### Claimant Count Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted claimant count rate in NI (6.7%) was higher than the UK average rate (4.6%) and was the joint highest rate among the twelve UK regions. The May 2011 NI Claimant Count level increased by 0.7% (400 claimants) from last month's total, while the UK average increased by 1.3% (Figure 2). NI had the smallest monthly increase among the twelve UK regions. Over the year the NI Claimant Count level increased by 7.0%, compared to a rise of 0.3% in the UK. The annual change in NI was the highest percentage increase of the UK regions.

## Seasonally Adjusted Claimant Count Monthly Rates

Figure 2



### Claimant count rates for District Council Areas

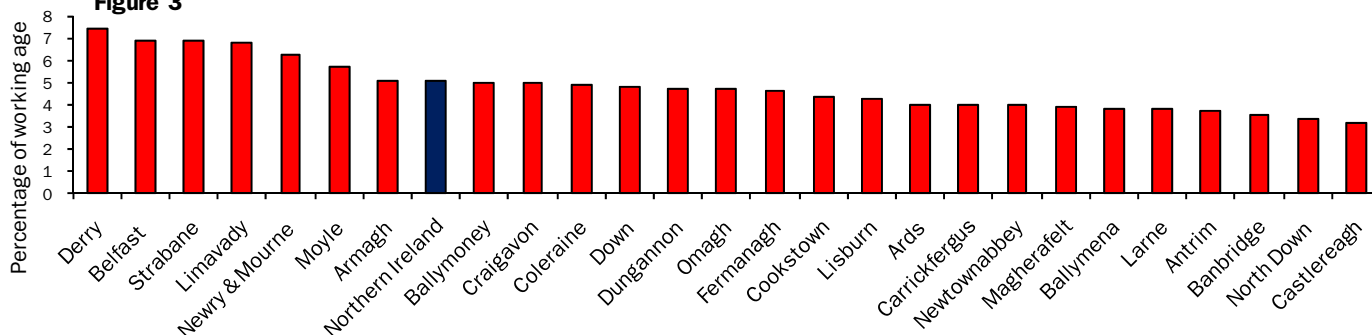
Figure 3 (unadjusted numbers as a percentage of the resident working age population) show that the highest rates at May 2011 were in Derry (7.5%), Belfast (6.9%) and Strabane (6.9%). Those that showed the highest percentage increase in levels over the year to May 2011 were Ards (16.7%), Armagh (10.8%) and Banbridge (10.4%). 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 20.5% (2,317 persons) to 13,644 over the year to May 2011 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 197 proposed redundancies over the period mid May 2011 to mid June 2011. This compares to 104 proposed redundancies notified to the Department in the previous monthly period.

There were 163 confirmed redundancies in the month of May (Figure 5). Over the latest twelve monthly period there were a total of 1,844 confirmed redundancies, a decrease of 41% from the previous year (3,143). The highest number of confirmed redundancies took place in the Belfast District Council area which had 35.4% (652) of all redundancies over the year.

Over the latest twelve month period there were a total of 2,550 proposed redundancies, a decrease of 34% from the previous year (3,860). Currently there are 1,077 outstanding redundancies (that is, proposed but not confirmed), which is 10% higher than this time last year (975).

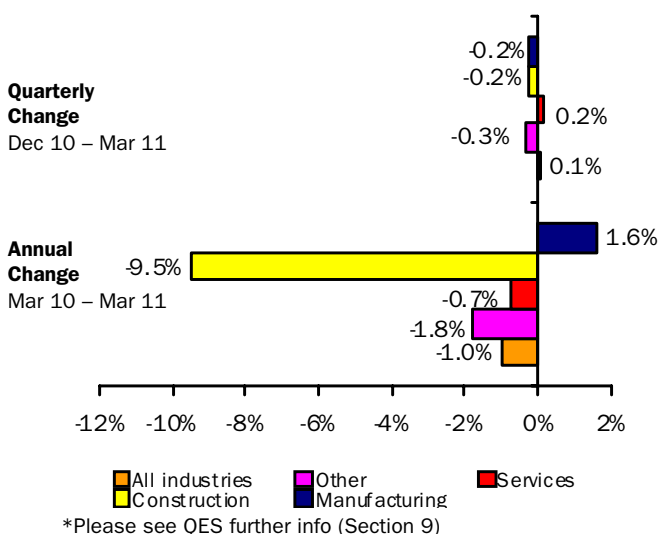
Note that since all proposed redundancies do not actually take place, the confirmed total provides a better indication of real job losses.

## 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 March 2011 was 703,860. This represents an increase of 590 from the revised figure for the previous quarter and a decrease of 6,830 over the year (see Section 9 for details of QES revisions).

### Annual and Quarterly changes in employee jobs (seasonally adjusted\*)

Figure 4

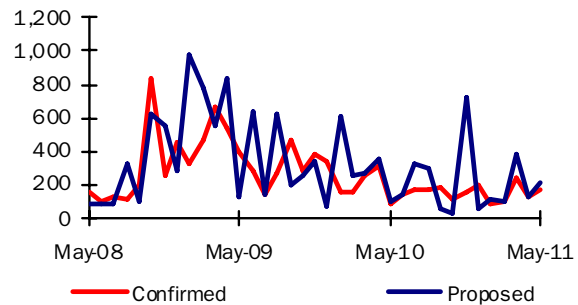


The seasonally adjusted quarterly change consisted of decreases in the Manufacturing sector (-160), in Construction (-60) and Other industries (-60). There was an increase in Services (870) over the quarter.

## Confirmed and Proposed Redundancies

May 08 - May 11

Figure 5

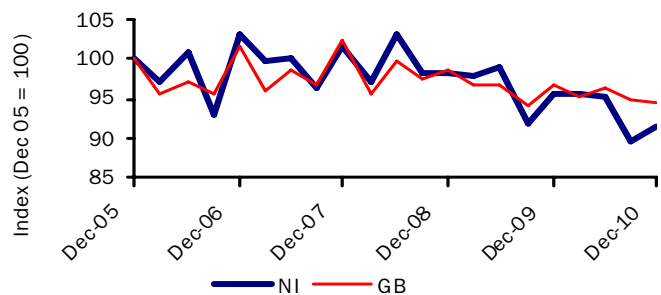


## Hours Worked

The total workforce hours worked per week in Northern Ireland in December 2010 was estimated at 24.5 million hours, representing a decrease of 4.3% over the year (compared to a fall of 2.3% in GB). Between September 2005 and September 2010, NI's total workforce hours worked per week decreased by 8.6%, compared to a 5.3% fall in GB (Figure 6). In the three months to March 2011, the average actual weekly hours worked in NI was 33.7 hours – higher than the UK average (32.6) 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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).

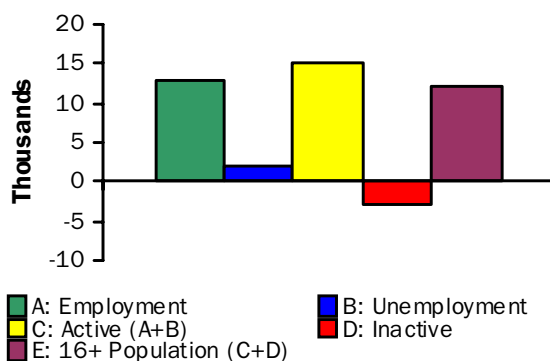
### Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

The latest seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey estimates for February - April 2011 (see Table 2) record the unemployment rate at 7.2% (61,000 persons), down 0.8 percentage points from the previous quarter. Employment was estimated to have increased by 13,000 (1.7%) over the quarter to 786,000.

### Labour Market change over the year

In the year to February - April 2011 (see Figure 7), LFS figures show increases of 13,000 in total employment and 2,000 in unemployment, leading to a rise of 15,000 in the economically active population (figures may not sum due to rounding). The number economically inactive fell by 3,000 over the year.

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



### Employment

Latest seasonally adjusted estimates show that there were 786,000 persons in employment, which represents a rise of 1.7% (13,000 persons) over the year. Of the total, 53% (415,000) were male and 47% (372,000) were female.

There was an annual fall of 0.1% in the estimate for male employment but an increase of 3.8% in female employment over the year.

### Economic Inactivity

The number of economically inactive persons in the period February - April 2011 was estimated at 556,000. 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 February - April 2011, there were an estimated 319,000 economically inactive people aged 16-64 in NI. Of the total, 38% (122,000) were male and 62% (197,000) 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**

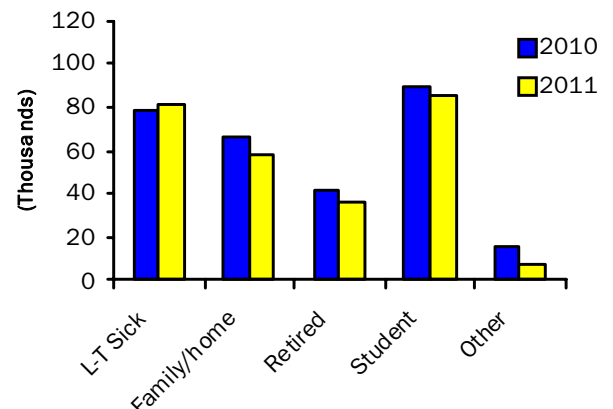


Figure 8 shows the reason given by these people for not wanting work. The largest categories were students (86,000), the long-term sick (82,000), and those looking after family/home (58,000). Among these categories, the largest change over the year occurred in those who were looking after their family/home (-8,000 or -12.0%).

**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
<b>ALL PERSONS</b>									
Feb-Apr 2008	1,365	1,132	827	793	34	538	4.1	71.8	68.8
Feb-Apr 2009	1,378	1,140	801	750	51	578	6.4	68.9	64.4
Feb-Apr 2010	1,391	1,147	832	773	59	558	7.1	71.1	66.0
May-Jul 2010	1,394	1,148	837	781	57	557	6.8	71.4	66.4
Aug-Oct 2010	1,397	1,150	836	772	63	561	7.6	71.3	65.7
Nov-Jan 2011	1,400	1,151	840	773	67	560	8.0	71.7	65.9
Feb-Apr 2011	1,403	1,153	847	786	61	556	7.2	72.3	67.1
<b>Change on Quarter</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>Change on Year</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>MALES</b>									
Feb-Apr 2008	662	560	453	430	24	208	5.2	79.3	75.1
Feb-Apr 2009	669	565	438	402	35	231	8.1	75.6	69.3
Feb-Apr 2010	675	568	459	415	44	216	9.6	78.8	71.0
May-Jul 2010	677	569	459	419	40	218	8.8	78.5	71.4
Aug-Oct 2010	679	569	457	413	44	221	9.6	78.4	70.6
Nov-Jan 2011	680	570	457	411	46	223	10.1	78.6	70.5
Feb-Apr 2011	682	571	456	415	42	225	9.2	78.7	71.4
<b>FEMALES</b>									
Feb-Apr 2008	704	572	374	363	10	330	2.7	64.4	62.6
Feb-Apr 2009	709	575	363	347	15	346	4.3	62.2	59.6
Feb-Apr 2010	715	579	373	358	15	343	4.0	63.6	61.0
May-Jul 2010	717	580	378	362	17	339	4.4	64.4	61.5
Aug-Oct 2010	718	580	379	359	19	340	5.1	64.3	61.0
Nov-Jan 2011	720	581	383	362	21	337	5.4	64.9	61.4
Feb-Apr 2011	721	582	391	372	19	330	4.9	66.0	62.8

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.**

The estimates above have been revised to incorporate latest population figures - 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	<u>Labour Market Structure - Seasonally Adjusted</u>	22KB
2.1b	<u>Labour Market Structure</u>	20KB
2.2	<u>Economic Activity by Age</u>	19KB
2.3	<u>Economic Activity Rates by Age</u>	19KB
2.4a	<u>Economically Inactive Who Want Work</u>	20KB
2.4b	<u>Economically Inactive Who Do Not Want Work</u>	18KB
2.5	<u>Economic Inactivity by Age</u>	18KB
2.6	<u>Employment by Category</u>	18KB
2.7	<u>Actual Weekly Hours of Work</u>	17KB
2.8	<u>Employment by Age</u>	18KB
2.9	<u>Unemployment by Age</u>	17KB
2.10	<u>Unemployment by Duration</u>	18KB
2.11	<u>International Comparisons of Employment and Unemployment</u>	23KB
2.12	<u>Comparisons of Working Age Rates</u>	
	<u>Notes and Definitions</u>	16KB

## Other Labour Force Survey Publications available on website

Table 4

Publication title	File Size
LFS Labour Market Statistics (February - April 2011)	98 KB
LFS Quarterly Supplement (January – March 2011)	341 KB
*** 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 Historical Data 1984-1991	76 KB
LFS Reweighted Back Series 2006-2009 (please enable macros)	898 KB
Women in Northern Ireland – September 2010	200 KB
Labour Force Survey (LFS) Local Area Database 2009	659KB
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 Archive data	**

# Claimant Count

# 3

## Unadjusted Claimant Count

The claimant count in NI at May 2011 was 58,644 (6.6% of the workforce), a decrease of 0.9% (518) over the previous month. There was an increase of 6.4% (3,524) over the year and the rate increased by 0.4 percentage points. Five years ago the total was 27,693 (3.2%). (The seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 400 from the previous month's revised figure.)

## Youth Claimants

17,425 under 25's (29.7% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in May 2011, a decrease of 2.8% (503 claimants) over the month, but an increase of 2.4% (416) over the year. Youth claimants represent 2.0% of the workforce.

## Long-term Claimants

At May 2011, 14,309 (24.4% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more, a decrease of 0.5% (65 claimants) over the month, but an increase of 6.8% (914) 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 May 2011 decreased by 4.2 percentage points since the same time last year. Of the 7,555 flows from the count in May 2011, 2,465 (32.6%) found employment compared to 3,520 (36.8%) of the 9,560 claimants who left the count in May 2010. This compares to 33.6% three months ago and 37.3% six months ago.

In the period from May 2010 to May 2011 the highest proportion (41.3%) of persons leaving JSA to find employment was in December 2010, while in August 2010 the proportion finding employment was at its lowest (31.8%). The highest proportion (16.5%) of persons leaving JSA to enter education or training occurred in October 2010. Those who left JSA to claim other benefits varied between 2.8% and 4.4% in the period. Those who left JSA because they failed to sign peaked at 36.0% in January 2011.

## Flows on to Job Seekers Allowance

Of the 7,170 claimants who joined the count in May 2011, 36.2% were under 25, 28.5% were aged between 25-34 years, 17.0% were aged between 35-44 years, 12.8% were aged between 45-54 years and 5.5% were 55 and over. In May 2011 5,040 men joined the count (70.3%) and 2,125 females joined the count (29.7%).

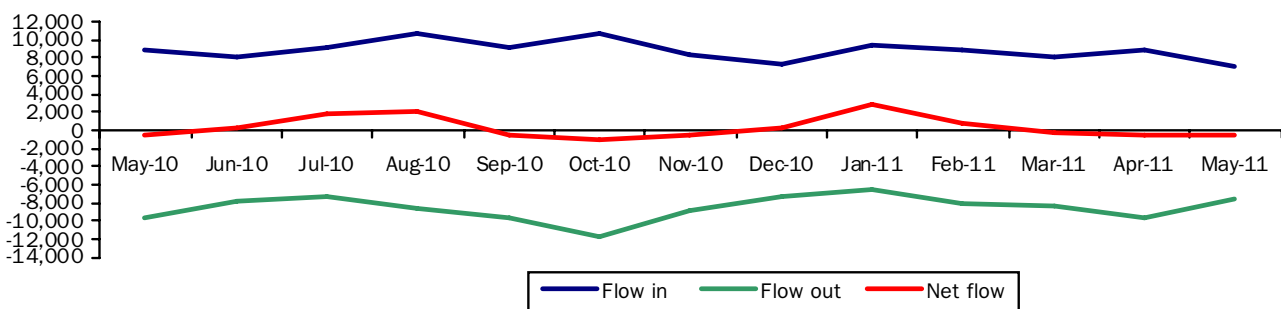
## Net Flow

There was a net flow of persons out from Job Seekers for 7 months and a net flow onto Job Seekers for 6 months between May 2010 and May 2011. Net flows off Jobseekers peaked in October 2010 with a net off-flow of 895 persons, while net flows onto Jobseekers peaked in January 2011 with a net on-flow of 2,915.

Further information on flows data is available in section 9.

## Flows in and out from JSA

Figure 9



**Claimant Count by District Council Area – May 2011**  
**Number, Rate and % change over month and year (including jobs density indicator at 2009\*)**  
**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	357	1,279	5.3	2.1	3.7	-35	-2.7	7	0.6	0.89
Ards	1,488	519	2,007	6.0	2.0	4.0	15	0.8	287	16.7	0.41
Armagh	1,367	513	1,880	7.4	2.8	5.1	-28	-1.5	183	10.8	0.66
Ballymena	1,098	439	1,537	5.5	2.2	3.8	-24	-1.5	20	1.3	0.89
Ballymoney	727	240	967	7.4	2.5	5.0	-40	-4.0	65	7.2	0.46
Banbridge	859	262	1,121	5.5	1.7	3.6	-16	-1.4	106	10.4	0.46
Belfast	9,028	3,129	12,157	10.5	3.5	6.9	-51	-0.4	949	8.5	1.29
Carrickfergus	735	313	1,048	5.7	2.4	4.0	-25	-2.3	-19	-1.8	0.38
Castlereagh	971	372	1,343	4.7	1.7	3.2	-7	-0.5	87	6.9	0.73
Coleraine	1,284	470	1,754	7.3	2.6	4.9	-38	-2.1	59	3.5	0.71
Cookstown	715	317	1,032	6.0	2.7	4.4	-9	-0.9	28	2.8	0.62
Craigavon	2,185	812	2,997	7.3	2.7	5.0	-7	-0.2	190	6.8	0.72
Derry	3,833	1,539	5,372	10.9	4.2	7.5	-38	-0.7	391	7.8	0.69
Down	1,635	532	2,167	7.1	2.4	4.8	-36	-1.6	117	5.7	0.51
Dungannon	1,199	531	1,730	6.3	3.0	4.7	-47	-2.6	69	4.2	0.69
Fermanagh	1,346	484	1,830	6.6	2.5	4.6	21	1.2	166	10.0	0.68
Larne	579	192	771	5.7	1.9	3.8	-6	-0.8	-15	-1.9	0.51
Limavady	1,105	409	1,514	9.8	3.8	6.8	-14	-0.9	40	2.7	0.45
Lisburn	2,280	907	3,187	6.3	2.4	4.3	37	1.2	225	7.6	0.64
Magherafelt	810	316	1,126	5.5	2.3	3.9	-10	-0.9	-39	-3.3	0.60
Moyle	443	166	609	8.2	3.1	5.7	-30	-4.7	39	6.8	0.44
Newry & Mourne	2,969	989	3,958	9.4	3.1	6.3	-50	-1.2	256	6.9	0.62
Newtownabbey	1,554	591	2,145	6.0	2.2	4.0	-31	-1.4	119	5.9	0.65
North Down	1,237	511	1,748	4.9	2.0	3.4	-25	-1.4	82	4.9	0.52
Omagh	1,167	442	1,609	6.8	2.6	4.7	-7	-0.4	21	1.3	0.67
Strabane	1,259	497	1,756	9.8	4.0	6.9	-17	-1.0	91	5.5	0.48
<b>NI TOTAL</b>	<b>42,795</b>	<b>15,849</b>	<b>58,644</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>-518</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>3,524</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>0.73</b>

\* Data relates to 2009. 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 May 2011, 31.6% (18,395) 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 16.6% (9,670) gave their usual occupation as working in the Skilled Trades. These two groups account for approximately one half of all claimants in May 2011. The smallest occupation group, with 1.9% (1,105) of all claimants, was Managers and Senior Officials.

Overall the NI claimant count (computerised claims only) decreased by 0.8% over the month to May 2011. Six of the nine occupational groups showed a decrease in levels with the largest decreases occurring in Skilled Trade Occupations, which decreased by 220 (2.2%) and Process, Plant and Machine Operatives, which decreased by 110 (1.3%). The groups showing the largest increase in levels were Professional Occupations, which increased by 15 (1.1%) and Personal Service Occupations, which also increased by 15 (0.4%).

## Claimant Count (unadjusted) by Usual Occupation – May 2011 (Computerised claims only)

Table 6

Occupational Groups (Usual Occupation)	May 2011		Change over month	
	Number of Claimants	% of Claimants	Number of claimants	% change
Managers and Senior Officials	1,105	1.9	-35	-3.1
Professional Occupations	1,335	2.3	15	1.1
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,500	4.3	10	0.4
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	4,785	8.2	-20	-0.4
Skilled Trade Occupations	9,670	16.6	-220	-2.2
Personal Service Occupations	3,425	5.9	15	0.4
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	8,830	15.2	-65	-0.7
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	8,165	14.0	-110	-1.3
Elementary Occupations	18,395	31.6	-70	-0.4
Not Known	55	0.1	-5	-8.3
<b>NI Total</b>	<b>58,260</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-490</b>	<b>-0.8</b>

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

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

# Redundancies

## 4

There were 1,844 confirmed redundancies over the year to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011, a decrease of 41% compared to the same period in the previous year (3,143). Of these, 163 confirmed redundancies took place during the calendar month of May 2011 and 126 in the previous month of April 2011. This compares to 91 in May 2010 (one year ago).

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

The largest number of redundancies occurred in Belfast (652), Derry (177) and Castlereagh (134) District Council areas.

### Confirmed redundancies by District Council in year to 31 May 2011

Table 8

District Council Area	Total
Antrim	38
Ards	36
Armagh	6
Ballymena	44
Ballymoney	63
Banbridge	3
Belfast	652
Carrickfergus	38
Castlereagh	134
Coleraine	60
Cookstown	33
Craigavon	67
Derry	177
Down	0
Dungannon	7
Fermanagh	10
Larne	37
Limavady	0
Lisburn	76
Magherafelt	58
Moyle	0
Newry & Mourne	90
Newtownabbey	83
North Down	81
Omagh	0
Strabane	51
N. Ireland	1,844

Of these 1,844 confirmed redundancies, 499 or 27% were in the Manufacturing sector, with 174 redundancies (9% of all redundancies) occurring in the Manufacture of food products. A further 292 redundancies (16% of all redundancies) occurred in the Construction sector.

Altogether there are 1,077 outstanding redundancies that have been notified to the Department, but have yet to take place. This compares with 975 this time one year ago – an increase of 10%.

### Redundancies – Sample of Data Available on Website

Table 9

Regional Redundancy data	File size
<a href="#">District Council (Jan 2000 - date)</a>	33.0KB
<a href="#">Parliamentary Constituency (Jan 2000 - date)</a>	29.0KB
<a href="#">Travel-to-Work Area (Jan 2000 - date)</a>	29.0KB

Industrial Sector	File size
<a href="#">Standard Industrial Classification (Jan 2000 - date)</a>	70.0KB

### Redundancy Legal Requirements

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

# Quarterly Employment Survey

# 5

**Important Notice : Due to revisions in the QES sampling methodology, a discontinuity in the jobs series exists for all estimates from Q3 2009 onwards. For more details please follow link : <http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/stats-surveys/stats-qes-discontinuity -notice.htm>**

## Seasonally Adjusted

The March 2011 seasonally adjusted employee jobs figure stands at 703,860.

This represents a seasonally adjusted increase of 0.1% (or 590 jobs) from the revised December 2010 estimate of 703,280.

Over the quarter seasonally adjusted employee jobs increased in the Service Sector by 0.2% (870 jobs). The Manufacturing sector decreased over the quarter by 0.2% (160 jobs), while the Construction sector also decreased by 0.2% (60 jobs). Other Industries decreased over the quarter by 0.3% (60 jobs).

## Unadjusted

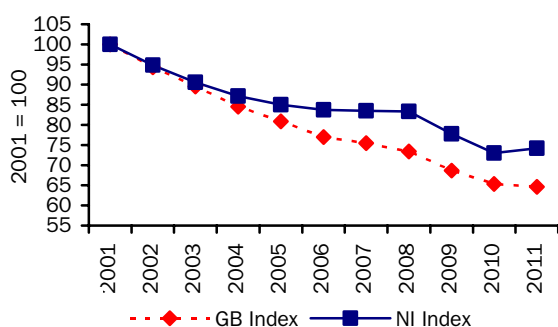
The March 2011 seasonally unadjusted figure stands at 702,870.

This represents a decrease of 0.8% (or 5,520 jobs) from December 2010 and a decrease of 1.0% (6,880 jobs) in the past year.

Over the year, March 2010 to March 2011, the unadjusted employee jobs figure for Construction decreased by 9.5% (3,500 jobs), Service Sector employee jobs decreased by 0.7% (4,210 jobs) and Manufacturing employee jobs increased by 1.6% (1,200 jobs).

## Manufacturing jobs for NI & GB indexed (March of each year\*)

Figure 11



\*GB figures for 2011 refer to December 2010

## Manufacturing Employee Jobs

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

NI manufacturing jobs recorded a marked decline between 2001 and 2006, with the figure for 2006 falling to 84% of the 2001 figure. Manufacturing employee jobs in NI were fairly stable between 2006 and 2008, with the 2008 figure at 83% of the 2001 level. However manufacturing jobs have fallen again between 2008 and 2010 reaching 73% of their 2001 level. Manufacturing jobs in 2011 have increased slightly and now stand at 74% of the 2001 level.

Manufacturing jobs in GB have been in sharp decline from 2001 and the 2011 estimate stands at 65% of the 2001 level.

## Changes in the Structure of Manufacturing Jobs (NI)

Over the period 2001-2011, Manufacturing jobs in NI decreased by 25,810, with 18 of the 23 manufacturing divisions recording a decrease. The largest decrease occurred in the Manufacture of wearing apparel, which recorded 6,770 fewer jobs. There were 6,080 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products, 4,740 fewer in the Manufacture of textiles, 1,810 fewer in the Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers and 1,720 fewer in the Manufacture of other transport equipment.

However, these decreases were partially offset by increases in the Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment (1,080), in the Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations (650) and also in the Repair and installation of machinery and equipment (350).

The large decline in the Manufacture of Textiles and Wearing Apparel sectors has impacted on the structure of Northern Ireland Manufacturing jobs. In 2001 14.6% of Manufacturing jobs were located in the Textiles and Wearing Apparel sectors; by 2011 this had fallen to 3.7%.

**Quarterly Employment Survey**  
**Northern Ireland Seasonally Adjusted Employee Jobs\* March 2011**

**Table 10**

	Males	Females	All persons	% change in total	
				since last quarter	since last year
Manufacturing	58,340	16,070	74,410	-0.2	1.6
Construction <sup>1</sup>	29,260	4,270	33,530	-0.2	-9.5
Services	231,240	345,240	576,480	0.2	-0.7
Other <sup>2</sup>	16,700	2,730	19,430	-0.3	-1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>335,530</b>	<b>368,320</b>	<b>703,850</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-1.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Figures for the construction industry are not seasonally adjusted

<sup>2</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>	Services	Other Industries <sup>2</sup>	All Industries	Public <sup>3</sup>	Private <sup>3</sup>
2005	March	85,260	37,770	551,230	22,430	696,690	218,630	477,920
	June	84,170	38,750	551,860	21,130	695,910	219,690	476,170
	September	84,220	39,310	553,730	21,310	698,570	221,050	478,010
	December	83,760	41,150	557,370	21,390	703,660	220,950	482,350
2006	March	84,020	41,790	559,330	21,390	706,530	220,590	485,770
	June	83,630	42,300	560,100	20,830	706,860	220,650	486,330
	September	83,900	42,690	562,630	20,910	710,130	221,170	489,440
	December	83,990	43,140	564,600	20,990	712,720	220,340	491,880
2007	March	83,770	43,460	567,140	21,050	715,420	220,230	495,040
	June	84,150	44,710	571,090	20,890	720,850	220,720	500,350
	September	83,970	45,320	575,150	21,070	725,520	219,540	506,500
	December	83,480	46,820	578,830	20,170	729,300	219,630	508,940
2008	March	83,600	45,860	582,910	20,150	732,510	219,860	512,600
	June	83,470	44,860	584,480	20,370	733,170	218,430	515,040
	September	82,260	43,500	581,390	20,440	727,580	216,290	511,820
	December	80,140	41,670	579,440	20,040	721,280	223,910	496,670
2009	March	78,040	39,420	577,670	19,960	715,090	224,450	490,550
	June	75,430	38,210	577,040	19,910	710,590	225,040	485,750
	September	74,040	36,780	577,720	19,800	708,340	225,610	483,320

**DISCONTINUITY IN SERIES – PLEASE SEE NOTE AT BEGINNING OF SECTION 5**

	December <sup>^</sup>	73,560	37,210	581,540	19,810	712,130	226,560	484,890
2010	March	73,210	37,040	580,650	19,800	710,690	225,560	485,010
	June	73,100	36,260	580,540	19,540	709,440	224,840	484,770
	September	73,510	35,820	579,350	19,520	708,210	223,880	484,990
	December	74,580	33,590	575,610	19,490	703,280	223,480	479,130
2011	March	74,410	33,530	576,480	19,430	703,860	222,940	480,730

<sup>1</sup> Figures for the construction industry are not seasonally adjusted

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

<sup>3</sup> Public and Private splits may not sum to total.

<sup>^</sup> Please note that there are a number of factors influencing the figure for December 2009: a) Discontinuity in series; b) Re-Allocation of sample; c) A real effect; d) For the Seasonally adjusted figure, each of the previous factors will have an impact on the Seasonal Adjustment software. For more information on any of these, please refer to Section 8.

\* 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	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted March 2011</a>	15.5 KB
5.2	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted 1998 – 2011</a>	15.5 KB
5.3	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs - Unadjusted 1998 – 2011</a>	15.5 KB
5.4	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs (Unadjusted) by Industry Section – March 2011</a>	15.5 KB
5.5	<a href="#">NI Public Sector Jobs (Unadjusted) – March 2011</a>	13.5 KB
5.6	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs by Industry Section (Unadjusted) March 2010, December 2010 and March 2011</a>	15.5 KB
5.7	<a href="#">Self Employment Jobs in NI by Broad Industry Group (June of Each Year)</a>	15.0 KB
5.8	<a href="#">Workforce in Employment 1983 – 2010</a>	15.0 KB
5.9	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs by 2-digit SIC07 Class – March 2011</a>	31.5 KB

**Other Quarterly Employment Survey Publications available on website  
Table 13**

Publication title	File Size
<a href="#">Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) Supplement – March 2011</a>	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 NISRA statisticians. 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.

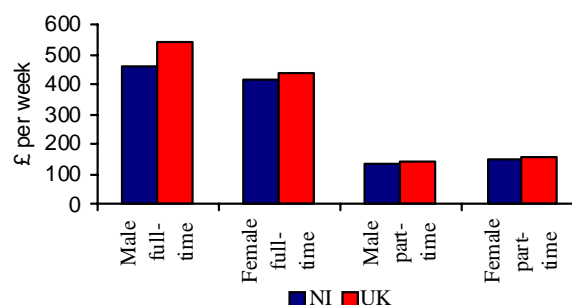
There has been a narrowing of the gender pay gap for all employees in NI over the period 2009-2010. Female median hourly earnings excluding overtime were 89.9% of male earnings at April 2010, compared to 87.6% a year earlier. The NI gender pay gap remains less marked than in the UK, where the equivalent 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 in section 12 of the ASHE publication: [Background notes for ASHE](#)

### 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)

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	<a href="#">ASHE 2002 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	78 KB
6.2	<a href="#">ASHE 2003 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	163 KB
6.3	<a href="#">ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding supplementary information</a>	51 KB
6.4	<a href="#">ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB
6.5	<a href="#">ASHE 2005 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB
6.6	<a href="#">ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding methodological changes</a>	168 KB
6.7	<a href="#">ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	176 KB
6.8	<a href="#">ASHE 2007 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	165 KB
6.9	<a href="#">ASHE 2008 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	165 KB
6.10	<a href="#">ASHE 2009 Headline Data for Key Variables - revised</a>	52 KB
6.11	<a href="#">ASHE 2010 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB

# Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training

## 7

**Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training Measures**  
**Participation in the Department for Employment and Learning Schemes to April 2011**  
**Table 18**

	Steps to Work (2)	New Deal (2, 3)	Future Managers	Employment Support	Training for Success (4, 5)	Jobskills (4, 5)
<u>2009</u>						
Apr	5,600	1,000	150	750	12,200	2,950
<u>2010</u>	-					
Apr	9,000	950	200	700	15,550	800
May	9,100	1,200	250	700	15,400	700
June	9,300	1,200	200	700	15,250	600
July	9,500	1,250	250	700	15,200	550
Aug	10,300	1,300	200	700	14,350	300
Sept	11,400	1,300	200	700	17,800	250
Oct	11,600	1,300	200	700	18,200	200
Nov	12,150	1,300	250	700	18,400	150
Dec	12,350	1,300	200	700	18,400	150
<u>2011</u>						
Jan	13,050	1,250	200	700	18,100	150
Feb	13,800	1,400	200	700	17,950	100
Mar	15,300	1,450	200	700	18,400	100
Apr	-	1,400	200	650	18,750	50

**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. Steps to Work figures are only available until March 2011. Figures for April 2011 will be published in July 2011.

(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 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009, and the figures for this programme are now included under the TfS heading.

(5) April 2011 Jobskills and TfS figures are as at the 10th April 2011.

## 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.

### Standardised Vacancies notified (Inflow)

There were 4,089 vacancies notified in the period ending 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011. This was 11% lower than the number of vacancies notified in April 2010 (4,574) and a decrease of 5% on the number of vacancies notified in April 2009 (4,326).

### Standardised Vacancies filled and cancelled (Outflows)

The number of placed and cancelled vacancies in the period ending 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011 was 3,754. This was a decrease of 21% from April 2010 (4,780) and a decrease of 20% from the same period two years previously (4,701).

### Unfilled Vacancies

A total of 5,431 vacancies remained unfilled on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011, a decrease of 13% on the unfilled total in April 2010 (6,224) and a decrease of 16% on the amount unfilled in April 2009 (6,502). Of the 5,431 unfilled vacancies, 1,866 were available to jobseekers.

## Vacancies Notified, Outflow and Vacancies Unfilled: April 2009 to April 2011<sup>(1)</sup>

Table 19

Report Period Ending		Vacancies notified (Inflows) (2)			Vacancies Filled and Cancelled (Outflows) (3)			Unfilled Vacancies (4)		
		Level Unadjusted (5)	Level (standardised) (6)	Change on same month in previous year (7)	Level unadjusted (5)	Level (standardised) (6)	Change on same month in previous year (7)	Level Unadjusted	Change on same month in previous year	Of which Live
2009	03-Apr	3,993	4,326	-36%	4,339	4,701	-45%	6,502	-43%	-
2010	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%	5,520	4,784	-21%	6,779	-12%	2,079
	05-Nov	4,221	4,573	-11%	4,619	5,004	-13%	6,381	-9%	1,988
	03-Dec	3,257	3,528	-21%	4,557	4,937	-5%	5,081	-20%	1,506
2011	07-Jan	2,320	2,011	-30%	4,123	3,573	-22%	3,278	-24%	1,190
	04-Feb	3,502	3,794	-17%	2,536	2,747	-9%	4,244	-26%	1,712
	04-Mar	3,503	3,795	-23%	2,702	2,927	-30%	5,045	-21%	1,807
	08-Apr	4,718	4,089	-11%	4,332	3,754	-21%	5,431	-13%	1,866

Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.

(1) From August 2010 publication onwards, vacancy statistics are subject to revision each month to take account of amendments to the live system.

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

(3) 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.

(4) 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 pending. Live vacancies are those for which job seekers can apply. Vacancies are pending while DEL staff await feedback from employers. Live vacancies are only available from May 2010.

(5) 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.

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

(7) Percentage change calculated using non-rounded standardised figures.

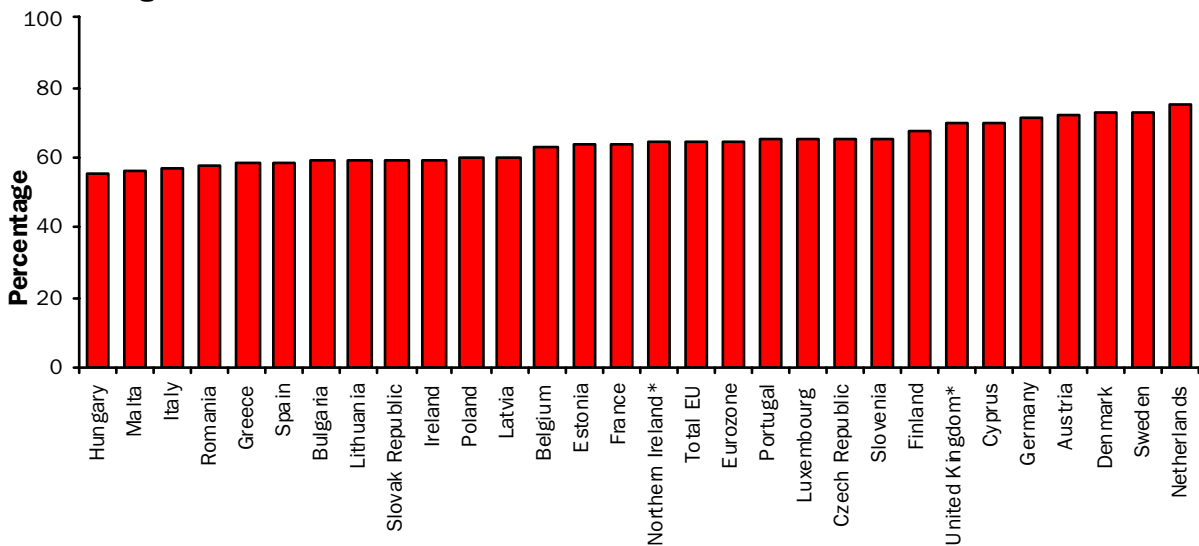
For further details of Vacancy Statistics and Employment and Training Measures visit the DEL website at the following link: <http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/statistics-and-research/labour-market.htm> or alternatively contact the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) by telephoning (028) 9025 7714.

# International - Regional Analysis

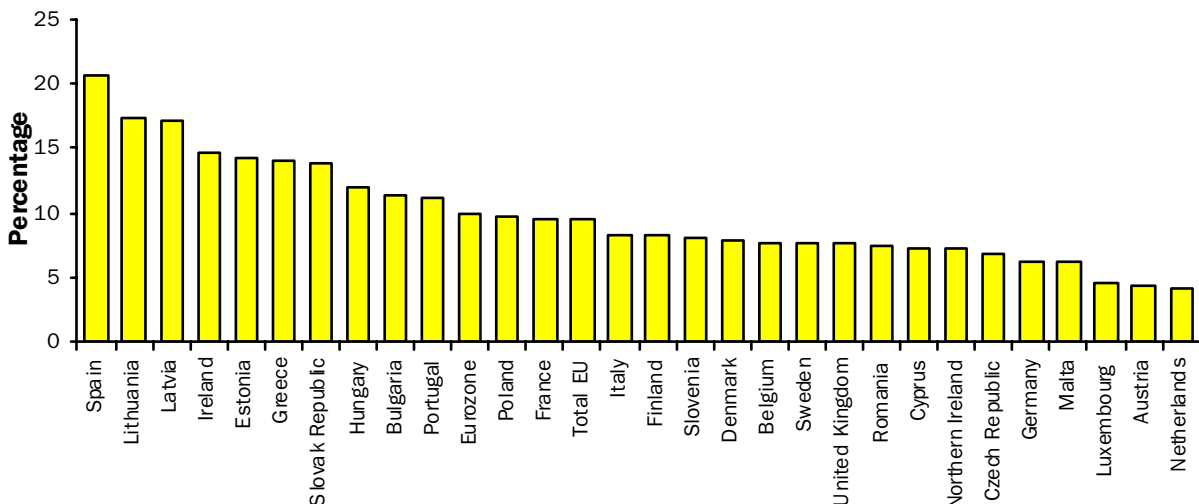


## International Comparisons of ILO Employment and Unemployment

**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 4 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, February - April 2011

Table 20

	Labour Force Survey (LFS) <sup>1</sup>						Employee Jobs <sup>3</sup>	Claimant count rate (%) <sup>4</sup>	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the year	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the month	Jobs Density Indicator <sup>5</sup>
	Employment		Unemployment		Economically Inactive						
	Rate	Annual Change <sup>2</sup>	Rate	Annual Change <sup>2</sup>	Rate	Annual Change <sup>2</sup>					
North East	65.9	-1.2	9.5	-0.2	27.1	1.4	1,028	6.7	4.1	0.9	0.69
North West	68.6	0.1	8.1	-0.5	25.2	0.3	2,929	5.3	1.2	1.7	0.76
Yorkshire & the Humber	68.0	-1.0	9.0	-0.6	25.2	1.7	2,179	5.6	-0.7	1.5	0.75
East Midlands	71.8	1.0	7.6	0.2	22.1	-1.4	1,879	4.5	-1.8	1.3	0.75
West Midlands	68.1	-0.8	8.8	-0.1	25.1	0.9	2,256	6.0	-1.6	1.8	0.77
East	75.2	2.0	6.3	-0.3	19.6	-2.0	2,388	3.7	-2.3	1.3	0.77
London	68.7	0.7	9.0	0.0	24.4	-0.8	4,138	4.6	3.2	0.8	0.90
South East	75.0	0.0	5.7	-0.6	20.4	0.5	3,672	3.0	-4.5	1.8	0.82
South West	73.5	0.3	6.5	0.4	21.2	-0.8	2,161	3.0	-1.7	0.9	0.82
England	70.9	0.2	7.7	-0.2	23.1	-0.1	22,630	4.5	-0.3	1.4	0.79
Wales	68.6	1.5	7.9	-0.8	25.3	-1.0	1,135	5.1	-0.7	2.4	0.71
Scotland	70.9	1.1	7.7	-0.5	23.1	-0.8	2,280	5.2	3.6	0.9	0.80
Great Britain	70.8	0.4	7.7	-0.3	23.2	-0.2	26,045	4.6	0.1	1.4	0.79
N Ireland	67.1	1.1	7.2	0.1	27.7	-1.2	703	6.7	7.0	0.7	0.76
United Kingdom	70.6	0.4	7.7	-0.3	23.3	-0.2	26,748	4.6	0.3	1.3	0.79

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

<sup>2</sup> Data refer to percentage point change of respective rate.

<sup>3</sup> As at December 2010 (thousands).

<sup>4</sup> As at May 2011: percentage of the workforce.

<sup>5</sup> 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 February - April 2011 showed that none of the annual changes in these estimates 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

LFS data from the period June to August 2001 onwards have recently been revised to incorporate the latest population estimates. The magnitude of the revisions are relatively small, with the revisions to the unemployment rate falling within +/- 0.1 percentage points and the working age employment rate within +/- 0.2 percentage points. The procedures being applied to the NI LFS results are consistent with those applied by the Office for National Statistics to other UK regions

More 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:

[Change in female state pension age](#)

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:

[Comparison of working age rates.](#)

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 contained in section three is sourced to the Office of National Statistics (via the NOMIS website). Claimants appear as flows if they have either joined or left the count in the reference period or if they joined the count in a previous period, but were only processed during the reference period.

### **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:

[ASHE statistical bulletin](#)

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

### **Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) Revisions**

QES estimates are revised quarterly to reflect the latest information provided to the Department by employers. Estimates can be revised back to the last Census of Employment reference period (September 2009). The December 2010 estimate first published in March 2011 has subsequently been revised up by (1.5%). For further details of QES revisions please see link below.

At the latest review, Construction and Other industries showed no seasonality.

[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 [Programme for Government](#) 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:

[Programme for Government Delivery Report](#)

### **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](http://www.statistics.detini.gov.uk)

You can also contact Economic & Labour Market Statistics Branch by: -

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