



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

**Statistics Bulletin**

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# Monthly Labour Market Report

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**May 2010**

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Department of Enterprise,  
Trade and Investment

# **Monthly Labour Market Report**

May 2010

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# Labour Market

# 1

Seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey (LFS) data for Northern Ireland for the period January - March 2010 estimated an increase over the quarter in the number of employed and unemployed persons, while there was a fall in the number of economically inactive. The seasonally adjusted claimant count in April 2010 decreased by 200 over the month to 55,400 and the Department was notified of 206 proposed redundancies in the latest reference period and 307 confirmed redundancies in April 2010.

## Employment

The number of persons in employment in the period January - March 2010 was estimated at 774,000. This represented increases of 9,000 over the quarter and 19,000 over the year. The working age employment rate was estimated at 67.9%, up 0.6 percentage points over the quarter and 1.1 percentage points over the year. However, NI's working age employment rate remained well below the UK average (72.0%) and was the lowest of the twelve UK regions.

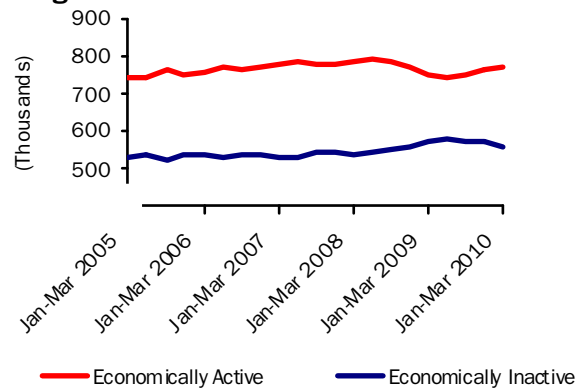
## Unemployment

The unemployment rate for the period January - March 2010 was estimated at 6.7%, up 0.7 percentage points over the quarter and 0.5 percentage points over the year. The number of unemployed persons was estimated at 55,000, up 6,000 over both the quarter and the year. The male unemployment rate (9.0%) was over double the female rate (3.8%) in January - March 2010.

Unadjusted figures show that 37.9% of the unemployed have been unemployed for 1 year or more – up 8.1 percentage points over the year.

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

Figure 1



They also estimate the unemployment rate for 18-24 year olds at 16.1% – up 1.3 percentage points over the year.

## Economically Inactive

The seasonally adjusted number of economically inactive persons in the period January - March 2010 was estimated at 561,000. This figure has decreased by 12,000 over both the quarter and the year.

The working age economic inactivity rate for NI stands at 27.1%. This is significantly higher than the UK average rate (21.5%) and is the highest of the twelve UK regions.

Unadjusted figures show that while 92% of the inactive do not want work, the remaining 8% want employment but do not satisfy the full ILO job search criteria (by actively seeking work and being available to start a job). The number of economically inactive persons who want a job but are not seeking or available for work stood at 45,000 in the latest period.

## Northern Ireland Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

Table 1

	Period	Estimate	Sampling Variability of estimate	Change over year	Sampling Variability of change
Employment	Jan-Mar 2010	774,000	+/-23,000	19,000	+/-29,000
Unemployment	Jan-Mar 2010	55,000	+/-10,000	6,000	+/-13,000
Economically inactive	Jan-Mar 2010	561,000	+/-20,000	-12,000	+/-26,000
Unemployment rate	Jan-Mar 2010	6.7%	+/-1.3pps	0.5pps	+/-1.7pps
Employment rate <sup>1</sup>	Jan-Mar 2010	67.9%	+/-1.8pps	1.1pps	+/-2.3pps
Economic inactivity rate <sup>1</sup>	Jan-Mar 2010	27.1%	+/-1.7pps	-1.6pps	+/-2.2pps
Claimant Count	April 2010	55,400		9,000	

Note: pps = percentage points, <sup>1</sup> Rates based on working age population (16-59/64), 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. None of the annual changes for the main economic categories (in employment, unemployment and economic inactivity) were sufficiently large to be considered statistically significant (see table 1 and Section 9 for further details).

### Unemployment Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in NI (6.7%) remained below the UK average rate (8.0%) and was the fourth lowest rate among the twelve UK regions. The NI rate also compared favourably to the European Union rate (9.6%) and the Republic of Ireland rate (13.2%) for February 2010. The annual increase in the NI unemployment rate (+0.5 percentage points) was lower than the increase in the UK rate (+0.9 percentage points).

### Claimant Count

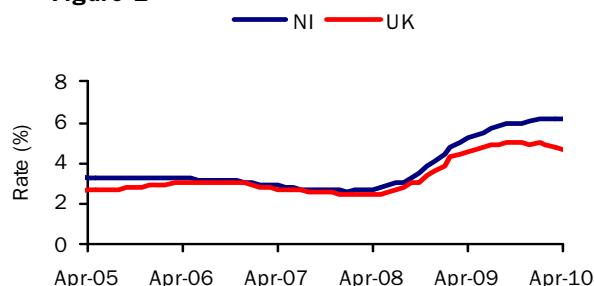
The more recent seasonally adjusted claimant count decreased by 200 over the month to April 2010 to 55,400 (6.2% of the workforce). This decrease represented the first monthly fall in unemployment benefit claimants for 27 months. However, over the year the claimant count increased by 9,000 (19.4%) and the workforce unemployment rate increased by 1.0 percentage points.

### Claimant Count Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted claimant count rate in NI (6.2%) was higher than the UK average rate (4.7%) and was the second highest rate among the twelve UK regions. Over the month to April 2010 the NI Claimant Count level decreased by 0.4% (200 claimants), while the UK average decreased by 1.8% (Figure 2). NI showed the smallest percentage decrease of all the UK regions. Over the year the NI Claimant Count level increased by 19.4%, which was higher than the UK average (0.8%) and was the highest annual 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 April 2010 were in Derry (7.2%), Limavady (7.0%) and Strabane (6.8%). Those that showed the highest percentage increase in levels over the year to April 2010 were Castlereagh (32.5%), Newry & Mourne (31.6%) and North Down (28.8%). For further District Council data please see section 3 of the Labour Market Report.

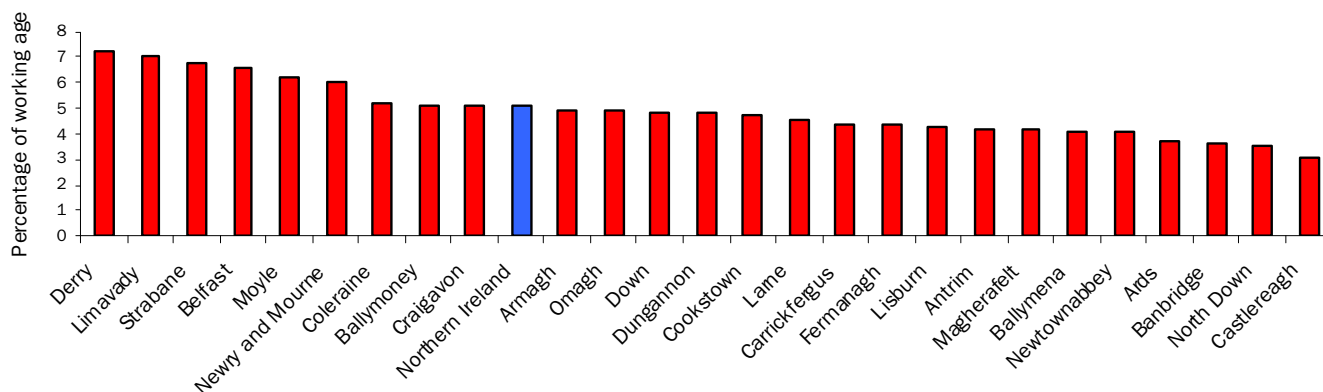
### Employment and Training Measures

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 82.6% (4,888 persons) to 10,804 over the year to April 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. New Deal statistics are currently accessible via the DEL web link below - Steps to Work statistics will be published when data is available.

[www.delni.gov.uk/index/statistics-and-research/labour-market/new-deal-statistics.htm](http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/statistics-and-research/labour-market/new-deal-statistics.htm)

### Unadjusted Claimant Count Rates By District Council Area

Figure 3



## Redundancies

The Department was notified of 206 proposed redundancies over the period mid April 2010 to mid May 2010. This compares to 310 proposed redundancies notified to the Department in the previous monthly period.

There were 307 confirmed redundancies in the month of April (Figure 5). Over the latest twelve monthly period there were a total of 3,444 confirmed redundancies, a decrease of 19% from the previous year (4,269). The highest number of confirmed redundancies took place in Belfast District Council area which had 31.6% (1,090) of all redundancies over the year.

Over the latest twelve monthly period there were a total of 3,896 proposed redundancies, a decrease of 26% from the previous year (5,274). Currently there are 1,069 outstanding redundancies (that is, proposed but not confirmed), which is 50% lower than this time last year (2,152).

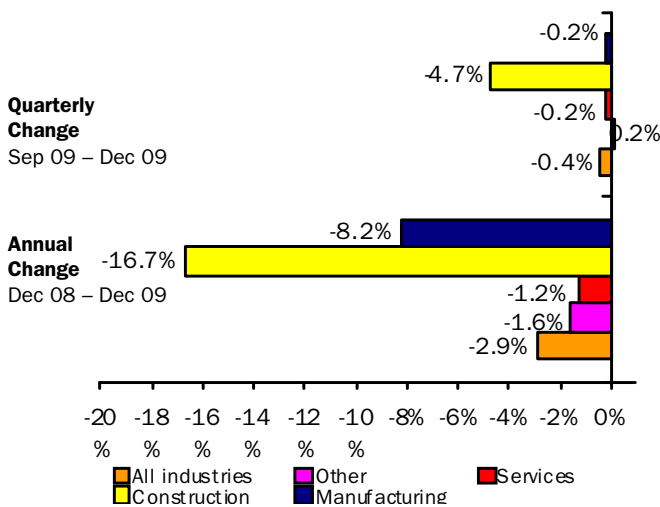
Note that since all proposed redundancies do not actually take place, the confirmed total provides a better indication of real job losses

## 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 December 2009 was 699,310. This represents a decrease of 2,890 over the quarter and a decrease of 20,840 over the year.

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

Figure 4

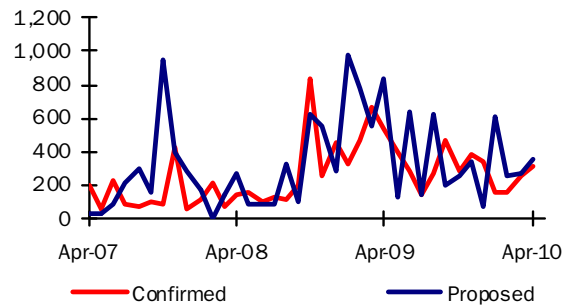


The seasonally adjusted quarterly change consisted of decreases in Manufacturing (-120), in the Service sector (-1,110) and in Construction (-1,700). Other industries increased over the quarter (+40).

## Confirmed and Proposed Redundancies

April 07 - April 10

Figure 5

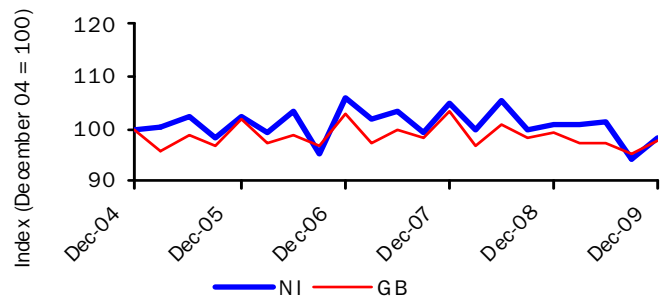


## Hours Worked

The total workforce hours worked per week in Northern Ireland in December 2009 was estimated at 25.5 million hours, representing a decrease of 2.7% over the year (compared with a decrease of 1.9% in GB). Between December 2004 and December 2009, NI's total workforce hours worked per week decreased by 1.9%, compared to a 2.4% fall in GB (Figure 6). In the three months to February 2010, the average actual weekly hours worked in NI was 32.3 hours, which was higher than the UK average (30.8).

## 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)

Earning results for April 2009, which were released on 12th November 2009, show that yearly growth in median gross weekly earnings for all employees (i.e. both full- and part-time) in NI was 3.4% (to £356.7) compared to 2.2% in the UK (to £397.3). NI full-time employees' gross weekly earnings in April 2009 were £439.1, which was approximately 90% of the figure in the UK (£488.7). NI full-time earnings increased by 5.1% over the period, compared with an increase of 2.0% in the UK.

Full-time private sector median gross weekly earnings in NI increased at a marginally faster rate (1.6% to £383.0) than in the UK, where growth was 1.0% over the year (to £464.7). This represented little change in the NI/UK private sector pay gap, from 82.0% of the UK figure at April 2008 to 82.4% at April 2009.

# 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).

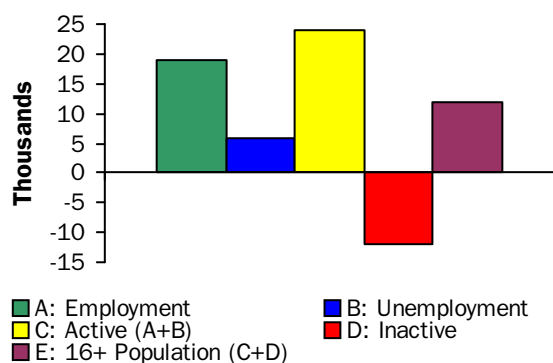
### Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

The latest seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey estimates for January - March 2010 (see Table 2) record the unemployment rate at 6.7% (55,000 persons), up 0.7 percentage points from the previous quarter. Employment was estimated to have increased by 9,000 (1.1%) over the quarter to 774,000.

### Labour Market change over the year

In the year to January -March 2010 (see Figure 7), LFS figures show increases of 19,000 in total employment and 6,000 in unemployment, leading to a rise of 24,000 in the economically active population (figures may not sum due to rounding). The number economically inactive fell by 12,000 over the year.

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



### Employment

Latest seasonally adjusted estimates show that there were 774,000 persons in employment, which represents a rise of 2.5 % (19,000 persons) over the year. Of the total, 54% (415,000) were male and 46% (359,000) were female.

There was a rise of 2.1% (+9,000) in the estimate for male employment and of 2.8% (+10,000) in female employment over the year.

### Economic Inactivity

The number of economically inactive persons in the period January - March 2010 was estimated at 561,000. 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 that are of most interest to labour market analysts. At January - March 2010 there were an estimated 297,000 economically inactive people of working age in NI. Of the total, 42% (125,000) were male and 58% (173,000) were female.

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

Unadjusted figures show that 86% of the economically inactive of working age do not want a job, while the remaining 14% want work, but are not actively seeking or available to start work.

**Economically Inactive of Working Age  
Reason for not wanting work  
Figure 8**

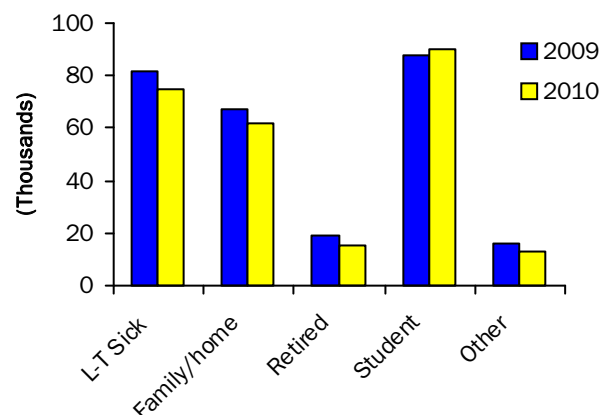


Figure 8 shows the reason given by these people for not wanting work. The largest categories were students (90,000), the long-term sick (75,000), and those looking after family/home (62,000). Among these categories, the largest change over the year occurred in those who were long term sick or disabled (-7,000 or 8.8%).

**Labour Market Structure – Seasonally adjusted**  
**Table 2**

(Thousands/Percentage)

	Total aged 16 and over	Total persons of working age 16-59/64	All aged 16+				All working age 16-59/64		
			Total economically active	Total in employment	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Unemployment rate (%)	Activity rate 16-59/64 (%)	Employment rate (%) 16-59/64
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
<b>ALL PERSONS</b>									
Jan-Mar 2007	1,349	1,075	816	783	33	532	4.0	73.7	70.7
Jan-Mar 2008	1,364	1,085	824	787	37	540	4.5	73.2	69.8
Jan-Mar 2009	1,377	1,092	805	755	50	572	6.2	71.3	66.8
Apr-Jun 2009	1,381	1,094	800	746	54	580	6.7	70.6	65.8
Jul-Sep 2009	1,384	1,096	809	752	57	574	7.1	71.4	66.3
Oct-Dec 2009	1,387	1,097	814	765	49	573	6.0	71.7	67.3
Jan-Mar 2010	1,390	1,099	829	774	55	561	6.7	72.9	67.9
<b>Change on Quarter</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>Change on Year</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>MALES</b>									
Jan-Mar 2007	653	554	446	426	20	207	4.4	78.7	75.2
Jan-Mar 2008	661	560	452	427	25	209	5.5	79.1	74.6
Jan-Mar 2009	668	564	440	406	34	228	7.7	76.1	70.1
Apr-Jun 2009	670	565	437	400	37	233	8.6	75.4	68.8
Jul-Sep 2009	671	566	442	401	42	229	9.4	76.2	68.8
Oct-Dec 2009	673	567	445	411	34	228	7.7	76.3	70.3
Jan-Mar 2010	675	568	456	415	41	219	9.0	78.0	70.8
<b>FEMALES</b>									
Jan-Mar 2007	696	521	370	357	13	326	3.5	68.4	66.0
Jan-Mar 2008	703	525	372	360	12	332	3.2	67.0	64.7
Jan-Mar 2009	709	528	365	349	16	344	4.3	66.2	63.3
Apr-Jun 2009	711	529	363	346	16	348	4.5	65.6	62.6
Jul-Sep 2009	712	530	367	351	15	345	4.2	66.3	63.5
Oct-Dec 2009	714	531	369	354	15	345	4.0	66.8	64.1
Jan-Mar 2010	715	531	374	359	14	341	3.8	67.5	64.8

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.** Figures from 2006 onwards have been revised to incorporate the latest population estimates.

Please see note on revisions policy in Section 9.

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	<a href="#">Labour Market Structure - Seasonally Adjusted</a>	22KB
2.1b	<a href="#">Labour Market Structure</a>	20KB
2.2	<a href="#">Economic Activity by Age</a>	19KB
2.3	<a href="#">Economic Activity Rates by Age</a>	19KB
2.4a	<a href="#">Economically Inactive Who Want Work</a>	20KB
2.4b	<a href="#">Economically Inactive Who Do Not Want Work</a>	18KB
2.5	<a href="#">Economic Inactivity by Age</a>	18KB
2.6	<a href="#">Employment by Category</a>	18KB
2.7	<a href="#">Actual Weekly Hours of Work</a>	17KB
2.8	<a href="#">Employment by Age</a>	18KB
2.9	<a href="#">Unemployment by Age</a>	17KB
2.10	<a href="#">Unemployment by Duration</a>	18KB
2.11	<a href="#">International Comparisons of Employment and Unemployment</a>	23KB
	<a href="#">Notes and Definitions</a>	16KB

## Other Labour Force Survey Publications available on website

Table 4

Publication title	File Size
<a href="#">LFS Labour Market Statistics (Jan 2010 – Mar 2010)</a>	98 KB
<a href="#">LFS Reweighted Back Series 2006-2009 (please enable macros)</a>	898 KB
<a href="#">LFS Quarterly Supplement – October - December 2009</a>	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. ***	**
<a href="#">LFS Reweighted Back Series 1992-2006 (please enable macros)</a>	638 KB
<a href="#">Labour Force Survey (LFS) Local Area Database 2008</a>	1364 KB
<a href="#">LFS Historical Supplement 2008</a>	418 KB
<a href="#">Women in Northern Ireland – September 2009</a>	203 KB
<a href="#">LFS Historical Data 1995-2008 (please enable macros)</a>	312 KB
<a href="#">LFS Historical Data 1984-1991</a>	76 KB
<a href="#">LFS Archive data</a>	**

# Claimant Count

# 3

## Unadjusted Claimant Count

The claimant count in NI at April 2010 was 55,850 (6.3% of the workforce), a decrease of 1.4% (808) over the previous month. There was an increase of 19.2% (8,993) over the year and the rate increased by 1.1 percentage points. Five years ago the total was 28,609 (3.3%). (The seasonally adjusted claimant count decreased by 200 over the month.)

## Youth Claimants

17,291 under 25's (31.0% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in April 2010, a decrease of 3.3% (592 claimants) over the month and an increase of 8.4% (1,338) over the year. Youth claimants represent 1.9% of the workforce.

## Long-term Claimants

At April 2010, 12,895 (23.1% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more, an increase of 5.3% (652 claimants) over the month and an increase of 129.9% (7,287) over the year. Long-term claimants represent 1.4% of the workforce.

## Flows out from Job Seekers Allowance

The success rate of job seekers leaving the count to obtain employment in March 2010 decreased by 3.6 percentage points (from 38.2% to 34.6%) since the same time last year. Of the 5,397 flows from the count in March 2010, 1,865 found employment compared to 3,049 of the 7,986 claimants who left the count in March 2009. This compares to 32.4% three months ago, and 35.6% five years ago.

In the period from March 2009 to March 2010 the highest proportion (43.2%) of persons leaving JSA to find employment was in November 2009, while in July 2009 the proportion finding employment was at its lowest (30.5%). The highest proportion (15.7%) of persons leaving JSA to enter education or training occurred in September 2009. Those who left JSA to claim other benefits varied between 3.3% and 6.6% in the period. Those who left JSA because they failed to sign peaked at 36.2% in July 2009.

## Flows in to Job Seekers Allowance

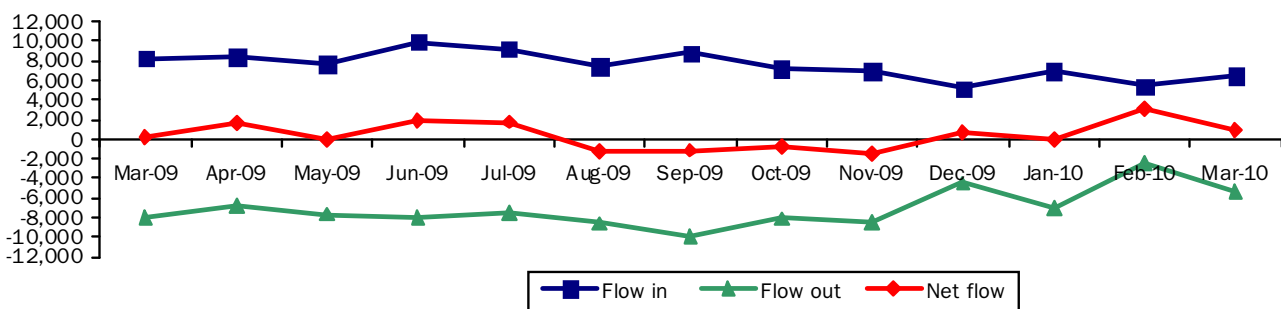
Of the 7,986 claimants who left the count in March 2009, 32.4% returned to the count within 3 months, 8.9% returned after 3-6 months and a further 8.7% returned after 6-12 months giving a total of 50.0% of those who left the count in March 2009 returned to claiming JSA within one year. This was lower than the 57.2 of leavers in March 2008 (1 year previously) and higher than 46.4% of leavers in March 2004 (5 years previously) returning within one year.

## Net Flow

There was a net flow of persons out from Job Seekers for 5 months and a net flow onto Job Seekers for 8 months between March 2009 and March 2010. August (1,162), September (1,126), October (826), November 2009 (1,479) and January 2010 (5) were months a net flow out of Job Seekers occurred. The months that showed a net flow onto Job Seekers peaked at February (3,029).

## Flows in and out from JSA

Figure 9

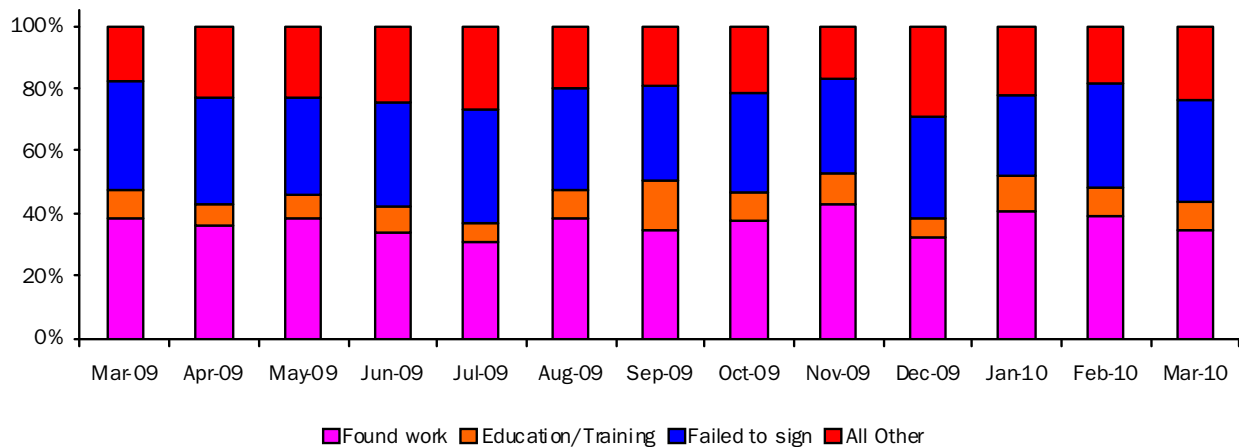


**Claimant Count by District Council Area – April 2010**  
**Number, Rate and % change over month and year (including jobs density indicator at 2008\*)**  
**Table 5**

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	1,032	344	1,376	6.0	2.2	4.2	23	1.7	265	23.9	0.93
Ards	1,318	436	1,754	5.3	1.9	3.7	-15	-0.8	255	17.0	0.46
Armagh	1,372	353	1,725	7.5	2.1	4.9	2	0.1	371	27.4	0.72
Ballymena	1,167	392	1,559	5.9	2.2	4.1	45	3.0	314	25.2	1.01
Ballymoney	755	183	938	7.8	2.1	5.1	-24	-2.5	119	14.5	0.52
Banbridge	840	200	1,040	5.4	1.4	3.6	-19	-1.8	192	22.6	0.52
Belfast	8,704	2,457	11,161	10.2	2.9	6.6	-153	-1.4	1,733	18.4	1.38
Carrickfergus	828	272	1,100	6.5	2.3	4.4	-5	-0.5	163	17.4	0.40
Castlereagh	917	303	1,220	4.5	1.5	3.1	-42	-3.3	299	32.5	0.75
Coleraine	1,376	408	1,784	7.8	2.5	5.2	-66	-3.6	244	15.8	0.82
Cookstown	795	274	1,069	6.7	2.6	4.7	-71	-6.2	122	12.9	0.66
Craigavon	2,204	676	2,880	7.5	2.5	5.1	5	0.2	486	20.3	0.79
Derry	3,772	1,208	4,980	10.7	3.6	7.2	-77	-1.5	722	17.0	0.73
Down	1,686	391	2,077	7.4	1.9	4.8	-66	-3.1	389	23.0	0.55
Dungannon	1,251	433	1,684	6.8	2.7	4.8	-32	-1.9	181	12.0	0.79
Fermanagh	1,302	390	1,692	6.4	2.2	4.4	-51	-2.9	182	12.1	0.74
Larne	669	194	863	6.6	2.1	4.5	-33	-3.7	83	10.6	0.56
Limavady	1,204	315	1,519	10.5	3.1	7.0	-4	-0.3	178	13.3	0.56
Lisburn	2,266	741	3,007	6.3	2.1	4.3	-11	-0.4	423	16.4	0.69
Magherafelt	901	256	1,157	6.1	2.0	4.2	-5	-0.4	130	12.7	0.67
Moyle	485	140	625	9.0	2.9	6.2	-48	-7.1	70	12.6	0.48
Newry & Mourne	2,883	741	3,624	9.3	2.6	6.0	-14	-0.4	871	31.6	0.70
Newtownabbey	1,620	458	2,078	6.2	1.8	4.1	-46	-2.2	335	19.2	0.71
North Down	1,245	445	1,690	5.0	1.9	3.5	-46	-2.6	378	28.8	0.54
Omagh	1,252	358	1,610	7.3	2.3	4.9	22	1.4	298	22.7	0.73
Strabane	1,238	400	1,638	9.7	3.5	6.8	-77	-4.5	190	13.1	0.50
<b>NI TOTAL</b>	<b>43,082</b>	<b>12,768</b>	<b>55,850</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>-808</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>8,993</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>0.79</b>

\* 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

Publication of monthly claimant count figures by occupation had been deferred from March 2002, due to the switch in occupational coding in April 2002 from SOC 90 to SOC 2000. Work has now been completed to produce and validate the figures, and the latest results for April 2010 are shown below.

Note that the new SOC 2000 data cannot be compared directly with the previous SOC 90 data. A variety of claimant count data by occupation back to January 2005 is available on Nomis®.

At April 2010, 31.2% (17,285) 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 19.7% (10,920) gave their usual occupation as working

in the Skilled Trades. These two groups account for approximately one half of all claimants in April 2010. The smallest occupation group, with 2.1% (1,170) of all claimants, was Managers and Senior Officials.

Overall the NI claimant count (computerised claims only) decreased by 1.5% over the month to April 2010. Seven of the nine occupational groups showed a decrease in levels with the largest decrease occurring in Skilled Trades Occupations which decreased by 345 (3.1%), followed by Elementary Occupations which decreased by 200 (1.1%) and Process, Plant and Machine Operatives which decreased by 185 (2.2%). The only increase in levels were in Administrative and Secretarial Occupations which increased by 45 (1.0%) and in Personal Service Occupations which increased by 15 (0.6%).

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

Occupational Groups (Usual Occupation)	April 2010		Change over month	
	Number of Claimants	% of Claimants	Number of claimants	% change
Managers and Senior Officials	1,170	2.1	-40	-3.3
Professional Occupations	1,335	2.4	-10	-0.7
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,365	4.3	-65	-2.7
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	4,395	7.9	45	1.0
Skilled Trade Occupations	10,920	19.7	-345	-3.1
Personal Service Occupations	2,650	4.8	15	0.6
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	7,040	12.7	-40	-0.6
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	8,145	14.7	-185	-2.2
Elementary Occupations	17,285	31.2	-200	-1.1
Not Known	70	0.1	15	27.3
<b>NI Total</b>	<b>55,370</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-820</b>	<b>-1.5</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	<a href="#"><u>Seasonally Adjusted Claimant Count</u></a>	17.5KB
Table 3.2	<a href="#"><u>Total Claimant Count</u></a>	16.0KB
Table 3.3	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count Trends – Seasonally Adjusted Claimant Count</u></a>	18.0KB
Table 3.4	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count Trends – Total Claimant Count</u></a>	17.0KB
Table 3.5	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count Trends – Long-Term Claimant Count</u></a>	16.0KB
Table 3.6	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count Trends- Youth Claimant Count</u></a>	14.5KB
Table 3.7	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count by Travel-to-Work-Area</u></a>	19.5KB
Table 3.8	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count by District Council Area</u></a>	21.0KB
Table 3.9	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count by Parliamentary Constituency Area</u></a>	20.0KB
Table 3.10	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count by NUTSiii Area</u></a>	18.5KB
Table 3.11	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count by Usual Occupation</u></a>	17.0KB
Table 3.12	<a href="#"><u>Outflows by Destination (including percentage recycled)</u></a>	21.5KB
Table 3.13	<a href="#"><u>Total Annual Outflows by Destination</u></a>	20.0KB
Table 3.14	<a href="#"><u>Recycling of Claimants by District Council Area</u></a>	19.0KB
Table 3.15	<a href="#"><u>Claimant Count by Ward</u></a>	81.0KB

# Redundancies

## 4

There were 3,444 confirmed redundancies over the year to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010, a decrease of 19% compared to the same period in the previous year (4,269). Of these, 307 confirmed redundancies took place during the calendar month of April 2010 and 249 in the previous month of March 2010. This compares to 545 in April 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 (1,090), Derry (645) and Castlereagh (326) District Council areas.

**Confirmed redundancies by District Council in year to 30 April 2010**  
**Table 8**

District Council Area	Total
Antrim	58
Ards	18
Armagh	116
Ballymena	63
Ballymoney	42
Banbridge	54
Belfast	1090
Carrickfergus	17
Castlereagh	326
Coleraine	23
Cookstown	36
Craigavon	149
Derry	645
Down	3
Dungannon	89
Fermanagh	7
Larne	78
Limavady	61
Lisburn	73
Magherafelt	3
Moyle	0
Newry & Mourne	210
Newtownabbey	105
North Down	122
Omagh	56
Strabane	0
N. Ireland	3,444

Of these 3,444 confirmed redundancies, 1,390 or 40% were in the Manufacturing sector, with 394 redundancies (11% of all redundancies) occurring in the Manufacture of other transport equipment.

Altogether there have been 1,069 outstanding redundancies notified that have yet to take place compared with 2,152 this time one year ago (a decrease of 50%).

**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 2007 (Jan 2000 – date)</a>	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 December 2009 seasonally adjusted employee jobs figure stands at 699,310.

This represents a seasonally adjusted decrease of 0.4% (or 2,890 jobs) from the revised September 2009 estimate of 702,200.

Over the quarter seasonally adjusted employee jobs decreased in the Manufacturing Sector by 0.2% (120 jobs), in the Service Sector by 0.2% (1,110 jobs) while employee jobs in the Construction Sector fell by 4.7% (1,700 jobs).

### Unadjusted

The December 2009 seasonally unadjusted figure stands at 704,590.

This represents a increase of 0.9% (or 5,970 jobs) from September 2009 and a decrease of 2.9% (20,910 jobs) in the past year.

Over the year, December 2008 to December 2009, the unadjusted employee jobs figure for Construction decreased by 16.6% (6,870 jobs), Manufacturing employee jobs decreased by 8.2% (6,580 jobs) while employee jobs in the Service Sector decreased by 1.2% (7,120 jobs).

### 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 1999 and 2005, with the figure for 2005 falling to 81% of the 1999 figure. Manufacturing employee jobs in NI were fairly stable between 2005 and 2007, with the 2007 figure remaining at 81% of the 1999 level. However manufacturing jobs have fallen again in 2009 to 72% of their 1999 level.

Manufacturing jobs in GB have been in sharp decline from 1999 and the 2009 estimate stands at 64% of the 1999 level.

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

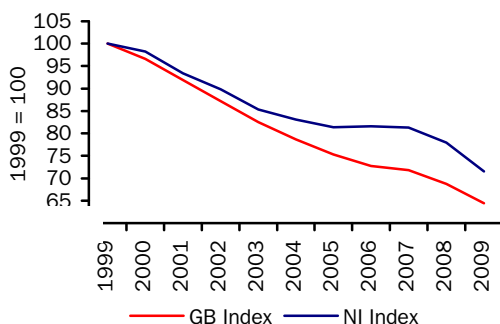
Over the period 1999-2009, Manufacturing jobs in NI decreased by 29,310, with 18 of the 23 manufacturing divisions recording a decrease. The largest decrease occurred in the Manufacture of Wearing Apparel, with a fall of 10,090 jobs. There were 5,840 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of Textiles, 4,490 fewer in the Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products, 2,070 fewer in the Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment and 1,750 fewer in the Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers.

However these decreases were somewhat offset by an increase in the Manufacture of Basic Pharmaceutical Products And Pharmaceutical Preparations (+550), Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, except Machinery and Equipment (+220), in and Installation Of Machinery And Equipment (+70 jobs).

The large decline in the Manufacture of Textiles and Wearing Apparel sectors has impacted on the structure of Northern Ireland Manufacturing jobs. In 1999 18% of Manufacturing jobs were located in the Textiles and Wearing Apparel sectors; by 2009 this had fallen to 3%.

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

**Figure 11**



**Quarterly Employment Survey**  
**Northern Ireland Seasonally Adjusted Employee Jobs\* December 2009**  
**Table 10**

				% change in total	
	Males	Females	All persons	since last quarter	since last year
Manufacturing	57,530	16,190	73,720	-0.2	-8.2
Construction <sup>1</sup>	30,190	4,130	34,320	-4.7	-16.7
Services	226,010	344,480	570,490	-0.2	-1.2
Other <sup>2</sup>	17,970	2,820	20,780	0.2	-1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>331,700</b>	<b>367,610</b>	<b>699,310</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-2.9</b>

<sup>1</sup> Figures for females in 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
2003	March	90,770	35,940	521,090	21,900	669,700
	June	89,250	36,410	526,210	22,440	674,310
	September	88,710	36,430	528,340	22,380	675,870
	December	87,770	36,630	530,510	22,640	677,550
2004	March	87,300	37,190	533,950	22,610	681,050
	June	86,340	37,200	535,800	22,290	681,640
	September	85,920	37,300	541,360	22,480	687,060
	December	85,480	37,410	544,700	22,770	690,350
2005	March	85,130	37,860	551,020	22,430	696,440
	June	84,330	38,760	551,900	21,130	696,110
	September	84,180	39,350	553,800	21,310	698,650
	December	83,770	40,970	557,470	21,390	703,600
2006	March	83,890	41,920	559,140	21,390	706,350
	June	83,760	42,310	560,130	20,830	707,030
	September	83,890	42,740	562,670	20,910	710,210
	December	84,010	42,920	564,730	20,990	712,650
2007	March	83,650	43,630	566,960	21,050	715,290
	June	84,240	44,730	571,100	20,890	720,960
	September	83,990	45,350	575,130	21,070	725,540
	December	83,760	46,070	579,740	21,320	730,890
2008	March	83,710	45,630	582,250	21,250	732,850
	June	83,700	44,490	583,570	21,440	733,210
	September	82,450	43,150	579,970	21,490	727,070
	December	80,290	41,190	577,540	21,120	720,150
2009	March	77,960	39,180	574,640	20,950	712,730
	June	75,420	37,580	573,260	20,830	707,100
	September	73,840	36,020	571,600	20,740	702,200
	December	73,720	34,320	570,490	20,780	699,310

<sup>1</sup> Figures for females in 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

## 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 December 2009</a>	15.5 KB
5.2	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted 1998 – 2009</a>	15.5 KB
5.3	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs - Unadjusted 1998 – 2009</a>	15.5 KB
5.4	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs (Unadjusted) by Industry Section – December 2009</a>	15.5 KB
5.5	<a href="#">NI Public Sector Jobs (Unadjusted) – December 2009</a>	13.5 KB
5.6	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs by Industry Section (Unadjusted) December 2008, September 2009 and December 2009</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 – 2009</a>	15.0 KB
5.9	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs by 2-digit SIC07 Class – December 2009</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 - December 2009</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 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 2009 was £356.7, some 10% lower than the UK (£397.3). This represented a growth in NI median earnings for all employees of 3.4% over the year to April 2009, compared to growth in the UK of 2.2%.

NI full-time employees' median gross weekly earnings in April 2009 were £439.1, which was approximately 90% of the figure in the UK (£488.7). NI full-time earnings increased by 5.1% over the period, which was markedly higher than the increase in the UK (2.0%). The median gross weekly part-time earnings in NI at April 2009 was £159.5, over 4% higher than the figure in the UK (£152.9). As such, growth over the year was higher in NI (6.3%) than in the UK (4.0%) for part-time employees.

Marginally faster growth in median private sector weekly earnings in NI (1.6%) compared to the UK (1.0%) has resulted in a slight narrowing of the NI/UK private sector pay gap. Full-time private sector gross weekly earnings in NI at April 2009 (£383.0) were some 82.4% of the figure in the UK, compared to 82.0% in the previous year.

There has been a widening of the gender pay gap for all employees in NI over the period 2008-2009. Female median hourly earnings excluding overtime were 87.3% of male earnings at April 2009, compared to 90.4% a year earlier. The NI gender pay gap remains less marked than in the UK, where the equivalent female to male earnings ratio was 78.0% at April 2009. 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.

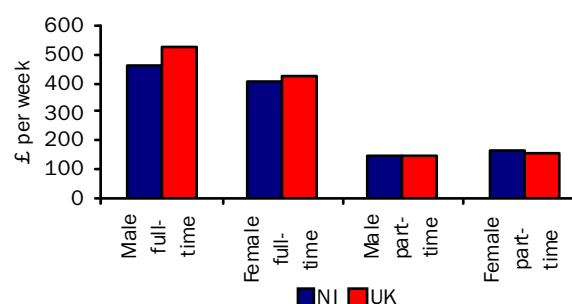
Please note, changes in NI earnings over the year and relative to the UK can be influenced by a range

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\\_2009\\_ni\\_statistical\\_bulletin-3.pdf](http://www.detini.gov.uk/ashe_2009_ni_statistical_bulletin-3.pdf)

### Median gross weekly earnings by full-/part-time and gender, April 2009

Figure 12



### Median and mean gross weekly earnings 2006-09

Table 14

£ per week	Median			Mean		
	Full-time	Part-time	All	Full-time	Part-time	All
April 2009						
Men	460.9	150.0	418.8	545.6	193.8	500.6
Women	406.5	161.4	297.8	462.5	188.4	351.2
All	439.1	159.5	356.7	511.2	189.6	424.6
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
% Change 08 - 09						
Men	4.8	7.3	3.6	4.8	-9.6	4.5
Women	5.5	5.8	3.8	5.5	-0.2	4.8
All	5.1	6.3	3.4	5.0	-2.7	4.5
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
Excluding methodological changes introduced in 2007						
April 2006						
Men	424.3	122.5	392.8	502.9	172.6	459.0
Women	377.5	133.3	262.7	426.8	163.9	310.2
All	405.1	131.6	325.1	472.0	165.8	382.3

## Average full-time earnings by occupation, April 2009

Table 15

	Count (thousands)	Median gross weekly pay (£)	Mean gross weekly pay (£)	Median total weekly hours	Mean total weekly hours
Managers and Senior Officials	70	593.3	689.0	37.8	38.6
Professional Occupations	87	673.1	710.9	37.0	36.2
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	84	564.2	595.1	37.6	39.6
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	67	338.6	368.4	37.0	37.6
Skilled Trades Occupations	48	401.0	441.8	40.0	41.5
Personal Service Occupations	30	318.7	337.2	37.6	39.5
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	18	260.0	285.7	39.0	39.1
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	51	357.9	383.9	40.0	42.9
Elementary Occupations	44	301.0	324.9	40.0	40.6

## Average full-time earnings by industry, April 2009 (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	283.5	329.3	40.0	40.6
Mining and quarrying	x	x	446.7	41.6	43.1
Manufacturing	74	417.6	476.8	39.3	40.6
Electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply	4	636.3	704.3	37.0	37.9
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	x	357.4	368.1	42.5	42.5
Construction	29	406.9	498.3	40.0	41.9
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	64	338.6	416.8	39.9	39.7
Transportation and storage	17	398.9	461.6	40.0	42.3
Accommodation and food services activities	14	260.8	313.5	38.2	39.1
Information and communication	15	522.6	560.7	37.6	38.2
Financial and insurance activities	15	480.5	556.7	35.0	35.6
Real estate activities	7	434.8	506.1	37.0	37.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities	21	463.6	527.3	37.5	37.7
Administrative and support service activities	16	338.0	379.3	40.0	42.0
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	64	548.2	596.6	39.0	40.8
Education	57	648.1	624.0	32.7	34.5
Human health and social work activities	80	461.3	535.1	37.5	38.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	7	364.8	443.3	39.0	39.8
Other service activities	7	424.9	486.2	37.7	38.9
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services-producing activities of households for own use	x	x	318.0	34.4	37.1

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 2001 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	72 KB
6.2	<a href="#">ASHE 2002 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	78 KB
6.3	<a href="#">ASHE 2003 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	163 KB
6.4	<a href="#">ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding supplementary information</a>	51 KB
6.5	<a href="#">ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB
6.6	<a href="#">ASHE 2005 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB
6.7	<a href="#">ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding methodological changes</a>	168 KB
6.8	<a href="#">ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	176 KB
6.9	<a href="#">ASHE 2007 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	165 KB
6.10	<a href="#">ASHE 2008 Headline Data for Key Variables - revised</a>	165 KB
6.11	<a href="#">ASHE 2009 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	166 KB

# Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training

## 7

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

	New Deal 18-24 (2, 3)	New Deal 25+ (2, 3)	Future Managers	Employment Support	Training for Success (4, 5)	Jobskills (4, 5)
<u>2008</u>						
Mar	2,150	2,350	150	800	-	7,350
<u>2009</u>						
Mar	600	500	150	750	12,100	3,250
Apr	600	450	150	750	12,200	2,950
May	600	450	150	750	12,100	2,800
June	600	400	150	750	12,050	2,650
July	600	400	150	750	12,050	2,400
Aug	550	350	150	750	11,850	1,950
Sept	550	350	150	750	15,950	1,650
Oct	550	350	200	750	16,450	1,500
Nov	450	300	150	750	16,550	1,400
Dec	450	300	200	700	16,350	1,300
<u>2010</u>						
Jan	500	400	200	700	15,250	1,200
Feb	500	400	200	700	15,900	1,100
Mar	500	450	250	700	15,600	1,050

**Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.**

(1) Figures are rounded to the nearest fifty.

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

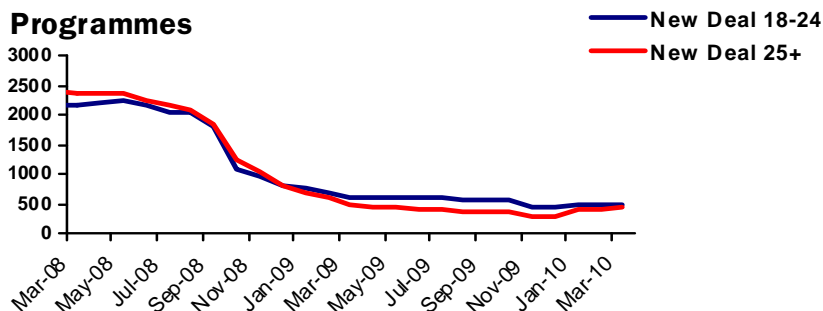
(3) On 29th September 2008, StW was widely introduced in NI and subsumes New Deal. However, New Deal continues to operate in the Foyle and Lisnagelvin areas. StW statistics are not yet available.

(4) Training for Success (TfS), was introduced in September 2007, and will ultimately replace Jobskills. In September 2008, TfS was divided 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) March 2010 Jobskills and TfS figures are as at the 14th March 2010.

### New Deal Programmes

**Figure 13**



## 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). This series of statistics takes into account the total number of notified vacancy positions in addition to those that have been subsequently added or cancelled. 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 the Department. Vacancy inflow and outflow figures are shown on a standardised basis, where values are converted to a standard 4 1/3 week period.

### Vacancies notified (Inflow)

There were 4,900 standardised vacancies notified in the period ending 5<sup>th</sup> March 2010. This was 12%

lower than the number of standardised vacancies notified in March 2009 (5,566) and a decrease of 39% on the number of vacancies notified in March 2007 (7,982).

### Vacancies filled and cancelled (Outflows)

The number of standardised placed and cancelled vacancies in the period ending 5<sup>th</sup> March 2010 was 4,138. This was a decrease of 20% from March 2009 (5,176) and a decrease of 27% from the same period three years previously (5,664).

### Unfilled Vacancies

A total of 6,409 unadjusted vacancies remained unfilled on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2010, a decrease of 1% on the amount of unfilled vacancies in March 2009 (6,503) and a decrease of 42% on the amount unfilled in March 2007 (11,079).

## Vacancies Notified, Outflow and Vacancies Unfilled: March 2007 to March 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
2007	02-Mar	7,368	7,982	42%	5,228	5,664	31%	11,079	14%
2008	07-Mar	7,830	8,483	6%	7,065	7,654	35%	12,763	15%
2009	06-Mar	5,138	5,566	-34%	4,778	5,176	-32%	6,503	-49%
	03-Apr	4,110	4,453	-34%	4,349	4,711	-45%	6,264	-43%
	08-May	4,909	4,254	-48%	5,216	4,521	-48%	5,957	-43%
	06-Jun	4,068	4,407	-41%	4,036	4,372	-41%	5,989	-43%
	03-Jul	3,689	3,996	-36%	4,229	4,581	-37%	5,449	-44%
	07-Aug	4,719	4,090	-36%	4,604	3,990	-37%	5,564	-43%
	04-Sep	4,922	5,332	-25%	3,651	3,955	-38%	6,835	-35%
2010	02-Oct	6,224	6,743	-13%	5,573	6,037	-16%	7,486	-32%
	06-Nov	5,998	5,198	-16%	6,619	5,736	-24%	6,865	-27%
	05-Dec	4,281	4,638	3%	4,829	5,231	-26%	6,317	-10%
	08-Jan	3,319	2,876	24%	5,375	4,658	-6%	4,261	-8%
	05-Feb	4,241	4,594	-16%	2,796	3,029	-27%	5,706	-7%
	05-Mar	4,523	4,900	-12%	3,820	4,138	-20%	6,409	-1%

Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.

(1) Vacancies notified (inflow) are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / JBOs of the Department for Employment and Learning (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).

(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 a full back series of this table or 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.

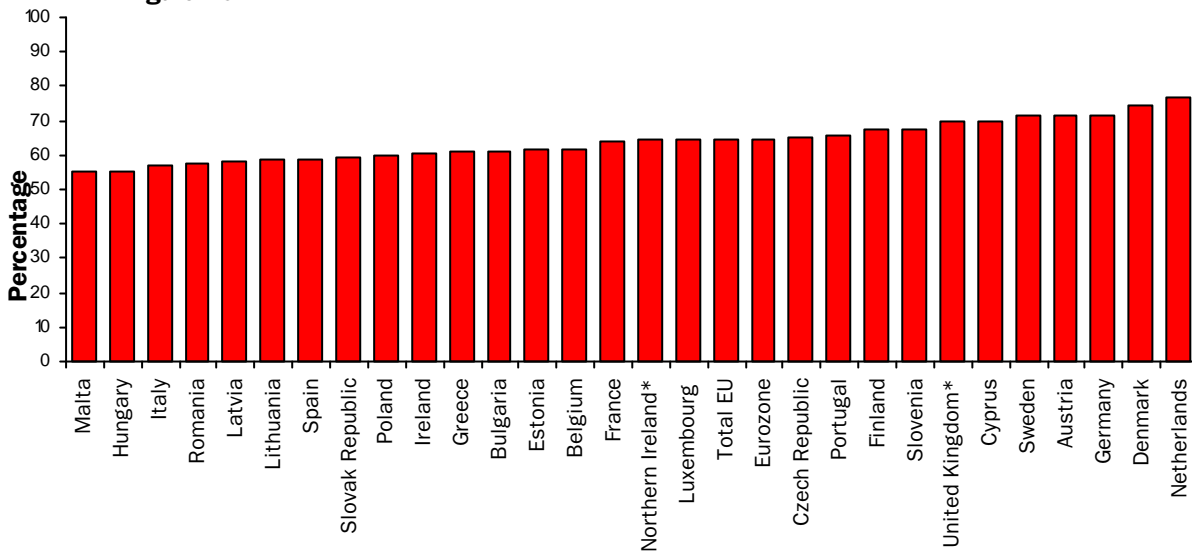
# International - Regional Analysis



## International Comparisons of ILO Employment and Unemployment

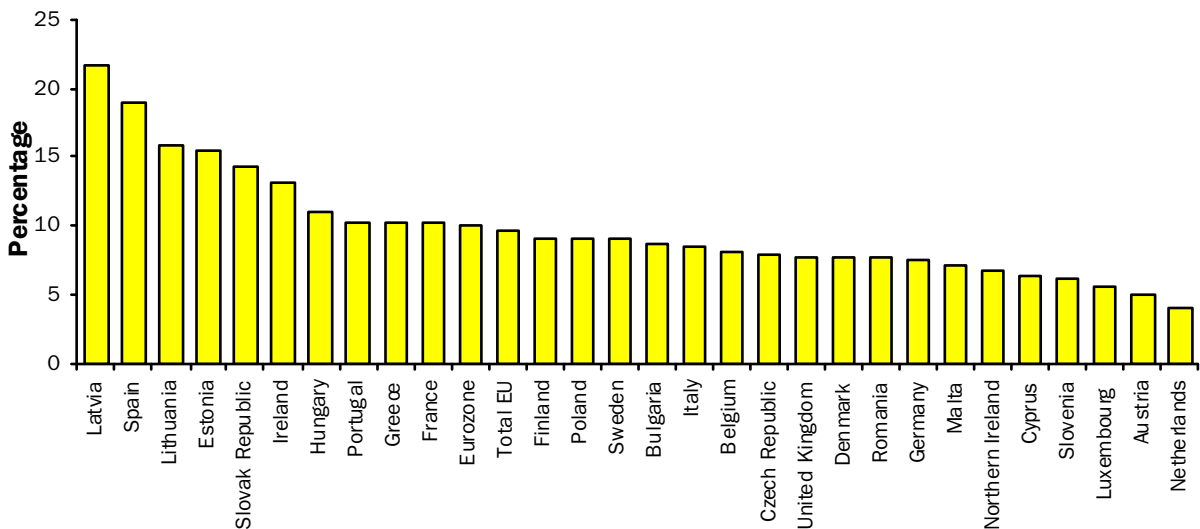
### ILO Employment Rates (%) - Unadjusted

Figure 15



### Unemployment Rates (%) - Seasonally Adjusted

Figure 16



Source: Eurostat

\* A NI employment rate comparable to the EUROSTAT figures has been produced from the Calendar Quarter 4 2009 LFS dataset. It is based on the population aged 15-64 and differs from the working age rates (16-64 for men and 16-59 for women) 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 (16-59/64) 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, January -March 2010**
**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	68.8	-0.8	9.6	1.2	23.8	-0.1	1,005	6.7	-2.3	-2.1	0.72
North West	70.9	-0.5	8.7	0.7	22.1	-0.1	2,917	5.2	-1.7	-2.1	0.80
Yorkshire & the Humber	70.5	-1.2	9.7	1.7	21.5	-0.3	2,117	5.7	2.9	-1.4	0.79
East Midlands	73.3	-2.2	7.3	0.2	20.8	2.3	1,817	4.7	-3.1	-2.4	0.81
West Midlands	70.6	0.4	9.3	0.0	21.9	-0.4	2,246	6.0	-3.4	-2.3	0.81
East	75.7	-2.0	6.6	0.6	18.8	1.6	2,292	3.9	-2.0	-1.1	0.81
London	68.5	-1.6	9.1	0.9	24.5	1.0	3,985	4.5	6.3	-1.5	0.93
South East	76.6	-1.5	6.4	1.0	18.0	0.8	3,615	3.2	-1.1	-2.0	0.86
South West	75.0	-2.8	6.3	0.4	19.8	2.5	2,156	3.1	-8.5	-3.1	0.86
England	72.4	-1.4	8.0	0.8	21.1	0.8	22,149	4.6	-0.7	-1.9	0.84
Wales	68.6	-1.7	9.3	1.6	24.0	0.4	1,111	5.3	-3.2	-1.7	0.76
Scotland	72.0	-2.9	8.1	2.2	21.4	1.2	2,322	4.9	11.1	-0.7	0.84
Great Britain	72.2	-1.5	8.0	0.9	21.3	0.8	25,582	4.6	0.2	-1.8	0.83
N Ireland	67.9	1.1	6.7	0.5	27.1	-1.6	699	6.2	19.4	-0.4	0.78
United Kingdom	72.0	-1.5	8.0	0.9	21.5	0.8	26,281	4.7	0.8	-1.8	0.83

<sup>1</sup> Employment and economic inactivity rates are based on working age population (16-59/64); 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 2009 (thousands).

<sup>4</sup> As at April 2010: percentage of the workforce.

<sup>5</sup> Not seasonally adjusted – data relates to 2007. Jobs Density – total number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population of working age in that area.

# Further Information

## 9

### DEFINITIONS

#### ILO definition

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.

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. However, for the period January - March 2010 the annual change in the employment, unemployment and economic inactivity categories were not statistically significant at this level.

Please see attached link for further LFS notes and definitions:

[Labour Force Survey Notes and Definitions](#)

#### LFS revisions

LFS microdata has recently been revised to incorporate the latest population estimates. The revision effect LFS data from the period June to August 2006 onwards and were first published in February 2010. The magnitude of the revisions were relatively small, with the revisions to the unemployment rate falling within +/-0.05 percentage points and the working age employment rate within +/- 0.1 percentage points. The procedures being applied to the NI LFS results were 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](#)

#### New State Pension Age

The state pension age for women is set to rise between 2010 and 2020. More information on the implications of this change on labour market statistics in Northern Ireland can be found through the link below:

<http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/stats-national-statistics/user-consultation-and-information.htm>

#### 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.

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

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

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

You can also contact Statistics Research Branch by: -

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