

Labour Market

Statistics Bulletin

Monthly Labour Market Report

October 2009



Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Investment

Monthly Labour Market Report

October 2009

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Labour Market

1

Seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey (LFS) data for Northern Ireland for the period June - August estimated an increase over the quarter in the number of unemployed persons and a fall in the number economically inactive. There was little change in the number employed. The seasonally adjusted claimant count in September 2009 increased by 1,100 over the month to 53,800 and the Department was notified of 331 proposed redundancies in the latest reference period and 379 confirmed redundancies in September 2009.

Employment

The number of persons in employment in the period June - August was estimated at 745,000. This represented a marginal increase of 1,000 over the quarter, but was down 43,000 over the year. The working age employment rate was estimated at 65.6%, up 0.1 percentage points over the quarter and down 4.4 percentage points over the year. NI's working age employment rate remained well below the UK average (72.6%) and was the lowest of the UK regions.

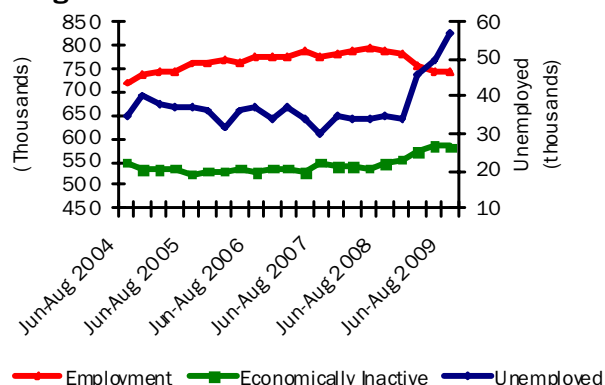
Unemployment

The unemployment rate for the period June - August was estimated at 7.1%, up 0.8 percentage points over the quarter and 2.8 percentage points over the year. The number of unemployed persons was estimated at 57,000, up 7,000 over the quarter and 21,000 over the year. This represented the largest annual increase in unemployment since the LFS seasonally adjusted series began in 1995.

Unadjusted figures show that 29.8% of the unemployed have been unemployed for 1 year or more – down 10.0 percentage points over the

Seasonally Adjusted Labour Market Summary of Northern Ireland

Figure 1



year. They also estimate the unemployment rate for 18-24 year olds at 19.0% – up 6.4 percentage points over the year.

Economically Inactive

The seasonally adjusted number of economically inactive persons in the period June - August was estimated at 582,000. This figure has decreased by 4,000 over the quarter, but was up 35,000 over the year.

The working age economic inactivity rate for NI stands at 29.3%. This is significantly higher than the UK average rate (21.0%) and is the highest of the 12 UK regions.

Unadjusted figures show that while 91% of the inactive do not want work, the remaining 9% 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 that want a job (54,000) is similar to the number officially classified as unemployed.

Northern Ireland Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

Table 1

	Period	Estimate	Sampling Variability of estimate	Change over year	Sampling Variability of change
Employment	Jun-Aug 2009	745,000	+/-22,000	-43,000	+/-27,000
Unemployment	Jun-Aug 2009	57,000	+/-10,000	21,000	+/-12,000
Economically inactive	Jun-Aug 2009	582,000	+/-20,000	35,000	+/-25,000
Unemployment rate	Jun-Aug 2009	7.1%	+/-1.3pps	2.8pps	+/-1.5pps
Employment rate ¹	Jun-Aug 2009	65.6%	+/-1.8pps	-4.4pps	+/-2.2pps
Economic inactivity rate ¹	Jun-Aug 2009	29.3%	+/-1.7pps	2.5pps	+/-2.1pps
Claimant Count	September 2009	53,800		23,800	

Note: pps = percentage points, ¹ Rates based on working age population (16-59/64), see Section 9 for further information

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 the annual change in each of these categories was statistically significant i.e. the recorded change exceeded the variability expected from a sample survey of this size (see table 1 and Section 9 for further details).

Unemployment Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in NI (7.1%) remained below the UK average rate (7.9%) and was the equal fourth lowest rate among the UK regions. The NI rate also compared favourably to the European Union rate (9.0%) and the Republic of Ireland rate (12.5%) for July 2009. However, the annual increase in the NI unemployment rate (+2.8 percentage points) was higher than the UK average (+2.1 percentage points) and was third highest of the UK regions.

Claimant Count

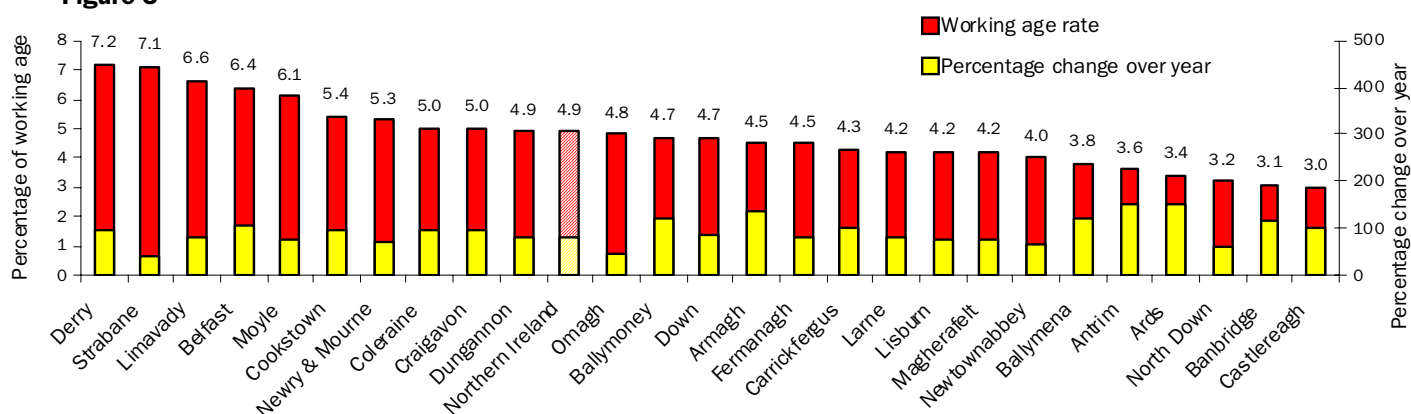
The more recent seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 1,100 over the month to September 2009 to 53,800 (6.2% of the workforce). The monthly increase was less than the previous monthly increase (1,600) and was the smallest increase for 15 months. However, this month's increase is the nineteenth consecutive monthly increase since the lowest level of 23,500 in February 2008 (also reached in November 2007).

Claimant Count Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted claimant count rate in NI (6.2%) was higher than the UK average rate (5.0%) and was the third highest rate among the UK regions. Over the month to September 2009 the NI Claimant Count level increased by 2.1%, which was higher than the UK average (+1.3%) and highest among the UK regions. Over the year the NI Claimant Count level increased by 79.3%, which was higher than the UK average (+70.0%) and fourth highest among the UK regions.

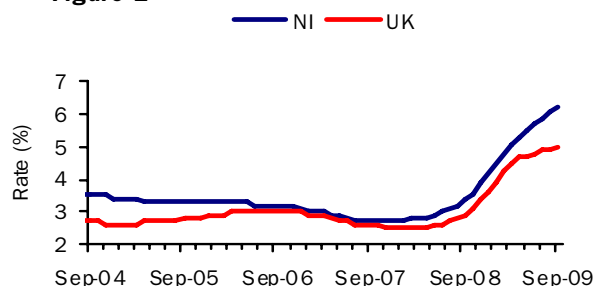
Unadjusted Claimant Count Rates By District Council Area

Figure 3



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 September 2009 were in Derry (7.2%), Strabane (7.1%) and Limavady (6.6%). Those that showed the highest percentage increase in levels over the year to September 2009 were Cookstown (151.1%), Dungannon (149.6%) and Magherafelt (137.2%).

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 122.2% (4,563 persons) to 8,297 over the year to September 2009 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

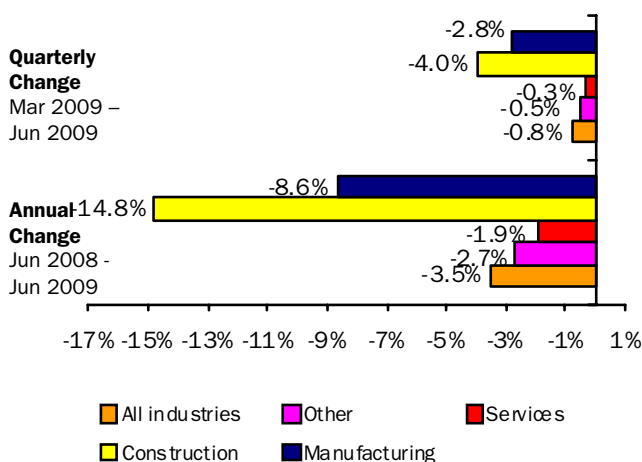
Redundancies

The Department was notified of 331 proposed redundancies over the period mid September 2009 to mid October 2009. This compares to 163 proposed redundancies notified to the Department in the previous monthly period. There were 379 confirmed redundancies in the month of September (Figure 5). Over the twelve monthly period there were a total of 4,993 confirmed redundancies, an increase of 178% from the previous year (1,798). The highest number of confirmed redundancies took place in Belfast District Council area which had 26.9% (1,344) of all redundancies over the year. Over the twelve monthly period there were a total of 6,346 proposed redundancies, an increase of 120% from the previous year (2,879). Since the start of 2009 to mid October there were a total of 5,035 proposed redundancies. 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

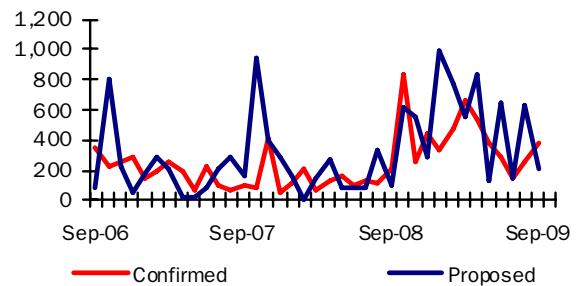
The QES provides an estimate of the number of jobs (rather than persons in employment) and is the preferred measure of change in employee jobs. The estimated seasonally adjusted employee jobs total in Northern Ireland at June 2009 was 709,040. This represents a decrease of 5,470 over the quarter and a decrease of 25,450 over the year.

Annual and Quarterly changes in employee jobs (seasonally adjusted)
Figure 4



The seasonally adjusted quarterly change consisted of decreases in Manufacturing (-2,190), in the Service sector (-1,600) and in Construction (-1,580).

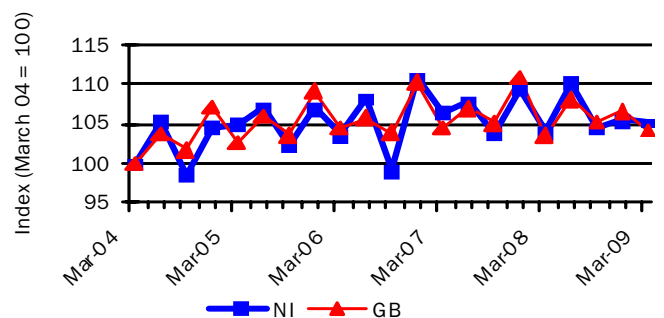
Confirmed and Proposed Redundancies
September 06 - September 09
Figure 5



Hours Worked

The total workforce hours worked per week in Northern Ireland in March 2009 was estimated at 26.1 million hours, representing an increase of 1.1% over the year (compared with an increase of 0.6% in GB). Between March 2004 and March 2009, NI's total workforce hours worked per week increased by 5.1%, compared with a 4.2% increase in GB (Figure 6). In the three months to July 2009, the average actual weekly hours worked in NI was 33.1 hours, compared with 32.3 hours in the UK.

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 2008, which were released on 14th November 2008, show that yearly growth in median gross weekly earnings for all employees (i.e. both full- and part-time) in NI was 5.1% (to £346.5) compared to 3.3% in the UK (to £388.4). NI full-time employees' gross weekly earnings in April 2008 were £417.6, which was approximately 87% of the figure in the UK (£478.6). NI full-time earnings increased by 4.3% over the period, which was relatively similar to the increase in the UK (4.6%).

Full-time private sector gross weekly earnings in NI were £377.1, or 82.0% of the figure in the UK (compared to 82.7% in April 2007), reflecting a slight widening of the NI/UK private sector pay gap.

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 June - August 2009 (see Table 2) record the unemployment rate at 7.1% (57,000 persons), up 0.8 percentage points from the previous quarter. Employment was estimated to have increased by 1,000 (0.1%) over the quarter to 745,000.

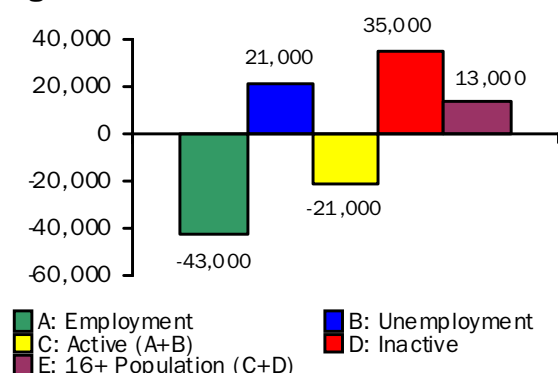
Labour Market change over the year

In the year to June - August 2009 (see Figure 7), LFS figures show a fall of 43,000 in total employment and an increase of 21,000 in unemployment, leading to a fall of 21,000 in the economically active population (figures may not sum due to rounding). The number economically inactive rose by 35,000 over the year.

Labour Market Structure

Change over the year

Figure 7



Employment

Latest seasonally adjusted estimates show that there were 745,000 persons in employment, which represents a fall of 5.4% (43,000 persons) over the year. Of the total, 53% (397,000) were male and 47% (348,000) were female.

There was a decrease of 7.0% (-30,000) in the estimate for male employment and a fall of 3.7% (-13,000) in female employment over the year.

Economic Inactivity

The number of economically inactive persons in the period June - August 2009 was estimated at 582,000. 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 June - August 2009 there were an estimated 320,000 economically inactive people of working age in NI. Of the total, 43% (136,000) were male and 57% (184,000) were female.

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

Unadjusted figures show that 84% of the economically inactive of working age do not want a job, while the remaining 16% want work, but are not actively seeking or available to start work.

Economically Inactive of Working Age

Reason for not wanting work

Figure 8

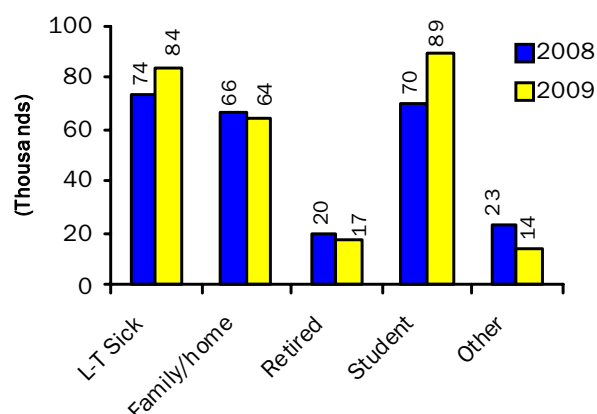


Figure 8 shows the reason given by these people for not wanting work. The largest categories were students (89,000), the long-term sick (84,000), and those looking after family/home (64,000). Among these categories, the largest change over the year occurred in those who were students (+19,000 or 27%).

Labour Market Structure – Seasonally adjusted
Table 2

Table 2

	Total aged 16 and over	Total persons of working age 16-59/64	All aged 16+					(Thousands)	
			Total economically active	Total in employment	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Unemployment rate (%)	All working age 16-59/64 Activity rate 16-59/64 (%)	Employment rate (%) 16-59/64
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
ALL PERSONS									
Jun – Aug 2006	1,339	1,068	811	774	37	527	4.5%	73.3%	69.9%
Jun – Aug 2007	1,356	1,080	806	776	30	550	3.7%	72.4%	69.7%
Jun – Aug 2008	1,370	1,088	823	788	35	547	4.3%	73.3%	70.1%
Sep-Nov 2008	1,373	1,089	817	783	34	556	4.2%	72.8%	69.7%
Dec-Feb 2009	1,377	1,091	804	758	46	573	5.7%	71.5%	67.3%
Mar-May 2009	1,380	1,093	794	744	50	586	6.3%	70.0%	65.5%
Jun-Aug 2009	1,383	1,095	802	745	57	582	7.1%	70.7%	65.6%
Change on Quarter	3	2	8	1	7	-4	0.8	0.7	0.1
Change on Year	13	7	-21	-43	21	35	2.8	-2.5	-4.4
MALES									
Jun – Aug 2006	648	550	447	422	24	201	5.5%	79.2%	74.8%
Jun – Aug 2007	656	557	443	426	18	213	4.0%	78.0%	74.8%
Jun – Aug 2008	663	560	450	426	24	213	5.3%	78.6%	74.3%
Sep-Nov 2008	665	561	448	422	27	217	5.9%	78.2%	73.5%
Dec-Feb 2009	667	562	438	406	32	229	7.3%	76.2%	70.5%
Mar-May 2009	669	563	434	399	35	234	8.1%	75.1%	68.9%
Jun-Aug 2009	670	564	439	397	43	231	9.8%	75.8%	68.2%
FEMALES									
Jun – Aug 2006	691	518	364	352	12	327	3.4%	67.1%	64.7%
Jun – Aug 2007	700	524	362	350	12	337	3.3%	66.5%	64.2%
Jun – Aug 2008	707	527	373	362	11	334	3.0%	67.6%	65.5%
Sep-Nov 2008	708	528	369	361	8	339	2.1%	67.0%	65.6%
Dec-Feb 2009	710	529	366	352	14	344	3.8%	66.5%	64.0%
Mar-May 2009	711	530	360	345	15	352	4.1%	64.6%	61.9%
Jun-Aug 2009	713	530	362	348	14	351	3.8%	65.3%	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.**
 Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Labour Market Structure – Sample of data available on website
Table 3

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

Other Labour Force Survey Publications available on website
Table 4

Publication title	File Size
LFS Labour Market Statistics (Jun - Aug 2009)	98 KB
Labour Force Survey (LFS) Local Area Database 2007	386 KB
LFS Historical Supplement 2008	418 KB
Women in Northern Ireland – September 2009	203 KB
LFS Quarterly Supplement – April - June 2009	369 KB
LFS Special Feature - Graduates (Quarter 4 2008)	56 KB
LFS Special Feature – Households in NI (Quarter 2 2008)	200 KB
LFS Special Feature – Self Employed (Quarter 2 2009)	62 KB
LFS Special Feature – Health and Work (Quarter 1 2008)	56 KB
LFS Special Feature - Home Workers (Quarter 1 2009)	59 KB
LFS Reweighted Back Series 1992-2008 (please enable macros)	863 KB
LFS Historical Data 1995-2008 (please enable macros)	312 KB
LFS Historical Data 1984-1991	76 KB

Claimant Count

3

Unadjusted Claimant Count

The claimant count in NI at September 2009 was 53,492 (6.1% of the workforce), a decrease of 0.04% (19) over the previous month. There was an increase of 79.6% (23,707) over the year and the rate increased by 2.7 percentage points. Five years ago the total was 30,912 (3.6%). (The seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 1,100 over the month.)

Youth Claimants

18,474 under 25's (34.5% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in September 2009, a decrease of 1.8% (330 claimants) over the month and an increase of 69.9% (7,601) over the year. Youth claimants represent 2.1% of the workforce.

Long-term Claimants

At September 2009, 7,781 (14.5% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more, an increase of 8.2% (587 claimants) over the month and an increase of 84.2% (3,556) over the year. Long-term claimants represent 0.9% of the workforce.

Flows out from Job Seekers Allowance

The success rate of job seekers leaving the count to obtain employment in August 2009 increased by 0.4 percentage points (from 40.4% to 40.8%) since the same time last year. Of the 7,768 flows from the count in August 2009, 3,167 found employment compared to 2,609 of the 6,465 claimants who left the count in August 2008. This compares to 38.2% three months ago, and 44.9% five years ago.

In the period from August 2008 to August 2009 the highest proportion (47.4%) of persons leaving JSA to find employment was in November 2008, while in the following month December 2008 the proportion finding employment was at its lowest (22.8%). The highest proportion (11.5%) of persons leaving JSA to enter education or training occurred in September 2008. Those who left JSA to claim other benefits varied between 3.7% and 8.6% in the period. Those who left JSA because they failed to sign peaked at 48.7% in December 2008.

Flows in to Job Seekers Allowance

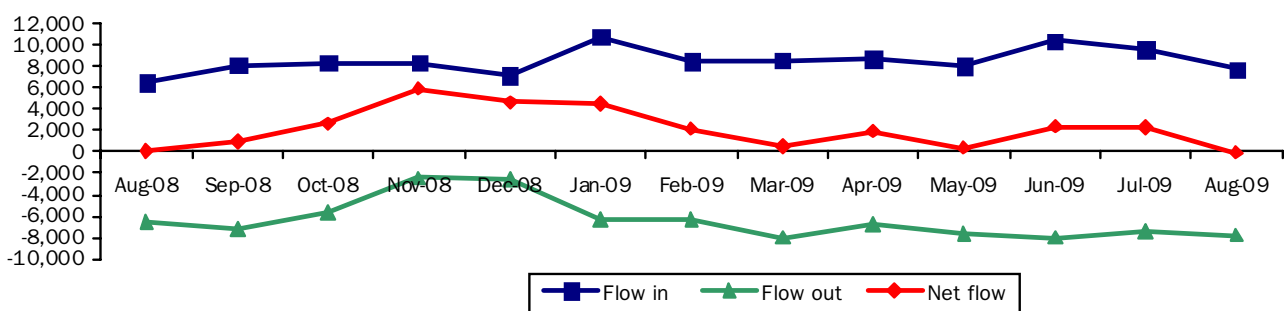
Of the 6,465 claimants who left the count in August 2008, 29.0% returned to the count within 3 months, 11.0% returned after 3-6 months and a further 13.1% returned after 6-12 months giving a total of 53.1% of those who left the count in August 2008 returned to claiming JSA within one year. This was higher than both the 50.7% of leavers in August 2007 (1 year previously) and 43.0% of leavers in August 2003 (5 years previously) returning within one year.

Net Flow

There was a net flow of persons out from Job Seekers for 1 month and a net flow onto Job Seekers for 12 months between August 2008 and August 2009. Net flows on to Job Seekers in November (5,925), December 2008 (4,631) and January 2009 (4,541) were considerably higher than any other months in this period. In the latest period, August 2009, a net flow of 39 out of Job Seekers occurred.

Flows in and out from JSA

Figure 9



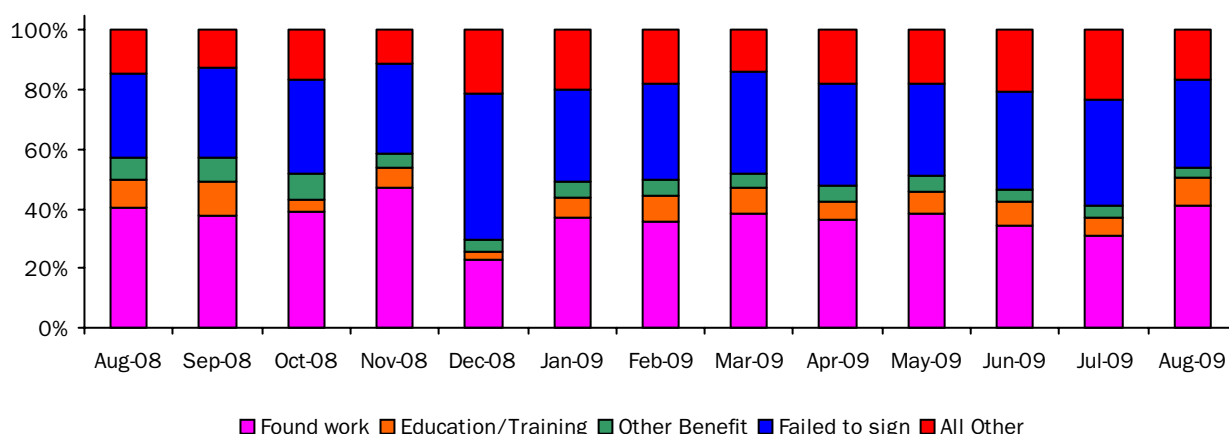
Claimant Count by District Council Area – September 2009
Number, Rate and % change over month and year (including jobs density indicator at 2007*)
Table 5

District	Number of Claimants			% Of Working Age			Change over month		Change over Year		Jobs Density
Council Area	Males	Females	All	Males	Females	All	Number	%	Number	%	Indicator*
Antrim	929	269	1,198	5.4	1.7	3.6	-13	-1.1	594	98.3	0.93
Ards	1,246	389	1,635	5.0	1.7	3.4	36	2.3	659	67.5	0.44
Armagh	1,227	357	1,584	6.8	2.1	4.5	-24	-1.5	865	120.3	0.71
Ballymena	1,097	351	1,448	5.5	2.0	3.8	26	1.8	659	83.5	0.99
Ballymoney	699	168	867	7.3	1.9	4.7	-22	-2.5	425	96.2	0.51
Banbridge	690	224	914	4.5	1.6	3.1	-50	-5.2	411	81.7	0.51
Belfast	8,476	2,334	10,810	10.1	2.8	6.4	-45	-0.4	4,064	60.2	1.36
Carrickfergus	815	252	1,067	6.4	2.1	4.3	-3	-0.3	534	100.2	0.39
Castlereagh	900	283	1,183	4.5	1.5	3.0	11	0.9	636	116.3	0.74
Coleraine	1,276	424	1,700	7.2	2.6	5.0	-1	-0.1	716	72.8	0.80
Cookstown	906	284	1,190	7.8	2.7	5.4	30	2.6	716	151.1	0.66
Craigavon	2,126	647	2,773	7.4	2.5	5.0	46	1.7	1,379	98.9	0.79
Derry	3,738	1,161	4,899	10.7	3.5	7.2	-15	-0.3	1,580	47.6	0.72
Down	1,625	387	2,012	7.2	1.9	4.7	35	1.8	885	78.5	0.54
Dungannon	1,227	443	1,670	6.8	2.8	4.9	-42	-2.5	1,001	149.6	0.78
Fermanagh	1,281	412	1,693	6.3	2.3	4.5	28	1.7	739	77.5	0.73
Larne	620	199	819	6.1	2.2	4.2	-6	-0.7	452	123.2	0.54
Limavady	1,105	336	1,441	9.3	3.4	6.6	17	1.2	632	78.1	0.57
Lisburn	2,212	742	2,954	6.2	2.1	4.2	-20	-0.7	1,337	82.7	0.69
Magherafelt	853	288	1,141	5.9	2.3	4.2	-42	-3.6	660	137.2	0.67
Moyle	479	143	622	9.1	3.0	6.1	12	2.0	265	74.2	0.47
Newry & Mourne	2,410	678	3,088	7.9	2.4	5.3	-18	-0.6	1,532	98.5	0.70
Newtownabbey	1,562	430	1,992	6.1	1.8	4.0	-27	-1.3	1,020	104.9	0.70
North Down	1,143	392	1,535	4.5	1.7	3.2	18	1.2	675	78.5	0.54
Omagh	1,153	397	1,550	6.8	2.6	4.8	-6	-0.4	762	96.7	0.72
Strabane	1,322	385	1,707	10.4	3.4	7.1	56	3.4	509	42.5	0.48
NI TOTAL	41,117	12,375	53,492	7.3	2.4	4.9	-19	0.0	23,707	79.6	0.78

* Data relates to 2007. 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 September 2009 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 September 2009, 29.9% (15,835) 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 19.5%

(10,350) gave their usual occupation as working in the Skilled Trades. These two groups account for about one half of all claimants in September 2009. The smallest occupation group, with 2.3% (1,220) of all claimants, was Managers and Senior Officials.

Overall the NI claimant count (computerised claims only) decreased by 0.1% over the month to September 2009. Four out of the nine occupational groups showed an increase in levels with the largest increase occurring in Elementary Occupation which increased by 275 (1.8%), followed by Skilled Trade Occupations which increased by 100 (1.0%). The occupational group that showed the largest decrease in levels was Professional Occupations which decreased by 330 (14.3%), followed by Administrative and Secretarial Occupations which decreased by 105 (2.3%).

Claimant Count (unadjusted) by Usual Occupation – September 2009 (Computerised claims only)

Table 6

Occupational Groups (Usual Occupation)	September 2009		Change over month	
	Number of Claimants	% of Claimants	Number of claimants	% change
Managers and Senior Officials	1,220	2.3	-45	-3.6
Professional Occupations	1,985	3.7	-330	-14.3
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,590	4.9	-15	-0.6
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	4,380	8.3	-105	-2.3
Skilled Trade Occupations	10,350	19.5	100	1.0
Personal Service Occupations	2,465	4.6	-50	-2.0
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	6,475	12.2	50	0.8
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	7,645	14.4	60	0.8
Elementary Occupations	15,835	29.9	275	1.8
Not Known	80	0.2	-10	-11.1
NI Total	53,020	100.0	-70	-0.1

Claimant Count -Sample of data available on website:

Table 7

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

Redundancies

4

There were 4,993 confirmed redundancies over the year to 30th September 2009, an increase of 178% compared to the same period in the previous year (1,798). Of these, 379 confirmed redundancies took place during the calendar month of September 2009 and 247 in the previous month of August 2009. This compares to 202 in September 2008 (one year ago).

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

The largest number of redundancies occurred in Belfast (1,344), Limavady (725), Derry (379) and Craigavon (300) District Council areas.

Confirmed redundancies by District Council in year to 30 September 2009

Table 8

District Council Area	Total
Antrim	12
Ards	29
Armagh	20
Ballymena	68
Ballymoney	164
Banbridge	59
Belfast	1,344
Carrickfergus	109
Castlereagh	85
Coleraine	139
Cookstown	104
Craigavon	300
Derry	379
Down	2
Dungannon	273
Fermanagh	24
Larne	269
Limavady	725
Lisburn	172
Magherafelt	68
Moyle	0
Newry & Mourne	250
Newtownabbey	248
North Down	111
Omagh	39
Strabane	0
N.Ireland	4,993

Of these 4,993 confirmed redundancies, 3,586 or 72% were in the Manufacturing sector, with 1,361 redundancies (27% of all redundancies) occurring in the Manufacture of Electrical and Optical Equipment.

Altogether there have been 2,047 outstanding redundancies notified that have yet to take place compared with 1,789 this time one year ago (an increase of 14%).

Redundancies – Sample of Data Available on Website

Table 9

Regional Redundancy data	File size
District Council (Jan 2000 –date)	33.0KB
Parliamentary Constituency (Jan 2000-date)	29.0KB
Travel to Work Area (Jan 2000 – date)	29.0KB
Job Centre Area (Jan 1996 – Jun 2003)	68.5KB

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

Quarterly Employment Survey

5

Seasonally Adjusted

The June 2009 seasonally adjusted employee jobs figure stands at 709,040.

This represents a seasonally adjusted decrease of 0.8% (or 5,470 jobs) from the revised March 2009 estimate of 714,510.

Over the quarter seasonally adjusted employee jobs decreased in the Manufacturing Sector by 2.8% (2,190 jobs), in the Service Sector by 0.3% (1,600 jobs) while employee jobs in the Construction Sector fell by 4.0% (1,580 jobs).

Unadjusted

The June 2009 seasonally unadjusted figure stands at 707,750.

This represents a decrease of 0.9% (or 6,140 jobs) from March 2009 and a decrease of 3.5% (25,340 jobs) in the past year.

Over the year, June 2008 to June 2009, the unadjusted employee jobs figure for Construction decreased by 14.9% (6,580 jobs), Manufacturing employee jobs decreased by 8.6% (7,160 jobs) while employee jobs in the Service Sector decreased by 1.9% (11,010 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 82% of the 1999 figure. Manufacturing employee jobs in NI were fairly stable between 2005 and 2008, with the 2008 figure remaining at 81% of the 1999 level. However manufacturing jobs have fallen again in 2009 to 74% of their 1999 level.

Manufacturing jobs in GB have been in sharp decline from 1999 and the 2009 estimate stands at 66% of the 1999 level.

Changes in the Structure of Manufacturing Jobs (NI)

Over the period 1999-2009, Manufacturing jobs in NI decreased by 26,480, with 19 of the 24 manufacturing divisions recording a decrease. The largest decrease occurred in the Manufacture of Wearing Apparel, with a fall of 11,110 jobs. There were 5,890 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of Textiles, 2,920 fewer in the Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products, 1,350 fewer in the Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers and 1,300 fewer in the Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment.

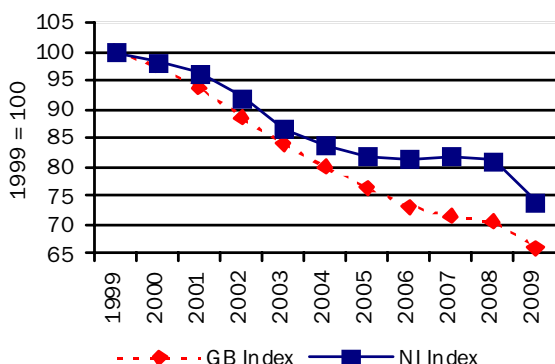
However these decreases were somewhat offset by an increase in the Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, except Machinery and Equipment (+720), in the Manufacture of Basic Pharmaceutical Products And Pharmaceutical Preparations (+370), in the Manufacture of Wood And Of Products Of Wood And Cork, Except Furniture; Manufacture Of Articles Of Straw And Plaiting Materials (+260), and Installation Of Machinery And Equipment (+130 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 19% 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 (June of each year)

Figure 11



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

				% change in total	
	Males	Females	All persons	since last quarter	since last year
Manufacturing	59,620	16,630	76,250	-2.8	-8.6
Construction ¹	33,170	4,650	37,820	-4.0	-14.8
Services	228,200	345,820	574,020	-0.3	-1.9
Other ²	18,120	2,830	20,940	-0.5	-2.7
Total	339,110	369,930	709,040	-0.8	-3.5

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

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

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

Northern Ireland Employee Jobs* - Seasonally Adjusted Series
Table 11

		Manufacturing	Construction ¹	Services	Other Industries ²	All Industries
2003	March	90,780	35,940	521,070	21,900	669,680
	June	89,240	36,410	526,200	22,440	674,300
	September	88,710	36,430	528,360	22,380	675,880
	December	87,770	36,630	530,520	22,640	677,560
2004	March	87,300	37,190	533,920	22,610	681,020
	June	86,340	37,200	535,790	22,290	681,630
	September	85,910	37,290	541,400	22,480	687,080
	December	85,490	37,410	544,700	22,770	690,370
2005	March	85,130	37,860	550,970	22,430	696,400
	June	84,330	38,760	551,900	21,130	696,110
	September	84,170	39,340	553,860	21,310	698,690
	December	83,770	40,980	557,470	21,390	703,600
2006	March	83,910	41,910	559,030	21,390	706,250
	June	83,780	42,320	560,190	20,830	707,120
	September	83,850	42,740	562,750	20,910	710,250
	December	84,000	42,930	564,690	20,990	712,610
2007	March	83,680	43,610	566,800	21,050	715,140
	June	84,270	44,750	571,250	20,890	721,160
	September	83,940	45,360	575,210	21,070	725,580
	December	83,390	45,910	580,000	21,430	730,730
2008	March	83,420	45,450	583,340	21,350	733,560
	June	83,410	44,380	585,160	21,530	734,490
	September	82,030	43,050	581,090	21,610	727,780
	December	80,630	41,110	578,470	21,250	721,450
2009	March	78,440	39,400	575,620	21,050	714,510
	June	76,250	37,820	574,020	20,940	709,040

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

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

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

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

The Northern Ireland Quarterly Employment Survey
Table 12

Table Name	Description	File Size
5.1	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted June 2009	15.5 KB
5.2	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted 1998 – 2009	15.5 KB
5.3	NI Employee Jobs - Unadjusted 1998 – 2009	15.5 KB
5.4	NI Employee Jobs (Unadjusted) by Industry Section – June 2009	15.5 KB
5.5	NI Public Sector Jobs (Unadjusted) – June 2009	13.5 KB
5.6	NI Employee Jobs by Industry Section (Unadjusted) June 2008, March 2009 and June 2009	15.5 KB
5.7	Self Employment Jobs in NI by Broad Industry Group (June of Each Year)	15.0 KB
5.8	Workforce in Employment 1983 – 2008	15.0 KB
5.9	NI Employee Jobs by 2-digit SIC07 Class – June 2009	31.5 KB

Other Quarterly Employment Survey Publications available on website
Table 13

Publication title	File Size
Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) Supplement - June 2009	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 2008 was £346.5, some 11% lower than the UK (£388.4). This represented a growth in NI median earnings for all employees of 5.1% over the year to April 2008, compared to growth in the UK of 3.3%.

NI full-time employees' median gross weekly earnings in April 2008 were £417.6, which was approximately 87% of the figure in the UK (£478.6). NI full-time earnings increased by 4.3% over the period, which was relatively similar to the increase in the UK (4.6%). The median gross weekly part-time earnings in NI at April 2008 was £150.3, over 2% higher than the figure in the UK (£147.0). As such, growth over the year was higher in NI (6.7%) than in the UK (2.3%) for part-time employees.

Slower growth in median private sector weekly earnings in NI (3.8%) compared to the UK (4.6%) has resulted in a slight widening of the NI/UK private sector pay gap. Full-time private sector gross weekly earnings in NI at April 2008 (£377.1) were some 82.0% of the figure in the UK, compared to 82.7% in the previous year.

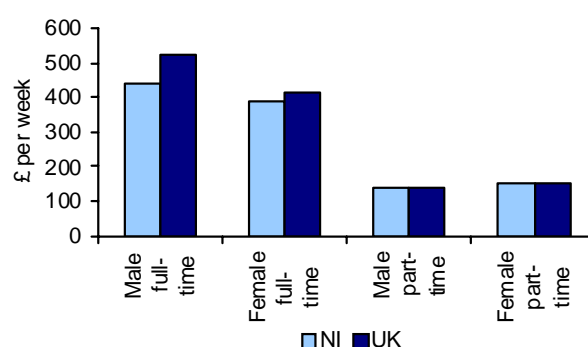
The gender pay gap has been relatively unchanged in NI over the period 2006-2008. Female full-time median hourly earnings excluding overtime were slightly less than male earnings (97.4% in NI compared to 87.2% in the UK) at April 2008. It should be noted that gender pay differences continue to exist 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 are influenced by a range of factors including the timing of pay settlements, the

extent of overtime, and changes in the composition of the workforce. As ASHE is a sample survey, results are also subject to an associated level of sampling error. Further information is available at: <http://www.detini.gov.uk/cgi-bin/downdoc?id=4042>

Median gross weekly earnings by full-/part-time and gender, April 2008

Figure 12



Median and mean gross weekly earnings 2005-08

Table 14

£ per week	Median			Mean		
	Full-time	Part-time	All	Full-time	Part-time	All
April 2008						
Men	438.8	141.2	404.3	520.9	216.9	480.0
Women	385.5	152.7	287.5	439.4	190.2	336.9
All	417.6	150.3	346.5	487.9	196.8	408.6
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
% Change 07 - 08						
Men	4.1	11.2	2.6	3.9	21.4	3.5
Women	4.8	5.0	5.5	2.7	9.5	4.9
All	4.3	6.7	5.1	3.4	12.6	4.4
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
April 2005						
Men	409.5	131.3	384.8	486.5	186.8	453.6
Women	353.5	135.1	258.8	399.4	160.2	303.7
All	385.2	134.6	318.7	450.7	165.8	377.3

Average full-time earnings by occupation, April 2008

Table 15

	Count (thousands)	Median gross weekly pay (£)	Mean gross weekly pay (£)	Median total weekly hours	Mean total weekly hours
Managers and Senior Officials	69	554.8	653.4	37.7	38.8
Professional Occupations	78	660.1	686.0	37.0	36.8
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	85	545.3	575.0	38.4	39.9
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	61	322.2	348.5	37.6	38.9
Skilled Trades Occupations	54	399.4	438.1	40.0	41.9
Personal Service Occupations	31	296.1	321.8	37.5	38.3
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	20	253.8	298.7	37.6	38.6
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	60	359.9	382.6	40.5	43.5
Elementary Occupations	48	305.5	324.3	40.0	41.6

Average full-time earnings by industry, April 2008

Table 16

	Count (thousands)	Median gross weekly pay (£)	Mean gross weekly pay (£)	Median total weekly hours	Mean total weekly hours
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	x	x	352.9	40.0	44.1
Mining and quarrying	x	369.7	419.7	41.3	45.9
Manufacturing	88	411.7	464.7	40.0	41.7
Electricity, gas and water supply	6	605.8	632.2	37.3	40.5
Construction	32	400.0	465.1	40.0	41.8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	68	341.1	414.8	39.8	39.8
Hotels and restaurants	14	267.7	309.3	38.7	39.1
Transport, storage and communication	20	402.1	479.5	40.0	42.0
Financial intermediation	13	439.8	552.4	35.0	36.1
Real estate, renting and business activities	48	402.5	474.8	37.5	39.0
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	54	556.3	582.0	42.0	42.9
Education	57	628.5	604.7	32.8	34.6
Health and social work	77	412.5	477.8	37.5	38.9
Other community, social and personal service activities	22	380.5	444.7	37.9	39.4
Private households with employed persons	x	274.6	292.0	33.6	35.2

x Coefficient of Variation too large to provide a reliable estimate

d Disclosive

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

Sample of ASHE data available on website

Table 17

Table name	Description	File size
6.1	ASHE 1997 Headline Data for Key Variables	42 KB
6.2	ASHE 1998 Headline Data for Key Variables	68 KB
6.3	ASHE 1999 Headline Data for Key Variables	72 KB
6.4	ASHE 2000 Headline Data for Key Variables	48 KB
6.5	ASHE 2001 Headline Data for Key Variables	72 KB
6.6	ASHE 2002 Headline Data for Key Variables	78 KB
6.7	ASHE 2003 Headline Data for Key Variables	163 KB
6.8	ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding supplementary information	51 KB
6.9	ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables	52 KB
6.10	ASHE 2005 Headline Data for Key Variables	52 KB
6.11	ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding methodological changes	168 KB
6.12	ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables	176 KB
6.13	ASHE 2007 Headline Data for Key Variables - revised	165 KB
6.14	ASHE 2008 Headline Data for Key Variables	157 KB

Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training

7

Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training Measures

Participation in the Department for Employment and Learning Schemes to August 2009

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>2007</u>						
Aug	2,400	2,400	150	850	-	10,900
<u>2008</u>						
Aug	2,050	2,100	150	800	5,550	5,150
Sep	1,800	1,850	150	800	9,450	4,750
Oct	1,100	1,250	150	750	11,050	4,450
Nov	950	1,000	150	750	11,400	4,200
Dec	800	800	150	750	10,850	3,950
<u>2009</u>						
Jan	750	700	150	750	11,600	3,750
Feb	700	600	150	750	12,050	3,500
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

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.

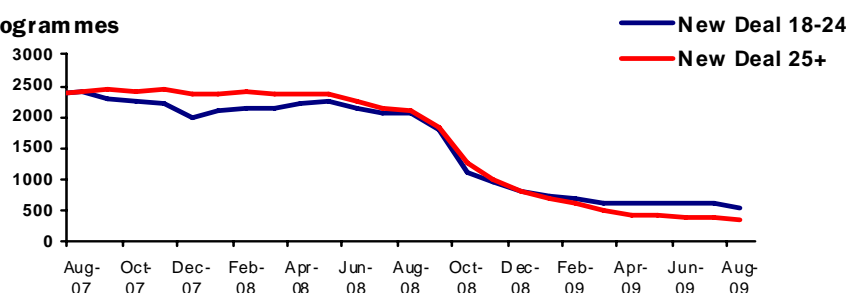
(3) Following the introduction of the Steps to Work (StW) initiative, participants starting New Deal 25+ in Knockbreda, Limavady, Lisburn and Shaftsbury Square (from April 2007) and in Carrickfergus and Magherafelt (from 28th January 2008) are not included in these statistics. From 25th February 2008, participants starting New Deal 18-24 in these six offices are also excluded. On 29th September 2008 StW was introduced in NI and subsumes New Deal – 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.

(5) August 2009 Jobskills and TfS figures are as at the 30th August 2009.

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 4,090 standardised vacancies notified in the period ending 7th August 2009. This was 36%

lower than the number of standardised vacancies notified in August 2008 (6,404) and 24% less than the number of vacancies notified in August 2006 (5,353).

Vacancies filled and cancelled (Outflows)

The number of standardised placed and cancelled vacancies in the period ending 7th August 2009 was 3,990. This was a decrease of 37% from August 2008 (6,343) and a decrease of 30% from the same period three years previously (5,717).

Unfilled Vacancies

A total of 5,564 unadjusted vacancies remained unfilled on 7th August 2009, a decrease of 43% on the amount of unfilled vacancies in August 2008 (9,724) and a decrease of 34% on the amount unfilled in August 2006 (8,488).

Vacancies Notified, Outflow and Vacancies Unfilled: August 2006 to August 2009

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
2006	04-Aug	4,941	5,353	10%	5,277	5,717	31%	8,488	-3%
2007	03-Aug	6,772	7,336	37%	6,801	7,368	29%	10,648	25%
2008	08-Aug	7,389	6,404	-13%	7,319	6,343	-14%	9,724	-9%
	05-Sep	6,591	7,140	-25%	5,878	6,368	-15%	10,437	-19%
	03-Oct	7,171	7,769	-47%	6,651	7,205	-44%	10,957	-25%
	07-Nov	7,155	6,201	-46%	8,714	7,552	-34%	9,398	-37%
	05-Dec	4,169	4,516	-45%	6,525	7,069	-35%	7,042	-40%
2009	02-Jan	2,137	2,315	-53%	4,551	4,930	-34%	4,628	-51%
	06-Feb	6,309	5,468	-45%	4,794	4,155	-45%	6,143	-49%
	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%

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 7743.

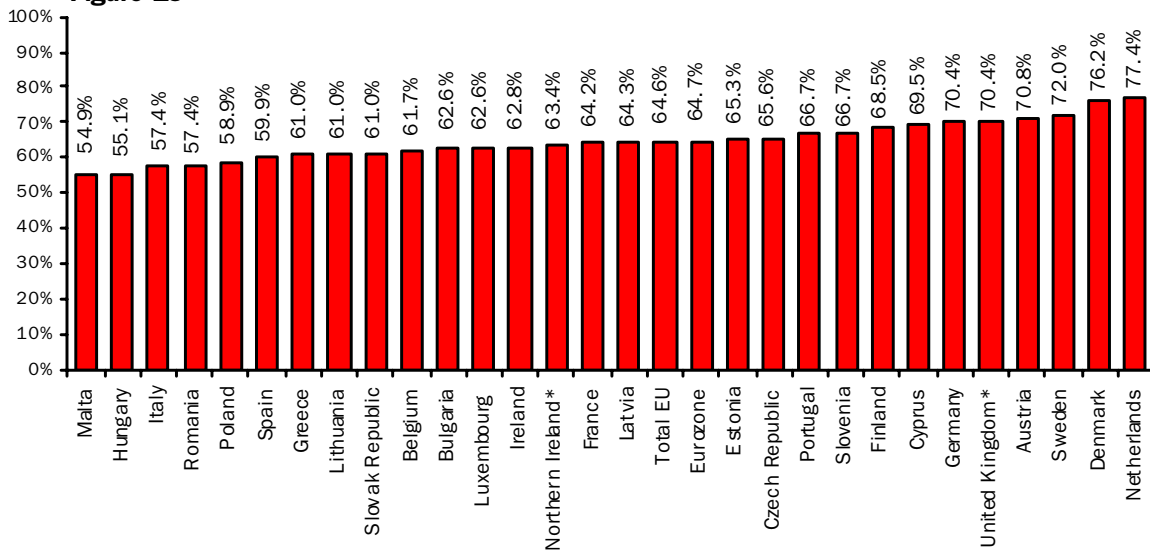
International - Regional Analysis

8

International Comparisons of ILO Employment and Unemployment

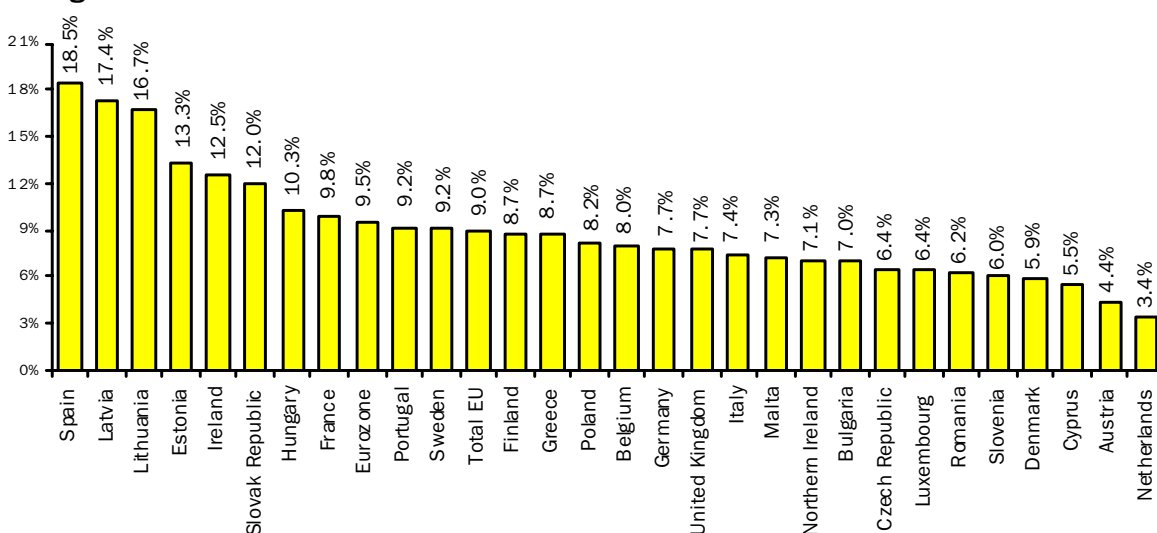
ILO Employment Rates (%) - Unadjusted

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 1 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. See link for further notes [International Comparisons of Employment](#)

Seasonally Adjusted Regional Summary, June – August 2009

Table 20

	Labour Force Survey (LFS) ¹						Employee Jobs ³	Claimant count rate (%) ⁴	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the year	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the month	Jobs Density Indicator ⁵
	Employment		Unemployment		Economically Inactive						
	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²					
	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²					
North East	68.5%	-1.6	9.5%	1.8	24.1%	0.2	1,023	7.3%	53.1%	0.8%	0.72
North West	70.8%	-0.9	8.7%	2.2	22.1%	-0.9	2,962	5.8%	61.5%	1.1%	0.80
Yorkshire & the Humber	71.1%	-2.5	8.6%	2.4	22.0%	0.5	2,165	6.0%	69.2%	1.1%	0.79
East Midlands	75.0%	-0.5	7.1%	0.9	19.0%	-0.2	1,837	5.1%	76.9%	1.4%	0.81
West Midlands	69.9%	-2.2	10.4%	4.0	21.5%	-1.2	2,271	6.7%	68.1%	1.9%	0.81
East	77.3%	-0.3	6.7%	1.9	17.1%	-1.4	2,346	4.3%	80.7%	0.9%	0.81
London	69.2%	-1.6	8.7%	1.2	24.0%	0.7	4,025	4.7%	61.4%	1.8%	0.93
South East	76.8%	-2.4	6.1%	1.5	18.0%	1.1	3,668	3.5%	97.2%	1.5%	0.86
South West	76.2%	-2.4	6.6%	2.6	18.2%	0.2	2,204	3.5%	88.2%	1.1%	0.86
England	72.9%	-1.6	7.9%	2.0	20.6%	0.0	22,500	5.0%	71.0%	1.4%	0.84
Wales	68.8%	-3.1	9.1%	3.2	24.1%	0.7	1,125	5.8%	68.2%	1.4%	0.76
Scotland	74.0%	-2.1	7.1%	2.5	20.2%	0.0	2,363	4.7%	58.6%	0.2%	0.84
Great Britain	72.8%	-1.7	7.9%	2.1	20.7%	0.0	25,988	5.0%	69.7%	1.3%	0.83
N Ireland	65.6%	-4.4	7.1%	2.8	29.3%	2.5	715	6.2%	79.3%	2.1%	0.78
United Kingdom	72.6%	-1.8	7.9%	2.1	21.0%	0.1	26,703	5.0%	70.0%	1.3%	0.83

¹ Employment and economic inactivity rates are based on working age population (16-59/64); Unemployment rates are based on 16+ population.

² Data refer to percentage point change of respective rate.

³ As at Mar 2009.

⁴ As at September 2009: percentage of the workforce.

⁵ 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. The key time series data also incorporates the latest mid year population estimates, however the more disaggregated 'microdata' has yet to be re-weighted to these totals (see link below for further details).

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 in the main LFS categories of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity were all statistically significant at the 95% level in Jun - Aug 2009.

Please see attached link for further LFS notes and definitions.

[Labour Force Survey Notes and Definitions](#)

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.

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

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

For Further Information:

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

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