



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 2009**

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Department of Enterprise,  
Trade and Investment

# **Monthly Labour Market Report**

May 2009

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# Labour Market

# 1

Seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey (LFS) data for Northern Ireland for the period January - March 2009 estimated increases over the quarter in the number of unemployed and economically inactive persons, while there was a decrease in the number of employed. The seasonally adjusted claimant count in April 2009 increased by 2,000 over the month to 46,100 and the Department was notified of 414 proposed redundancies in the latest reference period and 523 confirmed redundancies in April 2009.

## Employment

The number of persons in employment in the period January - March 2009 was estimated at 756,000. This estimate represented falls of 18,000 over the quarter and 29,000 over the year (see Table 1 for details of sampling error). The working age employment rate was estimated at 66.9%, down 1.9 percentage points over the quarter and 2.7 percentage points over the year. NI's working age employment rate remained well below the UK average (73.6%) and was the lowest of all the UK regions.

## Unemployment

The unemployment rate for the period January - March 2009 was estimated at 6.1%, up 1.0 percentage points over the quarter and 1.5 percentage points over the year. The number of unemployed persons was estimated at 49,000, up 7,000 over the quarter and 11,000 over the year.

Unadjusted figures show that 29.8% of the unemployed have been unemployed for 1 year or more – a decrease of 4.0 percentage points

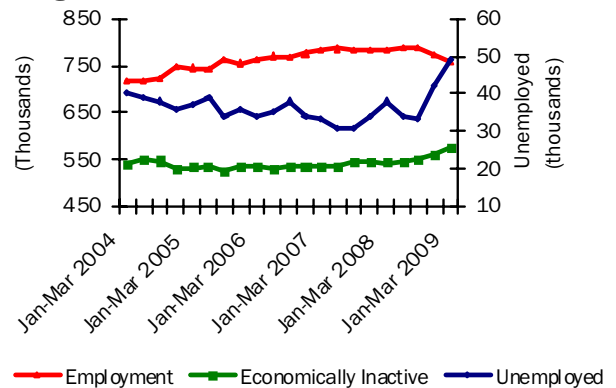
## Northern Ireland Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

**Table 1**

	Period	Estimate	Sampling Variability of estimate	Change over year	Sampling Variability of change
Employment	Jan-Mar 2009	756,000	+/-22,000	-29,000	+/-28,000
Unemployment	Jan-Mar 2009	49,000	+/-9,000	11,000	+/-12,000
Economically inactive	Jan-Mar 2009	573,000	+/-20,000	31,000	+/-25,000
Unemployment rate	Jan-Mar 2009	6.1%	+/-1.2pps	1.5pps	+/-1.5pps
Employment rate <sup>1</sup>	Jan-Mar 2009	66.9%	+/-1.8pps	-2.7pps	+/-2.2pps
Economic inactivity rate <sup>1</sup>	Jan-Mar 2009	28.6%	+/-1.7pps	1.8pps	+/-2.1pps
Claimant Count	April 2009	46,100		21,900	

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

**Seasonally Adjusted Labour Market Summary of Northern Ireland**  
**Figure 1**



over the year. They also estimate the unemployment rate for 18-24 year olds at 15.0% - an increase of 3.4 percentage points over the year.

## Economically Inactive

The seasonally adjusted number of economically inactive persons in the period January - March 2009 was estimated at 573,000. This figure has increased by 14,000 over the quarter and by 31,000 over the year.

The working age economic inactivity rate for NI stands at 28.6%. This is significantly higher than the UK average rate (20.7%) and is the highest of the 12 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 that want a job

(43,000) is almost as large as the number officially classified as unemployed.

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 employment and economic inactivity levels were statistically significant and the change in unemployment was approaching statistical significance (see table 1 and Section 9 for further details).

### Regional

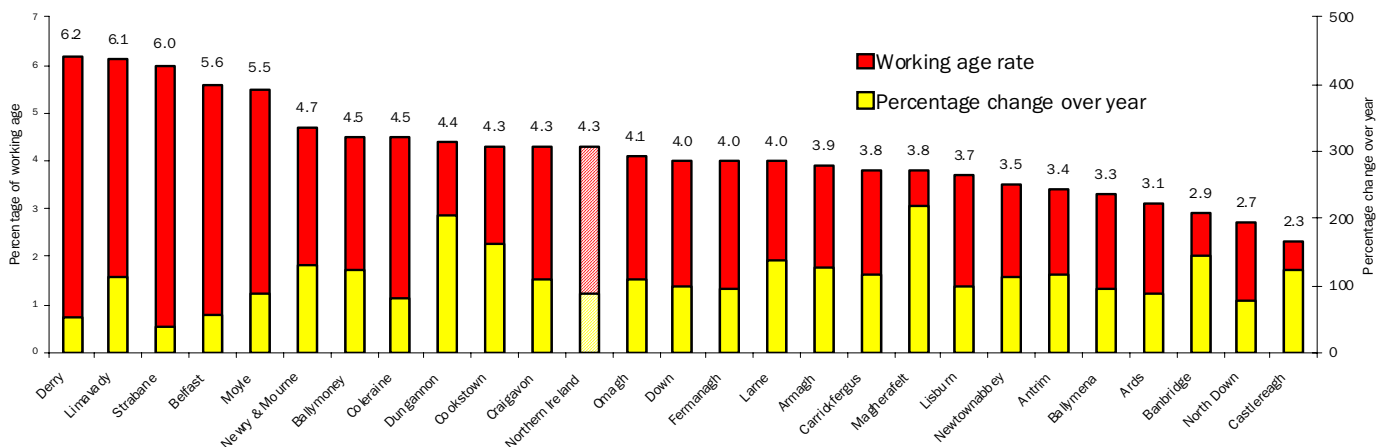
The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in NI (6.1%) remains below the UK average rate (7.1%) and is fifth lowest rate among the UK regions. The NI rate also compares to the European Union rate of 7.9% and the Republic of Ireland rate of 10.0% for February 2009.

### Claimant Count

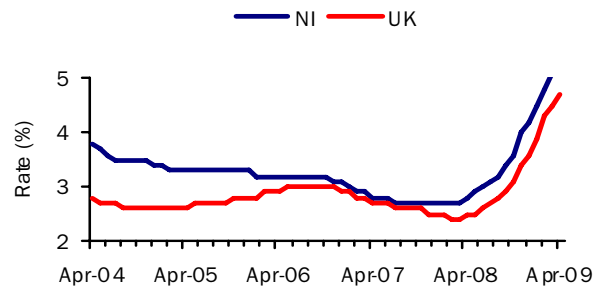
The more recent seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 2,000 over the month to April 2009 to 46,100 (5.3% of the workforce), 100 less than the previous monthly increase (2,100). The increase in April (2,000) was among the smallest of the monthly increases in the last six months. However, the monthly percentage increase (4.5%) was one of the highest percentage increases of the UK regions (the UK monthly percentage increase was 3.9%).

The annual increase in NI was 90.5% (21,900) and this was marginally higher than the equivalent UK increase (88.6%). The claimant count unemployment rate has risen by at least 0.2 percentage points each month in the last eight months and currently stands at 5.3% of the workforce. This compares to the UK rate of 4.7% of the workforce. Two thirds of the annual increase has occurred in the last 6 months, with the number of claimants increasing by 14,600.

**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 April 2009 were in Derry (6.2%), Limavady (6.1%) and Strabane (6.0%). Those that showed the highest percentage increase in levels over the year to April 2009 were Magherafelt (219.9%), Dungannon (206.1%) and Cookstown (162.3%), but their unemployment rates were still in the region of the Northern Ireland rate (4.3%).

### 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 65.6% (2,344 persons) to 5,916 over the year to April 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.

63H [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)

## Redundancies

The Department was notified of 414 proposed redundancies over the period mid April 2009 to mid May 2009. This compares to 819 proposed redundancies notified to the Department in the previous monthly period.

There were 523 confirmed redundancies in the month of April (Figure 5). Over the twelve monthly period there were a total of 4,249 confirmed redundancies, an increase of 159% (2,606) from the previous year. The highest number of confirmed redundancies took place in Belfast District Council area which had 18.9% (805) of all redundancies over the year.

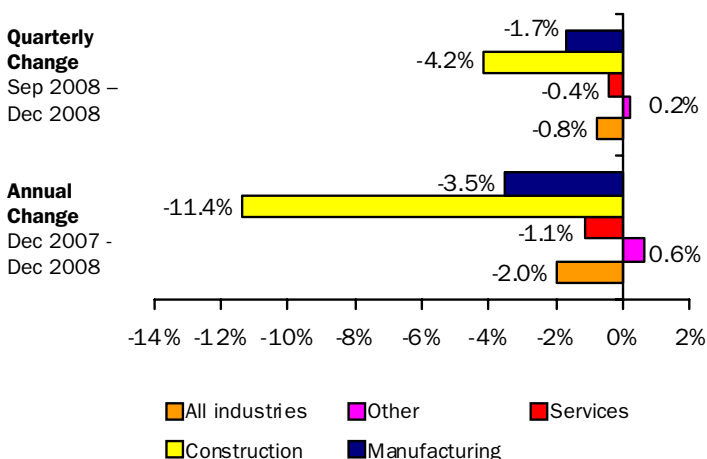
Over the twelve monthly period there were a total of 5,280 proposed redundancies, an increase of 78% (2,308) from the previous year.

Since the start of 2009 to 30<sup>th</sup> April there were a total of 3,149 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 December 2008 was 710,920. This represents a decrease of 5,370 over the quarter and a decrease of 14,200 over the year.

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

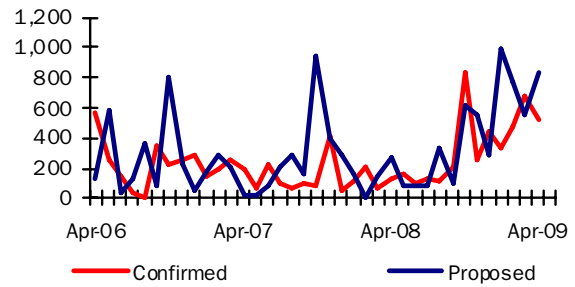


The seasonally adjusted quarterly change consisted of decreases in the Service sector (-2,220), Construction (-1,750) and Manufacturing (-1,440) sectors.

## Confirmed and Proposed Redundancies

April 06 - April 09

Figure 5

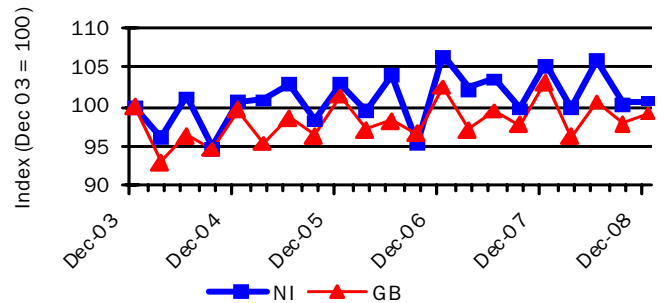


## Hours Worked

The total workforce hours worked per week in Northern Ireland in December 2008 was estimated at 26.0 million hours, representing a decrease of 4.4% over the year (similar to the decrease experienced in GB of 3.9%). Between December 2003 and December 2008, NI's total workforce hours worked per week increased marginally by 0.8%. This was compared with a 0.9% decrease in GB (Figure 6). In the three months to February 2009, the average actual weekly hours worked in NI was 32.4 hours, compared with 30.7 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).

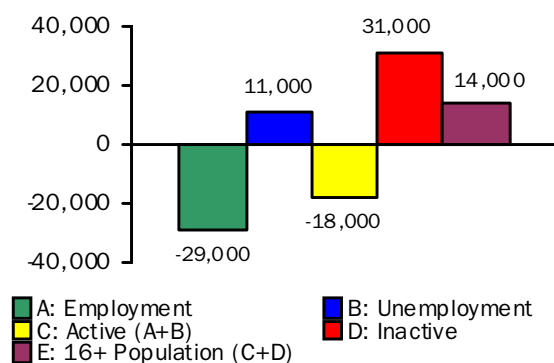
### Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

The latest seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey estimates for January - March 2009 (see Table 2) record the unemployment rate at 6.1% (49,000 persons), up 1.0 percentage points from the previous quarter. Employment was estimated to have fallen by 18,000 (2.3%) over the quarter to 756,000.

### Labour Market change over the year

In the year to January - March 2009 (see Figure 7), LFS figures estimate a fall of 29,000 in total employment and an increase of 11,000 in unemployment, leading to a fall of 18,000 in the economically active population (figures may not sum due to rounding). The number economically inactive rose by 31,000 over the year.

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



### Employment

Latest seasonally adjusted estimates show that there were 756,000 persons in employment, which represents a significant fall of 3.7% (29,000 persons) over the year. Of the total, 54% (405,000) were male and 46% (351,000) were female.

There was a decrease of 4.9% (-21,000) in the estimate for male employment and a fall of 2.3% (-8,000) in female employment over the year.

### Economic Inactivity

The number of economically inactive persons in the period January - March 2009 was estimated at 573,000. 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 2009 there were an estimated 313,000 economically inactive people of working age in NI. Of the total, 43% (135,000) were male and 57% (178,000) were female.

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

Unadjusted figures show that 87% of the economically inactive of working age do not want a job, while the remaining 13% want work, but are not actively seeking or available to start work.

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

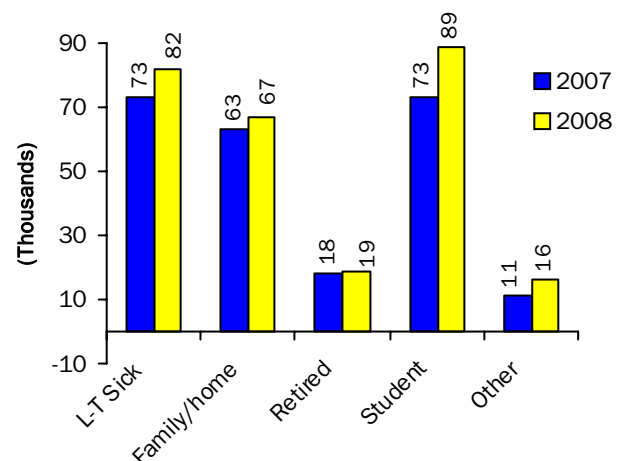


Figure 8 shows the reason given by these people for not wanting work. The largest categories were students (89,000), the long-term sick (82,000) and those looking after family/home (67,000). Among these categories, the largest change over the year occurred in the student group (+16,000 or 22%).



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

(Thousands)

	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 2006	1,331	1,063	796	762	34	535	4.3%	72.5%	69.4%
Jan-Mar 2007	1,349	1,075	816	783	33	533	4.1%	73.7%	70.6%
Jan-Mar 2008	1,364	1,085	822	785	38	542	4.6%	73.1%	69.7%
Apr-Jun 2008	1,368	1,086	823	788	34	545	4.2%	73.2%	70.1%
Jul-Sep 2008	1,371	1,088	821	788	33	550	4.1%	73.1%	70.1%
Oct-Dec 2008	1,374	1,090	816	774	42	559	5.1%	72.6%	68.8%
Jan-Mar 2009	1,378	1,092	805	756	49	573	6.1%	71.4%	66.9%
<b>Change on Quarter</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-11</b>	<b>-18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-1.9</b>
<b>Change on Year</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-18</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
<b>MALES</b>									
Jan-Mar 2006	644	547	440	417	24	203	5.4%	78.5%	74.2%
Jan-Mar 2007	653	554	445	426	20	207	4.4%	78.6%	75.1%
Jan-Mar 2008	660	559	451	426	25	210	5.4%	78.9%	74.5%
Apr-Jun 2008	662	560	451	427	24	211	5.3%	78.9%	74.7%
Jul-Sep 2008	664	561	446	421	26	217	5.7%	78.0%	73.5%
Oct-Dec 2008	666	562	446	413	32	220	7.3%	77.7%	72.0%
Jan-Mar 2009	667	563	438	405	33	229	7.5%	76.1%	70.2%
<b>FEMALES</b>									
Jan-Mar 2006	687	515	356	346	10	332	2.8%	66.2%	64.3%
Jan-Mar 2007	696	521	371	357	14	326	3.7%	68.4%	65.8%
Jan-Mar 2008	704	526	372	359	13	332	3.5%	67.0%	64.5%
Apr-Jun 2008	706	527	372	361	11	334	2.8%	67.2%	65.2%
Jul-Sep 2008	707	527	375	367	8	333	2.1%	67.8%	66.4%
Oct-Dec 2008	709	528	370	361	9	339	2.5%	67.2%	65.5%
Jan-Mar 2009	710	529	366	351	16	344	4.3%	66.4%	63.5%

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.

Figures for 2006 onwards have been revised to incorporate the latest mid year population estimates.

## 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 - Mar 2009)</a>	98 KB
<a href="#">Labour Force Survey (LFS) Local Area Database 2007</a>	386 KB
<a href="#">LFS Historical Supplement 2008</a>	418 KB
<a href="#">Women in Northern Ireland – September 2008</a>	203 KB
<a href="#">LFS Quarterly Supplement - October-December 2008</a>	369 KB
<a href="#">LFS Special Feature - Graduates (Quarter 4 2008)</a>	56 KB
<a href="#">LFS Special Feature – Households in NI (Quarter 2 2008)</a>	200 KB
<a href="#">LFS Special Feature – Self Employed (Quarter 2 2008)</a>	62 KB
<a href="#">LFS Special Feature – Health and Work (Quarter 1 2008)</a>	56 KB
<a href="#">LFS Special Feature – Work Patterns (Quarter 2 2007)</a>	59 KB
<a href="#">LFS Reweighted Back Series 1992-2008 (please enable macros)</a>	863 KB
<a href="#">LFS Historical Data 1995-2008 (please enable macros)</a>	312 KB
<a href="#">LFS Historical Data 1984-1991</a>	76 KB

# Claimant Count

# 3

## Unadjusted Claimant Count

The claimant count in NI at April 2009 was 46,857 (5.4% of the workforce), an increase of 3.5% (1,571) over the previous month. There was an increase of 89.2% (22,089) over the year and the rate increased by 2.6 percentage points. Five years ago the total was 31,691 (3.8%). (The seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 2,000 over the month.)

## Youth Claimants

15,953 under 25's (34.0% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in April 2009, an increase of 1.3% (197 claimants) over the month and an increase of 94.6% (7,754) over the year. Youth claimants represent 1.8% of the workforce.

## Long-term Claimants

At April 2009, 5,608 (12.0% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more, an increase of 2.8% (153 claimants) over the month and an increase of 33.3% (1,401) over the year. Long-term claimants represent 0.6% of the workforce.

## Flows out from Job Seekers Allowance

The success rate of job seekers leaving the count to obtain employment in March 2009 increased by 3.4 percentage points (from 36.6% to 40.0%) since the same time last year. Of the 7,370 flows from the count in March 2009, 2,951 found employment compared to 1,910 of the 5,225 claimants who left the count in March 2008. This compares to 22.9% three months ago, and 40.8% five years ago.

In the period from March 2008 to March 2009 the highest proportion (47.6%) of persons leaving JSA to find employment was in November 2008, while in December 2008 the proportion finding employment was at its lowest (22.9%). The highest proportion (11.6%) of persons leaving JSA to enter education or training occurred in June 2008. Those who left JSA to claim other benefits varied between 3.9% and 10.3% 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

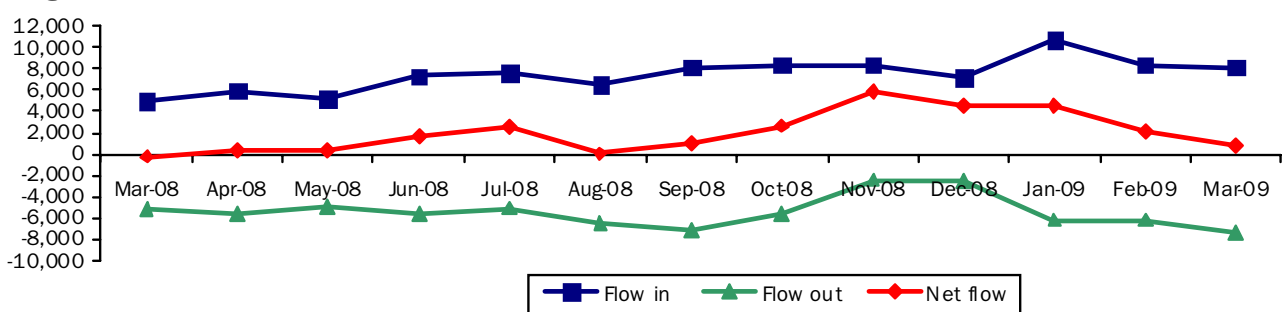
Of the 5,225 claimants who left the count in March 2008, 33.6% returned to the count within 3 months, 11.1% returned after 3-6 months and a further 12.5% returned after 6-12 months giving a total of 57.2% of those who left the count in March 2008 returned to claiming JSA within one year. This compares to 49.5% of leavers in March 2007 (1 year previously) and 46.6% of leavers in March 2003 (5 years previously) returning within one year.

## Net Flow

Between March 2008 and March 2009 there was a net flow of persons out from Job Seekers for only the first month (March 2008 (-214)) and a net flow onto Job Seekers for the remaining 12 months. Net flows on to Job Seekers in November (5,907), December 2008 (4,608) and January 2009 (4,478) were considerably higher than any other months in this period. A net flow of 791 on to Job Seekers occurred in March 2009 which was the lowest net flow on since August 2008 (16).

## Flows in and out from JSA

Figure 9

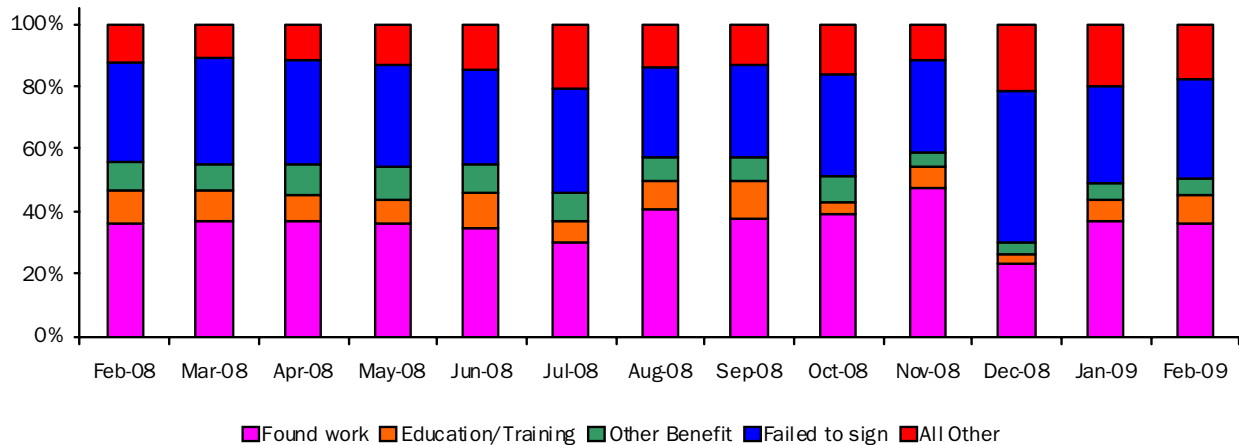


**Claimant Count by District Council Area – April 2009**  
**Number, Rate and % change over month and year (including jobs density indicator at 2007\*)**  
**Table 5**

District	Number of Claimants			% Of Working Age			Change over month		Change over Year		Jobs Density
	Males	Females	All	Males	Females	All	Number	%	Number	%	Indicator*
Antrim	875	236	1,111	5.1	1.5	3.4	21	1.9	596	115.7	0.93
Ards	1,165	334	1,499	4.7	1.5	3.1	8	0.5	696	86.7	0.44
Armagh	1,086	268	1,354	6.1	1.6	3.9	63	4.9	760	127.9	0.71
Ballymena	973	272	1,245	4.9	1.5	3.3	28	2.3	603	93.9	0.99
Ballymoney	632	187	819	6.6	2.2	4.5	26	3.3	449	121.4	0.51
Banbridge	673	175	848	4.4	1.3	2.9	23	2.8	502	145.1	0.51
Belfast	7,599	1,829	9,428	9.1	2.2	5.6	376	4.2	3,365	55.5	1.36
Carrickfergus	733	204	937	5.8	1.7	3.8	51	5.8	502	115.4	0.39
Castlereagh	734	187	921	3.7	1.0	2.3	55	6.4	508	123.0	0.74
Coleraine	1,196	344	1,540	6.7	2.1	4.5	-49	-3.1	694	82.0	0.80
Cookstown	759	188	947	6.5	1.8	4.3	34	3.7	586	162.3	0.66
Craigavon	1,892	502	2,394	6.6	1.9	4.3	151	6.7	1,252	109.6	0.79
Derry	3,375	883	4,258	9.7	2.6	6.2	87	2.1	1,449	51.6	0.72
Down	1,405	283	1,688	6.2	1.4	4.0	45	2.7	840	99.1	0.54
Dungannon	1,156	347	1,503	6.4	2.2	4.4	48	3.3	1,012	206.1	0.78
Fermanagh	1,209	301	1,510	6.0	1.7	4.0	11	0.7	733	94.3	0.73
Larne	607	173	780	6.0	1.9	4.0	58	8.0	451	137.1	0.54
Limavady	1,061	280	1,341	8.9	2.8	6.1	5	0.4	710	112.5	0.57
Lisburn	2,028	556	2,584	5.7	1.6	3.7	103	4.2	1,275	97.4	0.69
Magherafelt	842	185	1,027	5.8	1.5	3.8	42	4.3	706	219.9	0.67
Moyle	438	117	555	8.3	2.4	5.5	-6	-1.1	260	88.1	0.47
Newry & Mourne	2,269	484	2,753	7.4	1.7	4.7	155	6.0	1,560	130.8	0.70
Newtownabbey	1,375	368	1,743	5.3	1.5	3.5	110	6.7	920	111.8	0.70
North Down	962	350	1,312	3.8	1.5	2.7	37	2.9	571	77.1	0.54
Omagh	1,047	265	1,312	6.2	1.7	4.1	90	7.4	680	107.6	0.72
Strabane	1,174	274	1,448	9.2	2.4	6.0	-1	-0.1	409	39.4	0.48
<b>NI TOTAL</b>	<b>37,265</b>	<b>9,592</b>	<b>46,857</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>1,571</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>22,089</b>	<b>89.2</b>	<b>0.78</b>

\* 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 April 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 April 2009, 30.5% (14,170) 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 21.2% (9,830) gave their usual occupation as working in the Skilled Trades. These two groups account for about one half of all claimants in April 2009. The smallest occupation group, with 2.3% (1,075) of all claimants, was Professional Occupations.

Overall the NI claimant count (computerised claims only) increased by 3.6% over the month to April 2009. All nine occupational groups showed an increase in levels with the largest increase occurring in Skilled Trade Occupations which increased by 340 (3.6%), followed by Process, Plant and Machine Operatives which increased by 255 (3.6%) and Elementary Occupations which also increased by 255 (1.8%). The group that showed the smallest increase in levels was Personal Service Occupations which increased by 60 (3.3%).

**Claimant Count (unadjusted) by Usual Occupation – April 2009 (Computerised claims only)**  
**Table 6**

Occupational Groups (Usual Occupation)	April 2009		Change over month	
	Number of Claimants	% of Claimants	Number of claimants	% change
Managers and Senior Officials	1,095	2.4	115	11.7
Professional Occupations	1,075	2.3	115	12.0
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	1,925	4.1	120	6.6
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	3,580	7.7	120	3.5
Skilled Trade Occupations	9,830	21.2	340	3.6
Personal Service Occupations	1,885	4.1	60	3.3
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	5,440	11.7	215	4.1
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	7,415	16.0	255	3.6
Elementary Occupations	14,170	30.5	255	1.8
Not Known	65	0.1	10	18.2
<b>NI Total</b>	<b>46,475</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,595</b>	<b>3.6</b>

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

**Table 7**

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

# Redundancies

## 4

There were 4,249 confirmed redundancies over the year to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009, an increase of 159% compared to the same period in the previous year (1,643). Of these, 523 confirmed redundancies took place during the calendar month of April 2009 and 674 in the previous month of March 2009. This compares to 136 in April 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 (805), Limavady (754) and Craigavon (421) District Council areas.

**Confirmed redundancies by District Council in year to 30 April 2009**  
**Table 8**

District Council Area	Total
Antrim	29
Ards	24
Armagh	0
Ballymena	37
Ballymoney	167
Banbridge	77
Belfast	805
Carrickfergus	152
Castlereagh	23
Coleraine	167
Cookstown	82
Craigavon	421
Derry	275
Down	0
Dungannon	221
Fermanagh	25
Larne	251
Limavady	754
Lisburn	119
Magherafelt	66
Moyle	0
Newry & Mourne	222
Newtownabbey	276
North Down	40
Omagh	16
Strabane	0
N.Ireland	4,249

Of these 4,249 confirmed redundancies, 3,331 or 78% were in the Manufacturing sector, with 1,446 redundancies (34% of all redundancies) occurring in the Manufacture of Electrical and Optical Equipment.

Altogether there have been 2,152 outstanding redundancies notified that have yet to take place compared with 1,539 this time one year ago (an increase of 40%).

**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
<a href="#">Job Centre Area (Jan 1996 – Jun 2003)</a>	68.5KB

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

# Quarterly Employment Survey

## 5

### Seasonally Adjusted

The December 2008 seasonally adjusted employee jobs figure stands at 710,920.

This represents a seasonally adjusted decrease of 0.8% (or 5,370 jobs) from the revised September 2008 estimate of 716,290.

Over the quarter seasonally adjusted employee jobs decreased in the Service Sector by 0.4% (2,220 jobs) while employee jobs in the Construction Sector fell by 4.2% (1,750 jobs) and the number of employee jobs in the Manufacturing Sector fell by 1.7% (1,440 jobs),

### Unadjusted

The December 2008 seasonally unadjusted figure stands at 714,950.

This represents an increase of 0.2% (or 1,490 jobs) from September 2008 and a decrease of 2.0% (14,400 jobs) in the past year.

Over the year, December 2007 to December 2008, the unadjusted employee jobs figure for Construction decreased by 11.4% (5,090 jobs), Manufacturing employee jobs decreased by 3.5% (3,120 jobs) while employee jobs in the Service Sector decreased by 1.1% (6,290 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 1998 and 2005, with the figure for 2005 falling to 81% of the 1998 figure. Manufacturing employee jobs in NI have been fairly stable between 2005 and 2007, with the 2007 figure remaining at 83% of the 1998 level. However manufacturing jobs have fallen again in 2008 to 80% of their 1998 level.

Manufacturing jobs in GB have been in sharp decline from 1998 and the 2008 estimate stands at only 68% of the 1998 level.

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

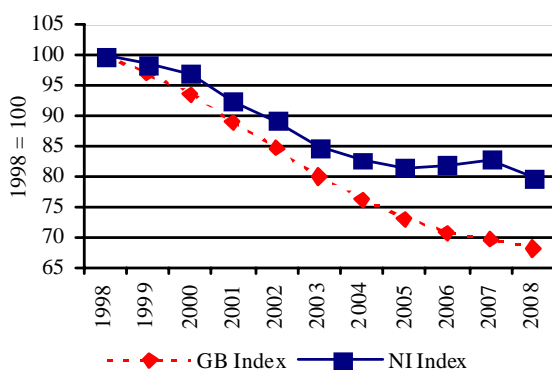
Over the period 1998-2008, Manufacturing jobs in NI decreased by 21,670, with 10 of the 14 manufacturing subsections recording a decrease. The largest decrease occurred in the Manufacture of Wearing Apparel, with a fall of 10,230 jobs. There were 7,990 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of Textiles, 3,540 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of Radio, Television and Communication equipment, 1,550 fewer in the Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment and 1,110 fewer in the Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers.

However these decreases were somewhat offset by an increase in the Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products (+1,560), Recycling (+1,150), the Manufacture of Electrical Machinery (+880), and the Manufacture of Wood Products (+850 jobs).

The large decline in the Manufacture of Textiles and Wearing Apparel sectors has impacted on the structure of Northern Ireland Manufacturing jobs. In 1998 19% of Manufacturing jobs were located in the Textiles and Wearing Apparel sectors; by 2008 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 2008**  
**Table 10**

				% change in total	
	Males	Females	All persons	since last quarter	since last year
Manufacturing	66,820	18,770	85,590	-1.7	-3.5
Construction <sup>1</sup>	35,330	4,310	39,630	-4.2	-11.4
Services	227,500	341,050	568,550	-0.4	-1.1
Other <sup>2</sup>	14,820	2,320	17,140	0.2	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>344,460</b>	<b>366,450</b>	<b>710,920</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-2.0</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> Covers Industry Sections A, B, C 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		93,750	35,460	521,520	19,100	669,840
	June		92,140	36,020	526,620	19,510	674,290
	September		91,690	35,970	528,430	19,480	675,580
	December		90,660	36,220	531,410	19,550	677,850
2004	March		90,180	36,330	535,180	19,530	681,220
	June		89,310	36,290	536,980	21,550	684,130
	September		88,880	36,250	542,080	19,150	686,370
	December		88,480	36,500	546,460	19,450	690,880
2005	March		88,230	36,970	552,220	19,120	696,540
	June		87,560	37,830	553,170	17,730	696,290
	September		87,340	38,240	554,420	17,760	697,770
	December	(R)	86,970	39,990	559,380	17,780	704,130
2006	March	(R)	87,180	40,900	560,620	17,810	706,510
	June	(R)	87,010	41,220	561,290	17,190	706,720
	September	(R)	87,180	41,690	563,510	17,230	709,610
	December	(R)	87,250	42,050	566,940	17,270	713,520
2007	March	(R)	86,950	42,590	568,510	17,350	715,380
	June	(R)	87,470	43,670	572,260	17,110	720,510
	September	(R)	87,400	44,340	576,070	17,080	724,890
	December	(R)	88,690	44,720	574,680	17,030	725,120
2008	March	(R)	88,690	44,180	575,690	16,990	725,550
	June	(R)	88,370	43,040	576,040	17,100	724,550
	September	(R)	87,030	41,380	570,780	17,100	716,290
	December	(P)	85,590	39,630	568,550	17,140	710,920

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

P= Provisional R= Revised

<sup>2</sup> Covers Industry Sections A, B, C 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 2008</a>	15.5 KB
5.2	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted 1998 – 2008</a>	15.5 KB
5.3	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs - Unadjusted 1998 – 2008</a>	15.5 KB
5.4	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs (Unadjusted) by Industry Section - December 2008</a>	15.5 KB
5.5	<a href="#">NI Public Sector Jobs (Unadjusted) – December 2008</a>	13.5 KB
5.6	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs by Industry Section (Unadjusted) December 2007, September 2008 and December 2008</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 - 2008</a>	15.0 KB
5.9	<a href="#">NI Employee Jobs by 2-digit SIC03 Class - December 2008</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 2008</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 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.

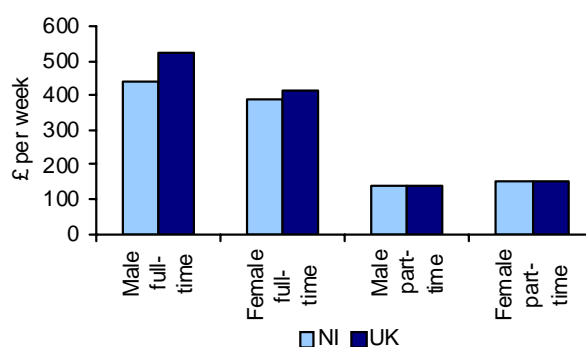
The gender pay gap has been relatively unchanged in NI over the period 2006-2008. Female full-time median hourly earnings excluding overtime were slightly less than male earnings (97.4% in NI compared to 87.2% in the UK) at April 2008. It should be noted that gender pay differences continue to exist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

£ 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	<a href="#">ASHE 1997 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	42 KB
6.2	<a href="#">ASHE 1998 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	68 KB
6.3	<a href="#">ASHE 1999 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	72 KB
6.4	<a href="#">ASHE 2000 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	48 KB
6.5	<a href="#">ASHE 2001 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	72 KB
6.6	<a href="#">ASHE 2002 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	78 KB
6.7	<a href="#">ASHE 2003 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	163 KB
6.8	<a href="#">ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding supplementary information</a>	51 KB
6.9	<a href="#">ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB
6.10	<a href="#">ASHE 2005 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB
6.11	<a href="#">ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding methodological changes</a>	168 KB
6.12	<a href="#">ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	176 KB
6.13	<a href="#">ASHE 2007 Headline Data for Key Variables - revised</a>	165 KB
6.14	<a href="#">ASHE 2008 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	157 KB

# Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training

## 7

**Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training Measures**  
**Participation in the Department for Employment and Learning Schemes to March 2009**  
**Table 18**

	Adults				Young People			
	New Deal 18-24 (2, 3)	New Deal 25+ (2, 3)	Future Managers	Employment Support	Training for Success (4, 5)	Jobskills (4, 5)	% in Jobskills Access Training	% in Jobskills Mainstream Training
<u>2007</u>								
Mar	2,700	2,550	100	900	-	13,000	14	86
<u>2008</u>								
Mar	2,150	2,350	150	800	-	7,350	7	93
Apr	2,200	2,350	150	800	5,750	6,650	7	93
May	2,250	2,350	150	800	5,800	6,300	6	94
Jun	2,150	2,250	150	800	5,800	5,950	5	95
Jul	2,050	2,150	200	800	5,750	5,700	5	95
Aug	2,050	2,100	150	800	5,550	5,150	5	95
Sep	1,800	1,850	150	800	9,450	4,750	4	96
Oct	1,100	1,250	150	750	11,050	4,450	4	96
Nov	950	1,050	150	750	11,400	4,200	4	96
Dec	800	800	150	750	10,850	3,950	4	96
<u>2009</u>								
Jan	750	700	150	750	11,600	3,750	3	97
Feb	700	600	150	750	12,050	3,500	3	97
Mar	650	500	150	750	12,100	3,250	4	96

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.

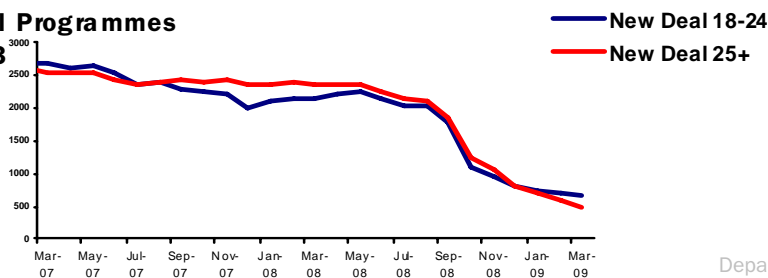
(3) Following the introduction of the Steps to Work (StW) initiative, participants starting New Deal 25+ in Knockbreda, Limavady, Lisburn and Shaftsbury Square (from April 2007) and in Carrickfergus and Magherafelt (from 28th January 2008) are not included in these statistics. From 25th February 2008, 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.

(5) March 2009 Jobskills and TfS figures are as at the 15th March 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 5,566 standardised vacancies notified in the period ending 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009. This was 34%

lower than the number of standardised vacancies notified in March 2008 (8,483) and 1% less than the number of vacancies notified in March 2006 (5,616).

### Vacancies filled and cancelled (Outflows)

The number of standardised placed and cancelled vacancies in the period ending 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009 was 5,176. This was a decrease of 32% from March 2008 (7,654), but an increase of 19% from the same period three years previously (4,334).

### Unfilled Vacancies

A total of 6,503 unadjusted vacancies remained unfilled on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009, a decrease of 49% on the amount of unfilled vacancies in March 2008 (12,763) and a decrease of 33% on the amount unfilled in March 2006 (9,691).

## Vacancies Notified, Outflow and Vacancies Unfilled: March 2006 to March 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	03-Mar	5,184	5,616	5%	4,001	4,334	-9%	9,691	0%
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%
	04-Apr	6,211	6,729	-12%	7,903	8,562	+8%	11,071	+3%
	02-May	7,508	8,134	-2%	8,070	8,743	+19%	10,509	-10%
	06-Jun	8,667	7,511	-8%	8,611	7,463	-8%	10,565	-10%
	04-Jul	5,785	6,267	-17%	6,696	7,254	-16%	9,654	-10%
	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%
2009	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%
	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%

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.

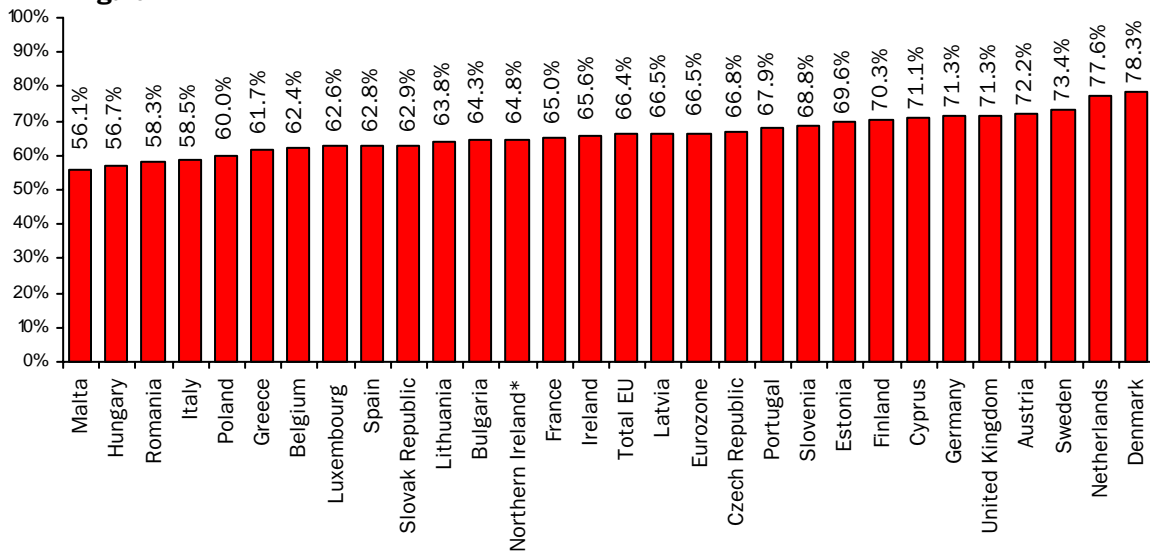
# International - Regional Analysis



## International Comparisons of ILO Employment and Unemployment

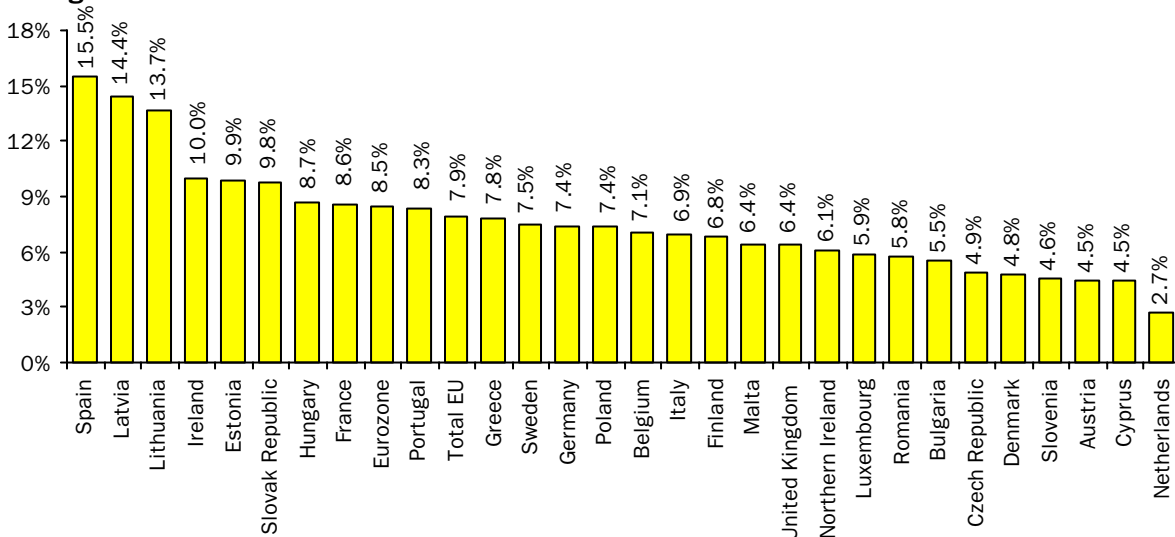
### ILO Employment Rates (%) - Unadjusted

Figure 14



### Unemployment Rates (%) - Seasonally Adjusted

Figure 15



Source: Eurostat

\* A NI employment rate comparable to the EUROSTAT figures has been produced from the Calendar Quarter 4 2008 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 64H [International Comparisons of Employment](#)

**Seasonally Adjusted Regional Summary, January - March 2009**

**Table 20**

	Total aged 16 and over	Total Economic Active	Total in employment	Unemployed	Economically Inactive	Activity rate (%) 16-59/64	Unemployment rate (%)	Employee Jobs <sup>1</sup>	Claimant count rate (%) <sup>2</sup>	Jobs Density Indicator <sup>3</sup>
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
North East	2,083	1,253	1,149	105	830	76.3%	8.3%	1,029	6.9%	0.78
North West	5,509	3,416	3,145	271	2,093	77.8%	7.9%	2969	5.4%	0.85
Yorkshire & the Humber	4,199	2,623	2,414	209	1,576	78.1%	8.0%	2,181	5.6%	0.86
East Midlands	3,587	2,323	2,159	164	1,264	81.5%	7.1%	1,866	4.9%	0.81
West Midlands	4,307	2,662	2,416	246	1,645	77.7%	9.3%	2,306	6.3%	0.87
East	4,584	3,007	2,829	178	1,577	82.7%	5.9%	2,365	4.0%	0.84
London	6,120	4,053	3,720	333	2,067	76.8%	8.2%	4,040	4.2%	1.02
South East	6,691	4,430	4,194	236	2,260	82.8%	5.3%	3,692	3.3%	0.89
South West	4,243	2,731	2,574	157	1,512	82.8%	5.7%	2,206	3.4%	0.90
England	41,323	26,498	24,599	1,899	14,825	79.7%	7.2%	22,654	4.6%	0.88
Wales	2,412	1,443	1,332	111	969	76.5%	7.7%	1,143	5.5%	0.86
Scotland	4,200	2,678	2,521	157	1,522	79.8%	5.9%	2,375	4.4%	0.91
Great Britain	47,935	30,619	28,453	2,166	17,316	79.6%	7.1%	26,172	4.6%	0.88
N Ireland	1,378	805	756	49	573	71.4%	6.1%	711	5.3%	0.79
United Kingdom	49,312	31,419	29,204	2,215	17,893	79.3%	7.1%	26,884	4.7%	0.88

<sup>1</sup> As at Dec 2008

<sup>2</sup> As at April 2009: percentage of the workforce

<sup>3</sup> Not seasonally adjusted – data relates to 2006. 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 and economic inactivity were statistically significant at the 95% level in January – March 2009 and the annual change in unemployment was approaching statistical significance.

Please see attached link for further LFS notes and definitions.

[65H 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.

#### Redundancies

Under the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 companies are only legally required to notify the Department of impending redundancies of 20 or more employees before giving notice to terminate an employee's contract of employment and at least 30 days before the first dismissal if 20 to 99 redundancies may occur or at least 90 days before the first dismissal if 100 or more redundancies may occur. Proposed redundancies are notified to the Department using the Advance Notification HR1 form. Figures on proposed redundancies are based on information from these HR1 forms received.

[66H Background Notes to the Quarterly Employment Survey \(QES\)](#)

[67H 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:**

68H [www.statistics.detini.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.detini.gov.uk)

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