

Labour Market

Statistics Bulletin

Monthly Labour Market Report

February 2010



Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Investment

Monthly Labour Market Report

February 2010

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Labour Market

1

Seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey (LFS) data for Northern Ireland for the period October - December 2009 estimated an increase over the quarter in the number of employed persons, while there was a fall in the number of economically inactive and in the number of unemployed. The seasonally adjusted claimant count in January 2010 increased by 1,400 over the month to 56,100 and the Department was notified of 512 proposed redundancies in the latest reference period and 147 confirmed redundancies in January 2010.

Employment

The number of persons in employment in the period October - December 2009 was estimated at 765,000. This represented an increase of 13,000 over the quarter, but a fall of 5,000 over the year. The working age employment rate was estimated at 67.3%, up 1.0 percentage points over the quarter, but down 1.2 percentage points over the year. NI's working age employment rate remained well below the UK average (72.4%) and was the lowest of the twelve UK regions.

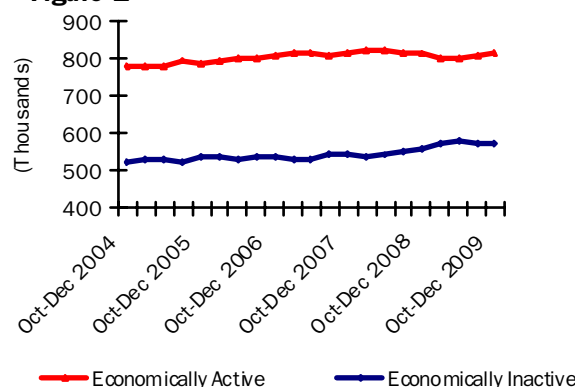
Unemployment

The unemployment rate for the period October - December 2009 was estimated at 6.0%, down 1.0 percentage points over the quarter, but up 0.7 percentage points over the year. The number of unemployed persons was estimated at 49,000, down 8,000 over the quarter, but up 6,000 over the year. The male unemployment rate (7.7%) was almost double the female rate (4.0%) in October - December 2009.

Unadjusted figures show that 40.0% of the unemployed have been unemployed for 1 year or more – up 6.4 percentage points over the year.

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

Figure 1



They also estimate the unemployment rate for 18-24 year olds at 12.0% – down 1.4 percentage points over the year.

Economically Inactive

The seasonally adjusted number of economically inactive persons in the period October - December 2009 was estimated at 573,000. This figure has decreased by 2,000 over the quarter, but was up 12,000 over the year.

The working age economic inactivity rate for NI stands at 28.3%. This is significantly higher than the UK average rate (21.3%) and is the highest of the twelve 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 (50,000) 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	Oct-Dec 2009	765,000	+/-22,000	-5,000	+/-28,000
Unemployment	Oct-Dec 2009	49,000	+/-9,000	6,000	+/-12,000
Economically inactive	Oct-Dec 2009	573,000	+/-20,000	12,000	+/-26,000
Unemployment rate	Oct-Dec 2009	6.0%	+/-1.2pps	0.7pps	+/-1.6pps
Employment rate ¹	Oct-Dec 2009	67.3%	+/-1.8pps	-1.2pps	+/-2.3pps
Economic inactivity rate ¹	Oct-Dec 2009	28.3%	+/-1.7pps	0.6pps	+/-2.2pps
Claimant Count	January 2010	56,100		17,000	

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

Estimates from the LFS have an associated degree of statistical error as they are based on a sample of the population. None of the annual changes for the main economic categories (in employment, unemployment and economic inactivity) were sufficiently large to be considered statistically significant (see table 1 and Section 9 for further details).

Unemployment Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in NI (6.0%) remained below the UK average rate (7.8%) and was the lowest rate among the twelve UK regions. The NI rate also compared favourably to the European Union rate (9.5%) and the Republic of Ireland rate (12.9%) for November 2009. The annual increase in the NI unemployment rate (+0.7 percentage points) was lower than the UK average increase (+1.4 percentage points).

Claimant Count

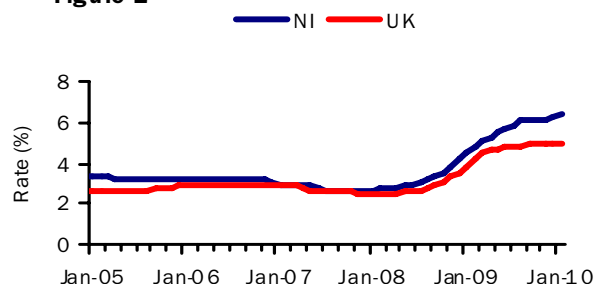
The more recent seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 1,400 over the month to January 2010 to 56,100 (6.4% of the workforce). The latest monthly increase was higher than the increase recorded for the previous month (700) and was the largest increase since August 2009. The increase over the year was 17,000 (43.5%) and the workforce rate has increased by 1.9 percentage points over the same period.

Claimant Count Regional Comparison

The seasonally adjusted claimant count rate in NI (6.4%) was higher than the UK average rate (5.0%) and was the third highest rate among the UK regions. Over the month to January 2010 the NI Claimant Count level increased by 2.6%, while the UK average increased by 1.5% (Figure 2). This was the second largest monthly increase of the twelve UK regions. Over the year the NI Claimant Count level increased by 43.5%, which was higher than the UK average (30.5%) and was the highest annual increase among the twelve UK regions.

Seasonally Adjusted Claimant Count Monthly Rates

Figure 2



Claimant count rates for District Council Areas

Figure 3 (unadjusted numbers as a percentage of the resident working age population) show that the highest rates at January 2010 were in Strabane (7.3%), Derry (7.3%) and Limavady (7.1%). Those that showed the highest percentage increase in levels over the year to January 2010 were Castlereagh (77.7%), Newry and Mourne (64.0%) and Armagh (61.4%).

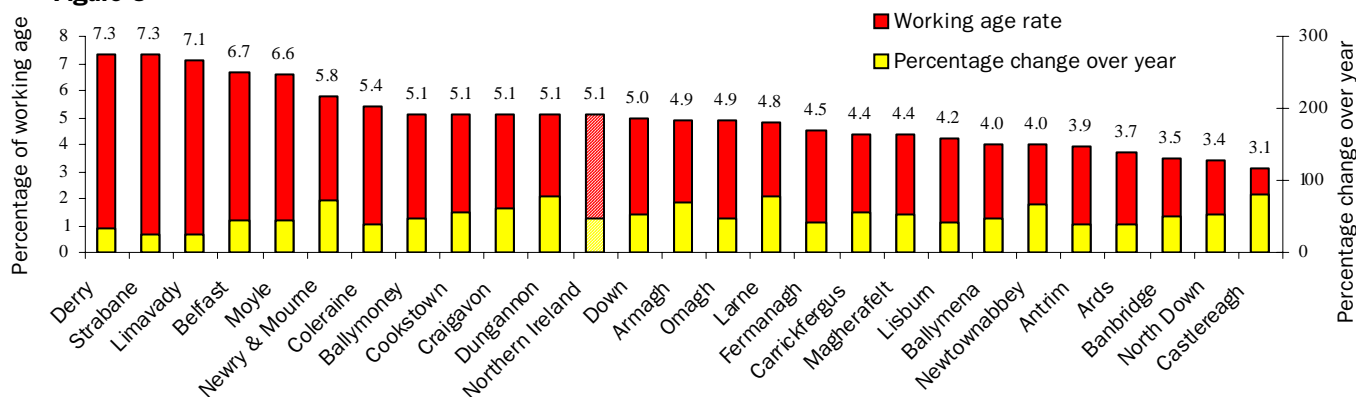
Employment and Training Measures

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 99.1% (4,672 persons) to 9,388 over the year to January 2010 in the number of those claimants who are eligible for mandatory participation on Steps to Work. However, anyone over 18 years old (or lone parents aged 16 years old or over) who is not working (or working less than 16 hours each week) is eligible. New Deal statistics are currently accessible via the DEL web link below - Steps to Work statistics will be published when data is available.

www.delni.gov.uk/index/statistics-and-research/labour-market/new-deal-statistics.htm

Unadjusted Claimant Count Rates By District Council Area

Figure 3



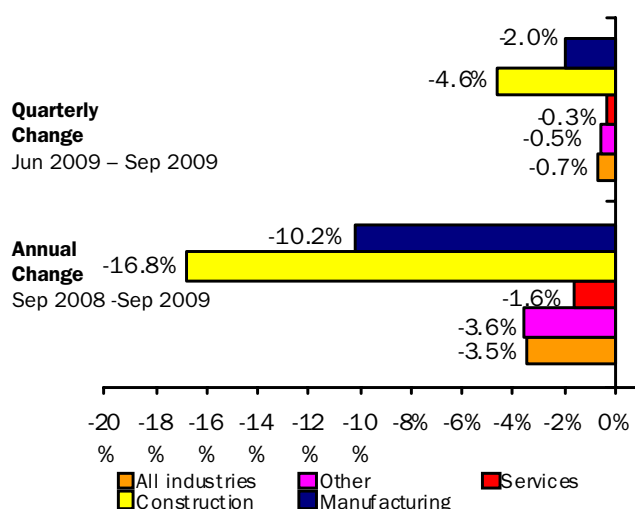
Redundancies

The Department was notified of 512 proposed redundancies over the period mid January 2010 to mid February 2010. This compares to 248 proposed redundancies notified to the Department in the previous monthly period. There were 147 confirmed redundancies in the month of January (Figure 5). Over the twelve monthly period there were a total of 4,410 confirmed redundancies, an increase of 47% from the previous year (2,998). The highest number of confirmed redundancies took place in Belfast District Council area which had 32.3% (1,424) of all redundancies over the year. Over the twelve monthly period there were a total of 5,166 proposed redundancies, an increase of 46% from the previous year (3,530). Currently there are 1,521 outstanding redundancies (that is, proposed but not confirmed), which is 24% lower than this time last year (1,996). Note that since all proposed redundancies do not actually take place, the confirmed total provides a better indication of real job losses.

Quarterly Employment Survey

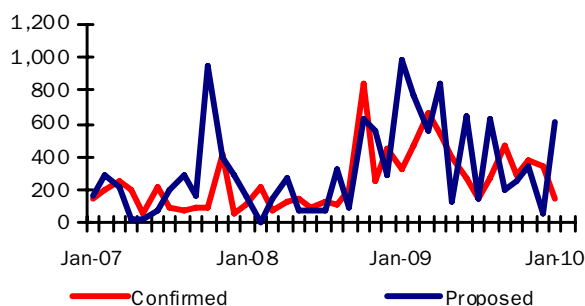
The QES provides an estimate of the number of jobs (rather than persons in employment) and is the preferred measure of change in employee jobs. The estimated seasonally adjusted employee jobs total in Northern Ireland at September 2009 was 701,730. This represents a decrease of 5,010 over the quarter and a decrease of 25,600 over the year.

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



The seasonally adjusted quarterly change consisted of decreases in Manufacturing (-1,540), in the Service sector (-1,640) and in Construction (-1,720).

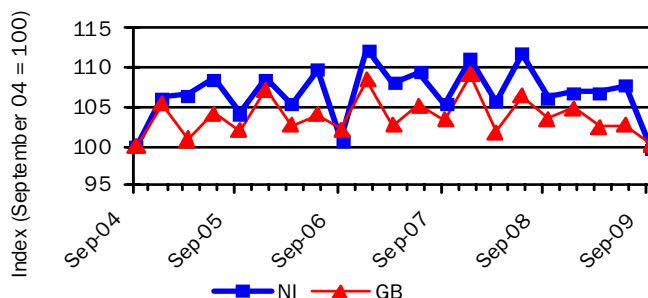
Confirmed and Proposed Redundancies
January 07 - January 10
Figure 5



Hours Worked

The total workforce hours worked per week in Northern Ireland in September 2009 was estimated at 24.4 million hours, representing a decrease of 6.2% over the year (compared with a decrease of 3.2% in GB). Between September 2004 and September 2009, NI's total workforce hours worked per week decreased by 0.4%, compared with a 0.2% increase in GB (Figure 6). In the three months to November 2009, the average actual weekly hours worked in NI was 33.6 hours, compared with 32.6 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)

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

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

Labour Force Survey

2

Background

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

Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

The latest seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey estimates for October - December 2009 (see Table 2) record the unemployment rate at 6.0% (49,000 persons), down 1.0 percentage points from the previous quarter. Employment was estimated to have increased by 13,000 (1.7%) over the quarter to 765,000.

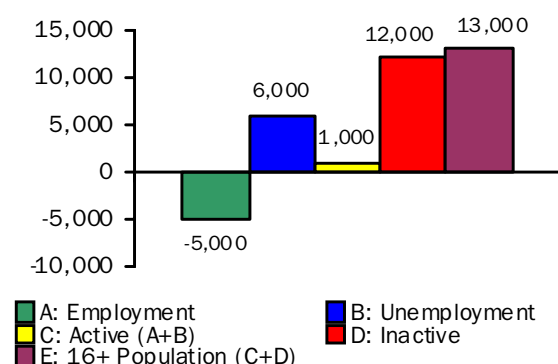
Labour Market change over the year

In the year to October - December 2009 (see Figure 7), LFS figures show a fall of 5,000 in total employment and an increase of 6,000 in unemployment, leading to a rise of 1,000 in the economically active population (figures may not sum due to rounding). The number economically inactive rose by 12,000 over the year.

Labour Market Structure

Change over the year

Figure 7



Employment

Latest seasonally adjusted estimates show that there were 765,000 persons in employment, which represents a fall of 0.7% (5,000 persons) over the year. Of the total, 54% (411,000) were male and 46% (354,000) were female.

There was a decrease of 0.5% (-2,000) in the estimate for male employment and a fall of 0.9% (-3,000) in female employment over the year.

Economic Inactivity

The number of economically inactive persons in the period October - December 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 October - December 2009 there were an estimated 310,000 economically inactive people of working age in NI. Of the total, 43% (134,000) were male and 57% (176,000) were female.

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

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

Economically Inactive of Working Age

Reason for not wanting work

Figure 8

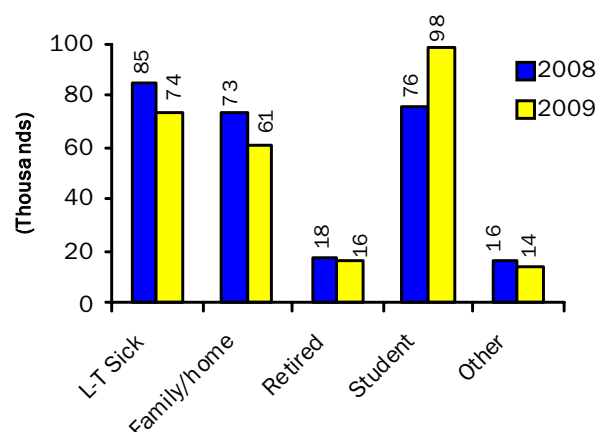


Figure 8 shows the reason given by these people for not wanting work. The largest categories were students (98,000), the long-term sick (74,000), and those looking after family/home (61,000). Among these categories, the largest change over the year occurred in those who were students (+22,000 or 28%).

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									
Oct-Dec 2006	1,344	1,072	809	775	34	535	4.2%	72.9%	69.8%
Oct-Dec 2007	1,360	1,083	815	781	35	545	4.2%	72.8%	69.6%
Oct-Dec 2008	1,374	1,091	813	770	43	561	5.3%	72.3%	68.5%
Jan-Mar 2009	1,377	1,092	805	755	50	572	6.2%	71.3%	66.8%
Apr-Jun 2009	1,381	1,094	800	746	54	580	6.7%	70.6%	65.8%
Jul-Sep 2009	1,384	1,096	809	752	57	574	7.1%	71.4%	66.3%
Oct-Dec 2009	1,387	1,097	814	765	49	573	6.0%	71.7%	67.3%
Change on Quarter	3	2	5	13	-8	-2	-1.0	0.3	1.0
Change on Year	13	7	1	-5	6	12	0.7	-0.6	-1.2
MALES									
Oct-Dec 2006	650	552	441	421	21	209	4.6%	77.9%	74.3%
Oct-Dec 2007	659	558	446	425	21	213	4.7%	78.3%	74.5%
Oct-Dec 2008	666	563	446	413	33	221	7.4%	77.5%	71.7%
Jan-Mar 2009	668	564	440	406	34	228	7.7%	76.1%	70.1%
Apr-Jun 2009	670	565	437	400	37	233	8.6%	75.4%	68.8%
Jul-Sep 2009	671	566	442	401	42	229	9.4%	76.2%	68.8%
Oct-Dec 2009	673	567	445	411	34	228	7.7%	76.3%	70.3%
FEMALES									
Oct-Dec 2006	694	520	368	354	14	326	3.7%	67.5%	65.0%
Oct-Dec 2007	702	524	369	356	14	332	3.7%	67.0%	64.4%
Oct-Dec 2008	708	528	368	358	10	340	2.8%	66.8%	65.0%
Jan-Mar 2009	709	528	365	349	16	344	4.3%	66.2%	63.3%
Apr-Jun 2009	711	529	363	346	16	348	4.5%	65.6%	62.6%
Jul-Sep 2009	712	530	367	351	15	345	4.2%	66.3%	63.5%
Oct-Dec 2009	714	531	369	354	15	345	4.0%	66.8%	64.1%

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

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

Please see note on revisions policy in Section 9.

Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Labour Market Structure – Sample of data available on website

Table 3

Table Name	Description	File Size
2.1a	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 (Oct - Dec 2009)	98 KB
LFS Reweighted Back Series 2006-2009 (please enable macros)	898 KB
*** All data below this does not yet incorporate the latest Mid-Year Population revisions. A programme of work to update these bulletins using the latest population estimates is currently underway. ***	**
LFS Reweighted Back Series 1992-2006 (please enable macros)	638 KB
Labour Force Survey (LFS) Local Area Database 2008	1364 KB
LFS Historical Supplement 2008	418 KB
Women in Northern Ireland – September 2009	203 KB
LFS Quarterly Supplement – Jul - Sept 2009	369 KB
LFS Historical Data 1995-2008 (please enable macros)	312 KB
LFS Historical Data 1984-1991	76 KB
LFS Archive data	**

Claimant Count

3

Unadjusted Claimant Count

The claimant count in NI at January 2010 was 56,170 (6.4% of the workforce), an increase of 5.8% (3,086) over the previous month. There was an increase of 41.9% (16,589) over the year and the rate increased by 1.9 percentage points. Five years ago the total was 29,573 (3.4%). (The seasonally adjusted claimant increased by 1,400 over the month.)

Youth Claimants

17,806 under 25's (31.7% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in January 2010, an increase of 6.5% (1,080 claimants) over the month and an increase of 30.1% (4,121) over the year. Youth claimants represent 2.0% of the workforce.

Long-term Claimants

At January 2010, 11,022 (19.6% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more, an increase of 10.4% (1,037 claimants) over the month and an increase of 120.0% (6,013) over the year. Long-term claimants represent 1.3% of the workforce.

Flows out from Job Seekers Allowance

The success rate of job seekers leaving the count to obtain employment in December 2009 increased by 11.8 percentage points (from 22.8% to 34.6%) since the same time last year. Of the 4,095 flows from the count in December 2009, 1,415 found employment compared to 585 of the 2,562 claimants who left the count in December 2008. This compares to 34.8% three months ago, and 32.0% five years ago.

In the period from December 2008 to December 2009 the highest proportion (43.7%) of persons leaving JSA to find employment was in November 2009, while in December 2008 the proportion finding employment was at its lowest (22.8%). The highest proportion (15.7%) of persons leaving JSA to enter education or training occurred in September 2009. Those who left JSA to claim other benefits varied between 3.3% and 5.9% 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

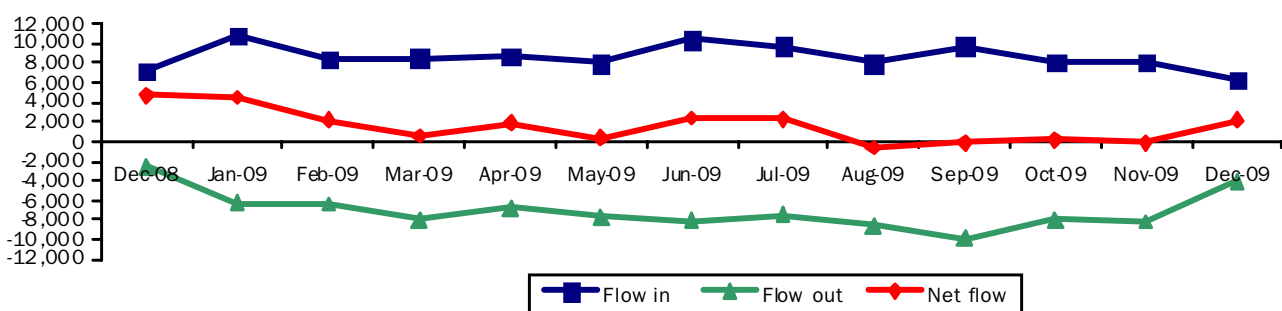
Of the 2,562 claimants who left the count in December 2008, 34.5% returned to the count within 3 months, 9.1% returned after 3-6 months and a further 9.5% returned after 6-12 months giving a total of 53.0% of those who left the count in December 2008 returned to claiming JSA within one year. This was lower than the 55.8% of leavers in December 2007 (1 year previously) and higher than 48.7% of leavers in December 2003 (5 years previously) returning within one year.

Net Flow

There was a net flow of persons out from Job Seekers for 3 months and a net flow onto Job Seekers for 10 months between December 2008 and December 2009. Net flows on to Job Seekers in December 2008 (4,637) and January 2009 (4,526) were considerably higher than any other months in this period. August (578), September 2009 (168) and November (176) were the only months to show a net flow out of Job Seekers occurred.

Flows in and out from JSA

Figure 9



Claimant Count by District Council Area – January 2010

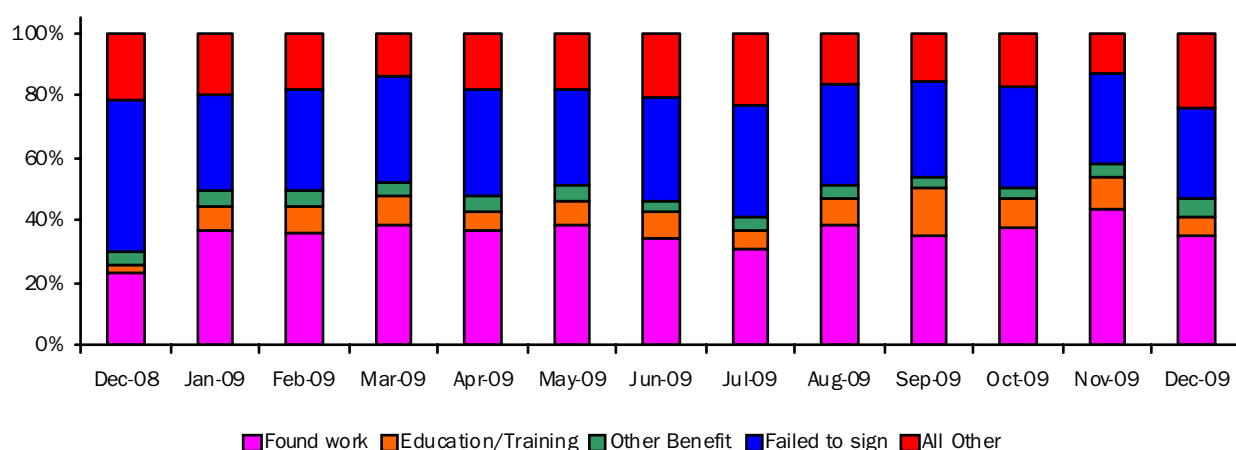
Number, Rate and % change over month and year (including jobs density indicator at 2008*)

Table 5

District	Number of Claimants			% Of Working Age			Change over month		Change over Year		Jobs Density
Council Area	Males	Females	All	Males	Females	All	Number	%	Number	%	Indicator*
Antrim	987	291	1,278	5.7%	1.8%	3.9%	108	9.2%	336	35.7%	0.93
Ards	1,353	420	1,773	5.4%	1.9%	3.7%	109	6.6%	477	36.8%	0.46
Armagh	1,371	341	1,712	7.5%	2.0%	4.9%	101	6.3%	651	61.4%	0.72
Ballymena	1,139	364	1,503	5.7%	2.0%	4.0%	88	6.2%	411	37.6%	1.01
Ballymoney	770	166	936	7.9%	1.9%	5.1%	32	3.5%	236	33.7%	0.52
Banbridge	821	204	1,025	5.3%	1.5%	3.5%	92	9.9%	316	44.6%	0.52
Belfast	8,877	2,377	11,254	10.4%	2.8%	6.7%	450	4.2%	3,257	40.7%	1.38
Carrickfergus	840	261	1,101	6.6%	2.2%	4.4%	54	5.2%	351	46.8%	0.40
Castlereagh	971	285	1,256	4.8%	1.5%	3.1%	85	7.3%	549	77.7%	0.75
Coleraine	1,426	416	1,842	8.0%	2.5%	5.4%	73	4.1%	401	27.8%	0.82
Cookstown	893	266	1,159	7.5%	2.5%	5.1%	64	5.8%	373	47.5%	0.66
Craigavon	2,241	633	2,874	7.6%	2.3%	5.1%	133	4.9%	907	46.1%	0.79
Derry	3,869	1,154	5,023	11.0%	3.4%	7.3%	275	5.8%	1,138	29.3%	0.73
Down	1,743	411	2,154	7.7%	2.0%	5.0%	89	4.3%	717	49.9%	0.55
Dungannon	1,329	441	1,770	7.2%	2.7%	5.1%	1	0.1%	594	50.5%	0.79
Fermanagh	1,325	387	1,712	6.5%	2.2%	4.5%	139	8.8%	394	29.9%	0.74
Larne	730	183	913	7.2%	2.0%	4.8%	66	7.8%	319	53.7%	0.56
Limavady	1,213	314	1,527	10.5%	3.1%	7.1%	106	7.5%	307	25.2%	0.56
Lisburn	2,273	688	2,961	6.4%	2.0%	4.2%	192	6.9%	820	38.3%	0.69
Magherafelt	960	259	1,219	6.5%	2.0%	4.4%	94	8.4%	400	48.8%	0.67
Moyle	520	147	667	9.7%	3.1%	6.6%	23	3.6%	160	31.6%	0.48
Newry & Mourne	2,762	708	3,470	8.9%	2.4%	5.8%	317	10.1%	1,354	64.0%	0.70
Newtownabbey	1,600	434	2,034	6.1%	1.7%	4.0%	113	5.9%	725	55.4%	0.71
North Down	1,243	383	1,626	5.0%	1.7%	3.4%	93	6.1%	530	48.4%	0.54
Omagh	1,253	353	1,606	7.3%	2.3%	4.9%	90	5.9%	490	43.9%	0.73
Strabane	1,356	419	1,775	10.6%	3.7%	7.3%	99	5.9%	376	26.9%	0.50
NI TOTAL	43,865	12,305	56,170	7.7%	2.3%	5.1%	3,086	5.8%	16,589	41.9%	0.79

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

Claimant spells ended by destination
Figure 10



Occupation Data

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

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

At January 2010, 30.9% (17,165) 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 20.5% (11,395) gave their usual occupation as working in the Skilled Trades. These two groups account for about one half of all claimants in January 2010. The smallest occupation group, with 2.2% (1,220) of all claimants, was Managers and Senior Officials.

Overall the NI claimant count (computerised claims only) increased by 5.8% over the month to January 2010. All nine occupational groups showed an increase in levels with the largest increase occurring in Elementary Occupations which increased by 765 (4.7%), followed by Skilled Trade Occupations which increased by 655 (6.1%). The occupational group that showed the smallest increase in levels was Professional Occupations which increased by 65 (4.7%) followed by Managers and Senior Officials which increased by 70 (6.1%).

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

Occupational Groups (Usual Occupation)	January 2010		Change over month	
	Number of Claimants	% of Claimants	Number of claimants	% change
Managers and Senior Officials	1,220	2.2	70	6.1
Professional Occupations	1,445	2.6	65	4.7
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,485	4.5	125	5.3
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	4,275	7.7	265	6.6
Skilled Trade Occupations	11,395	20.5	655	6.1
Personal Service Occupations	2,590	4.7	165	6.8
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	6,660	12.0	560	9.2
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	8,330	15.0	400	5.0
Elementary Occupations	17,165	30.9	765	4.7
Not Known	60	0.1	-10	-14.3
NI Total	55,620	100.0	3,050	5.8

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 4,410 confirmed redundancies over the year to 31st January 2010, an increase of 47% compared to the same period in the previous year (2,998). Of these, 147 confirmed redundancies took place during the calendar month of January 2010 and 344 in the previous month of December 2009. This compares to 329 in January 2009 (one year ago).

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

The largest number of redundancies occurred in Belfast (1,424), Derry (647) and Larne (319) District Council areas.

Confirmed redundancies by District Council in year to 31 January 2010

Table 8

District Council Area	Total
Antrim	34
Ards	28
Armagh	105
Ballymena	33
Ballymoney	52
Banbridge	72
Belfast	1424
Carrickfergus	30
Castlereagh	199
Coleraine	111
Cookstown	37
Craigavon	201
Derry	647
Down	3
Dungannon	222
Fermanagh	0
Larne	319
Limavady	74
Lisburn	125
Magherafelt	33
Moyle	0
Newry & Mourne	223
Newtownabbey	242
North Down	139
Omagh	57
Strabane	0
N.Ireland	4,410

Of these 4,410 confirmed redundancies, 2,413 or 55% were in the Manufacturing sector, with 496 redundancies (11% of all redundancies) occurring in the Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment Not Elsewhere Classified.

Altogether there have been 1,521 outstanding redundancies notified that have yet to take place compared with 1,996 this time one year ago (a decrease of 24%).

Redundancies – Sample of Data Available on Website

Table 9

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

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

Redundancy Legal Requirements

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

Quarterly Employment Survey

5

Seasonally Adjusted

The September 2009 seasonally adjusted employee jobs figure stands at 701,730.

This represents a seasonally adjusted decrease of 0.7% (or 5,010 jobs) from the revised June 2009 estimate of 706,730.

Over the quarter seasonally adjusted employee jobs decreased in the Manufacturing Sector by 2.0% (1,540 jobs), in the Service Sector by 0.3% (1,640 jobs) while employee jobs in the Construction Sector fell by 4.6% (1,720 jobs).

Unadjusted

The September 2009 seasonally unadjusted figure stands at 697,870.

This represents a decrease of 1.1% (or 7,960 jobs) from June 2009 and a decrease of 3.5% (25,660 jobs) in the past year.

Over the year, September 2008 to September 2009, the unadjusted employee jobs figure for Construction decreased by 16.8% (7,260 jobs), Manufacturing employee jobs decreased by 10.2% (8,400 jobs) while employee jobs in the Service Sector decreased by 1.6% (9,230 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 80% of the 1999 level. However manufacturing jobs have fallen again in 2009 to 72% of their 1999 level.

Manufacturing jobs in GB have been in sharp decline from 1999 and the 2009 estimate stands at 65% of the 1999 level.

Changes in the Structure of Manufacturing Jobs (NI)

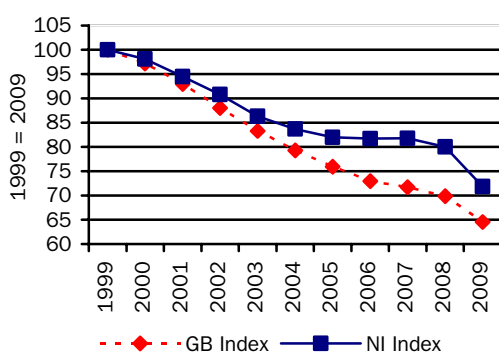
Over the period 1999-2009, Manufacturing jobs in NI decreased by 28,990, with 19 of the 24 manufacturing divisions recording a decrease. The largest decrease occurred in the Manufacture of Wearing Apparel, with a fall of 10,870 jobs. There were 5,820 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of Textiles, 3,930 fewer in the Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products, 1,490 fewer in the Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers and 1,480 fewer in the Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment.

However these decreases were somewhat offset by an increase in the Manufacture of Basic Pharmaceutical Products And Pharmaceutical Preparations (+390), in the Manufacture of Wood And Of Products Of Wood And Cork, Except Furniture; Manufacture Of Articles Of Straw And Plaiting Materials (+130), Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, except Machinery and Equipment (+120), in and Installation Of Machinery And Equipment (+80 jobs).

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

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

Figure 11



Quarterly Employment Survey

Northern Ireland Seasonally Adjusted Employee Jobs* September 2009

Table 10

				% change in total	
	Males	Females	All persons	since last quarter	since last year
Manufacturing	57,630	16,130	73,760	-2.0	-10.2
Construction ¹	31,630	4,220	35,850	-4.6	-16.8
Services	227,330	344,000	571,330	-0.3	-1.6
Other ²	17,970	2,820	20,780	-0.5	-3.6
Total	334,560	367,170	701,730	-0.7	-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	530,530	22,640	677,570
2004	March	87,300	37,190	533,910	22,610	681,010
	June	86,330	37,200	535,800	22,290	681,630
	September	85,910	37,290	541,410	22,480	687,090
	December	85,490	37,410	544,700	22,770	690,370
2005	March	85,140	37,870	550,950	22,430	696,390
	June	84,310	38,770	551,900	21,130	696,110
	September	84,160	39,340	553,880	21,310	698,700
	December	83,790	40,970	557,460	21,390	703,600
2006	March	83,910	41,930	559,040	21,390	706,270
	June	83,750	42,330	560,130	20,830	707,040
	September	83,830	42,730	562,840	20,910	710,310
	December	84,050	42,910	564,660	20,990	712,610
2007	March	83,690	43,640	566,810	21,050	715,190
	June	84,210	44,750	571,120	20,890	720,980
	September	83,920	45,350	575,370	21,070	725,710
	December	83,590	45,960	580,150	21,390	731,080
2008	March	83,540	45,580	582,540	21,310	732,960
	June	83,440	44,440	584,040	21,500	733,410
	September	82,140	43,120	580,510	21,560	727,330
	December	80,190	41,090	577,690	21,210	720,170
2009	March	77,870	39,190	574,690	21,000	712,760
	June	75,310	37,570	572,970	20,890	706,730
	September	73,760	35,850	571,330	20,780	701,730

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

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

The Northern Ireland Quarterly Employment Survey

Table 12

Table Name	Description	File Size
5.1	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted September 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 – September 2009	15.5 KB
5.5	NI Public Sector Jobs (Unadjusted) – September 2009	13.5 KB
5.6	NI Employee Jobs by Industry Section (Unadjusted) September 2008, June 2009 and September 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 – September 2009	31.5 KB

Other Quarterly Employment Survey Publications available on website

Table 13

Publication title	File Size
Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) Supplement - September 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 2009 was £356.7, some 10% lower than the UK (£397.3). This represented a growth in NI median earnings for all employees of 3.4% over the year to April 2009, compared to growth in the UK of 2.2%.

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

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

There has been a widening of the gender pay gap for all employees in NI over the period 2008-2009. Female median hourly earnings excluding overtime were 87.3% of male earnings at April 2009, compared to 90.4% a year earlier. The NI gender pay gap remains less marked than in the UK, where the equivalent female to male earnings ratio was 78.0% at April 2009. It should also be noted that gender pay differences continue to exist for various occupational and industry groupings in NI, as evidenced by weekly and annual earnings trends.

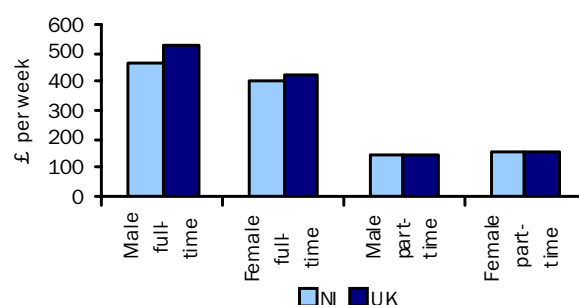
Please note, changes in NI earnings over the year and relative to the UK can be influenced by a range

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

http://www.detini.gov.uk/ashe_2009_ni_statistical_bulletin-3.pdf

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

Figure 12



Median and mean gross weekly earnings 2006-09

Table 14

£ per week	Median			Mean		
	Full-time	Part-time	All	Full-time	Part-time	All
April 2009						
Men	460.9	150.0	418.8	545.6	193.8	500.6
Women	406.5	161.4	297.8	462.5	188.4	351.2
All	439.1	159.5	356.7	511.2	189.6	424.6
April 2008						
Men	439.8	139.9	404.3	520.7	214.3	479.2
Women	385.2	152.6	287.0	438.4	188.8	335.0
All	417.7	150.0	345.0	487.0	195.0	406.4
% Change 08 - 09						
Men	4.8	7.3	3.6	4.8	-9.6	4.5
Women	5.5	5.8	3.8	5.5	-0.2	4.8
All	5.1	6.3	3.4	5.0	-2.7	4.5
April 2007						
Men	421.7	126.9	394.2	501.4	178.6	463.7
Women	367.7	145.3	272.6	427.9	173.8	321.1
All	400.3	140.8	329.9	471.7	174.8	391.3
April 2006						
Men	421.6	122.3	390.7	500.9	169.7	456.9
Women	374.2	132.5	260.2	423.3	162.7	307.5
All	402.5	130.8	322.7	469.4	164.2	379.9
Excluding methodological changes introduced in 2007						
April 2006						
Men	424.3	122.5	392.8	502.9	172.6	459.0
Women	377.5	133.3	262.7	426.8	163.9	310.2
All	405.1	131.6	325.1	472.0	165.8	382.3

Average full-time earnings by occupation, April 2009

Table 15

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

Average full-time earnings by industry, April 2009 (based on the 2007 UK Standard Industrial Classification – SIC 2007)

Table 16

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

x Coefficient of Variation too large to provide a reliable estimate

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

Sample of ASHE data available on website

Table 17

Table name	Description	File size
6.1	ASHE 2001 Headline Data for Key Variables	72 KB
6.2	ASHE 2002 Headline Data for Key Variables	78 KB
6.3	ASHE 2003 Headline Data for Key Variables	163 KB
6.4	ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding supplementary information	51 KB
6.5	ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables	52 KB
6.6	ASHE 2005 Headline Data for Key Variables	52 KB
6.7	ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables excluding methodological changes	168 KB
6.8	ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables	176 KB
6.9	ASHE 2007 Headline Data for Key Variables	165 KB
6.10	ASHE 2008 Headline Data for Key Variables - revised	165 KB
6.11	ASHE 2009 Headline Data for Key Variables	166 KB

Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training

7

Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training Measures

Participation in the Department for Employment and Learning Schemes to December 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>						
Dec	2,000	2,350	150	850	-	8,750
<u>2008</u>						
Dec	800	800	150	760	10,850	3,950
<u>2009</u>						
Jan	750	700	150	750	11,600	3,750
Feb	650	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
Sept	550	350	150	750	15,950	1,650
Oct	550	350	200	750	16,450	1,500
Nov	450	300	150	750	16,550	1,400
Dec	450	300	200	700	16,350	1,300

Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.

(1) Figures are rounded to the nearest fifty.

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

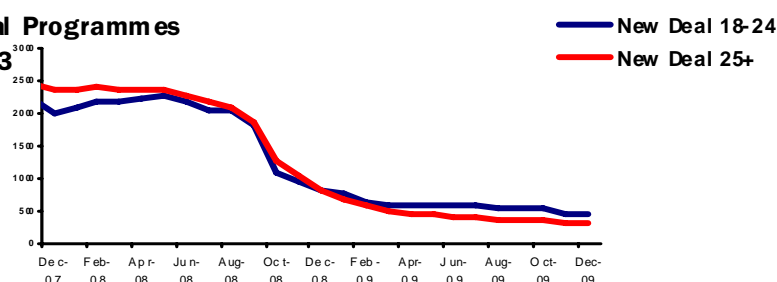
(3) On 29th September 2008, StW was widely introduced in NI and subsumes New Deal. However, New Deal continues to operate in the Foyle and Lisnagelvin areas. StW statistics are not yet available. Note: New Deal statistics for 2007 exclude those on the StW pilot (introduced April 2007).

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

(5) December 2009 Jobskills and TfS figures are as at the 20th December 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 4,638 standardised vacancies notified in the period ending 5th December 2009. This was 3% higher than the number of standardised

vacancies notified in December 2008 (4,516) and 25% less than the number of vacancies notified in December 2006 (6,147).

Vacancies filled and cancelled (Outflows)

The number of standardised placed and cancelled vacancies in the period ending 5th December 2009 was 5,231. This was a decrease of 26% from December 2008 (7,069) and a decrease of 36% from the same period three years previously (8,178).

Unfilled Vacancies

A total of 6,317 unadjusted vacancies remained unfilled on 5th December 2009, a decrease of 10% on the amount of unfilled vacancies in December 2008 (7,042) and a decrease of 38% on the amount unfilled in December 2006 (10,134).

Vacancies Notified, Outflow and Vacancies Unfilled: December 2006 to December 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	08-Dec	7,093	6,147	-14%	9,436	8,178	5%	10,134	-11%
2007	07-Dec	9,523	8,253	34%	12,619	10,936	34%	11,732	16%
2008	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%
	04-Sep	4,922	5,332	-25%	3,651	3,955	-38%	6,835	-35%
	02-Oct	6,224	6,743	-13%	5,573	6,037	-16%	7,486	-32%
	06-Nov	5,998	5,198	-16%	6,619	5,736	-24%	6,865	-27%
	05-Dec	4,281	4,638	3%	4,829	5,231	-26%	6,317	-10%

Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.

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

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

(3) Vacancies unfilled are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / JBOs of DEL remaining unfilled on the count date (the first Friday after the first Thursday of every month).

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

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

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

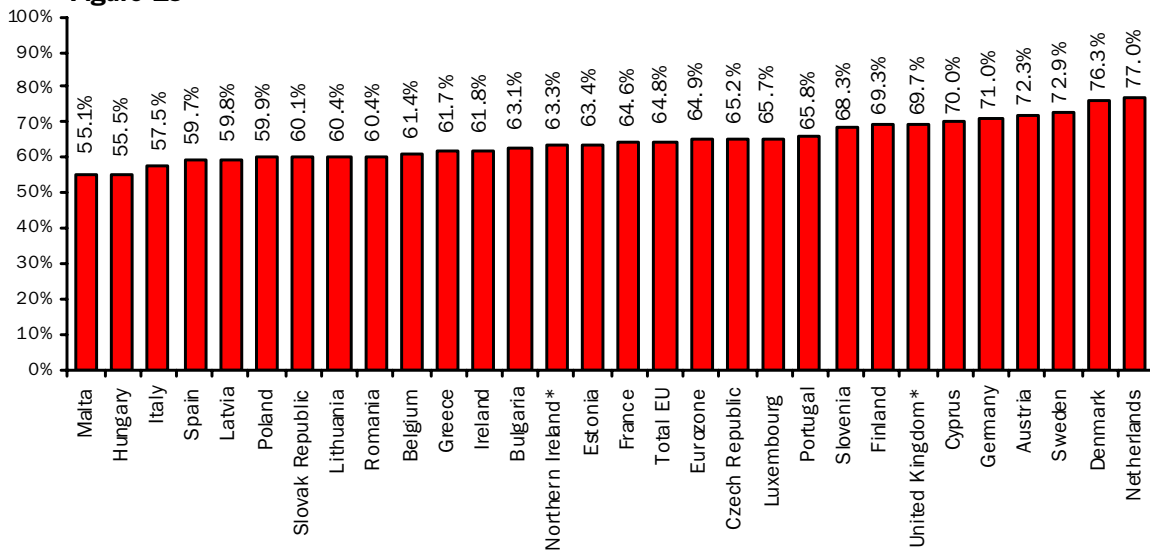
International - Regional Analysis

8

International Comparisons of ILO Employment and Unemployment

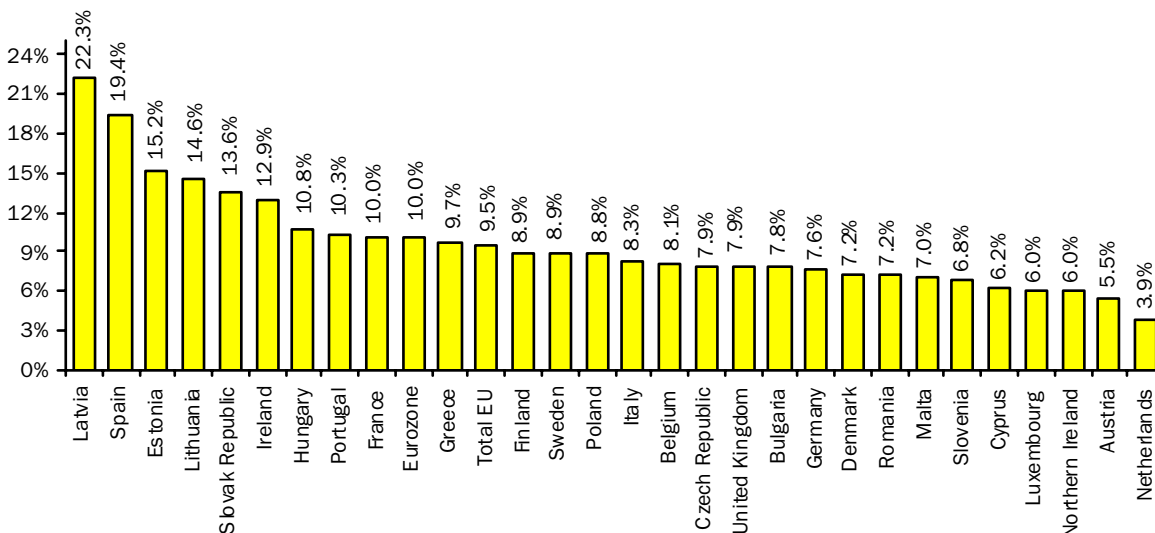
ILO Employment Rates (%) - Unadjusted

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 3 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, October - December 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	69.0	-0.9	9.3	0.9	23.7	0.2	1,003	7.3%	21.6%	0.9%	0.72
North West	70.4	-0.8	8.5	0.7	22.8	0.3	2,927	5.8%	26.3%	1.7%	0.80
Yorkshire & the Humber	70.7	-1.7	9.1	2.4	21.9	-0.3	2,124	6.1%	30.7%	1.2%	0.79
East Midlands	74.6	-1.6	7.2	0.9	19.4	0.9	1,836	5.1%	28.3%	0.4%	0.81
West Midlands	70.5	-1.1	9.4	1.4	21.9	-0.1	2,237	6.6%	26.1%	0.8%	0.81
East	76.2	-1.5	6.5	1.0	18.4	0.8	2,314	4.3%	33.2%	1.7%	0.81
London	68.7	-2.7	9.1	1.8	24.2	1.3	3,977	4.7%	34.7%	1.3%	0.93
South East	77.0	-1.6	6.2	1.2	17.7	0.6	3,629	3.6%	36.6%	1.4%	0.86
South West	75.5	-2.5	6.4	1.6	19.1	1.2	2,173	3.5%	30.0%	2.2%	0.86
England	72.6	-1.7	7.9	1.3	21.0	0.6	22,221	5.0%	30.0%	1.3%	0.84
Wales	68.9	-1.7	8.6	1.5	24.3	0.6	1,110	5.7%	22.7%	1.4%	0.76
Scotland	73.5	-1.8	7.6	2.4	20.2	-0.1	2,332	5.0%	34.8%	2.8%	0.84
Great Britain	72.5	-1.7	7.9	1.4	21.1	0.5	25,663	5.0%	30.0%	1.4%	0.83
N Ireland	67.3	-1.2	6.0	0.7	28.3	0.6	702	6.4%	43.5%	2.6%	0.78
United Kingdom	72.4	-1.7	7.8	1.4	21.3	0.5	26,365	5.0%	30.5%	1.5%	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 September 2009.

⁴ As at January 2010: 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

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DEFINITIONS

ILO definition

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

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

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

Sampling variability

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

If the 'annual change' for an estimate has increased or decreased by more than the 'sampling variability of the change', this change would be statistically significant. However, for the period October to December the annual change in the employment, unemployment and economic inactivity categories were not statistically significant at this level.

Please see attached link for further LFS notes and definitions:

[Labour Force Survey Notes and Definitions](#)

LFS revision

This month's Labour Market Report includes revisions to the LFS microdata. These revisions are being made in order to incorporate the latest population estimates and will effect LFS data from the period June to August 2006. The magnitude of the revisions are relatively small, with the revisions to the unemployment rate falling within +/-0.05 percentage points and the working age employment rate within +/- 0.1 percentage points. The procedures being applied to the NI LFS results are consistent with those applied by the Office for National Statistics to other UK regions

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

[Labour market statistics revisions policy](#)

Claimant Count definition

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

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

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

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

For further information:

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ON THE HOME PAGE OF THE BRANCH WEBSITE
AT:**

www.statistics.detini.gov.uk

You can also contact Statistics Research Branch
by: -

Writing to:

Martin Monaghan
Statistics Research Branch, Room 110,
Netherleigh, Massey Avenue, Belfast BT4 2JP.

Tel: (028) 9052 9421

Fax: (028) 9052 9658

Textphone: (028) 9052 9304

Email: statistics@detini.gov.uk