

Labour Market

Statistics Bulletin

Monthly Labour Market Report

March 2010



Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Investment

Monthly Labour Market Report

March 2010

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Contents

1

Labour Market

Pages 1-3

2

Labour Force Survey.

Pages 4-6

3

Claimant Count

Pages 7-10

4

Redundancies

Page 11

5

Quarterly
Employment Survey -
QES

Pages 12-14

6

Annual Survey of
Hours and Earnings -
ASHE

Pages 15-16

7

Vacancy Statistics
and Employment &
Training measures

Page 17-18

8

International-
Regional Analysis

Pages 19-20

9

Further Information

Page 21-22

Labour Market

1

Seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey (LFS) data for Northern Ireland for the period November 2009 – January 2010 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 February 2010 increased by 100 over the month to 55,700 and the Department was notified of 258 proposed redundancies in the latest reference period and 141 confirmed redundancies in February 2010.

Employment

The number of persons in employment in the period November 2009 – January 2010 was estimated at 766,000. This represented increases of 6,000 over the quarter and 4,000 over the year. The working age employment rate was estimated at 67.3%, up 0.3 percentage points over the quarter, but down 0.4 percentage points over the year. NI's working age employment rate remained well below the UK average (72.2%) and was the lowest of the twelve UK regions.

Unemployment

The unemployment rate for the period November 2009 – January 2010 was estimated at 6.3%, down 0.2 percentage points over the quarter, but up 0.4 percentage points over the year. The number of unemployed persons was estimated at 52,000, down 2,000 over the quarter, but up 4,000 over the year. The male unemployment rate (8.5%) was over double the female rate (3.7%) in November 2009 – January 2010.

Unadjusted figures show that 38.6% of the unemployed have been unemployed for 1 year or more – up 6.0 percentage points over the year.

Northern Ireland Labour Market Summary (seasonally adjusted)

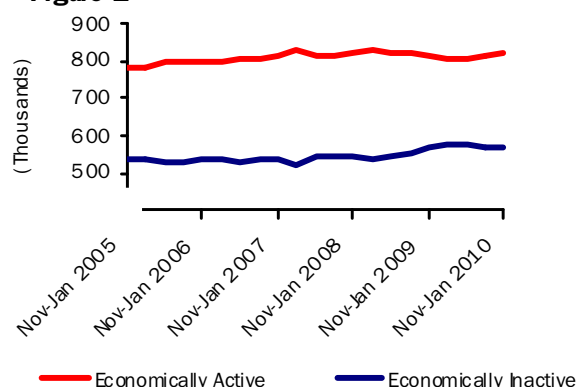
Table 1

	Period	Estimate	Sampling Variability of estimate	Change over year	Sampling Variability of change
Employment	Nov-Jan 2010	766,000	+/-22,000	4,000	+/-28,000
Unemployment	Nov-Jan 2010	52,000	+/-10,000	4,000	+/-13,000
Economically inactive	Nov-Jan 2010	570,000	+/-20,000	5,000	+/-26,000
Unemployment rate	Nov-Jan 2010	6.3%	+/-1.2pps	0.4pps	+/-1.6pps
Employment rate ¹	Nov-Jan 2010	67.3%	+/-1.8pps	-0.4pps	+/-2.3pps
Economic inactivity rate ¹	Nov-Jan 2010	28.0%	+/-1.7pps	0.0pps	+/-2.2pps
Claimant Count	February 2010	55,700		13,700	

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

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

Figure 1



They also estimate the unemployment rate for 18-24 year olds at 12.6% – down 1.2 percentage points over the year.

Economically Inactive

The seasonally adjusted number of economically inactive persons in the period November 2009 – January 2010 was estimated at 570,000. This figure has decreased by 1,000 over the quarter, but was up 5,000 over the year.

The working age economic inactivity rate for NI stands at 28.0%. This is significantly higher than the UK average rate (21.5%) and is the highest of the twelve UK regions.

Unadjusted figures show that while 92% of the inactive do not want work, the remaining 8% want employment but do not satisfy the full ILO job search criteria (by actively seeking work and being available to start a job). The number of economically inactive persons that want a job (48,000) is similar to 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. 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 (6.3%) remained below the UK average rate (7.8%) and was the third lowest rate among the twelve UK regions. The NI rate also compared favourably to the European Union rate (9.6%) and the Republic of Ireland rate (13.3%) for December 2009. The annual increase in the NI unemployment rate (+0.4 percentage points) was lower than the UK average increase (+1.2 percentage points).

Claimant Count

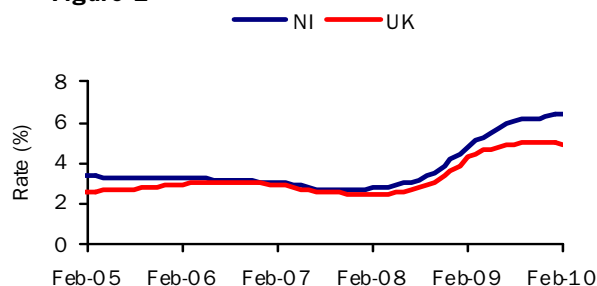
The more recent seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 100 over the month to February 2010 to 55,700 (6.4% of the workforce). The latest monthly increase was lower than the revised increase recorded for the previous month (900). The increase over the year was 13,700 (32.6%) and the workforce unemployment rate has increased by 1.6 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 (4.9%) and was the joint second highest rate among the twelve UK regions. Over the month to February 2010 the NI Claimant Count level increased by 0.2% (100 claimants), while the UK average decreased by 2.0% (Figure 2). This was the only monthly increase of the twelve UK regions. Over the year the NI Claimant Count level increased by 32.6%, which was higher than the UK average (14.0%) 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 February 2010 were in Derry (7.4%), Strabane (7.2%) and Limavady (7.1%). Those that showed the highest percentage increase in levels over the year to February 2010 were Castlereagh (61.7%), Newry & Mourne (48.4%) and Newtownabbey (40.5%). For further District Council data please see section 3 of the Labour Market Report.

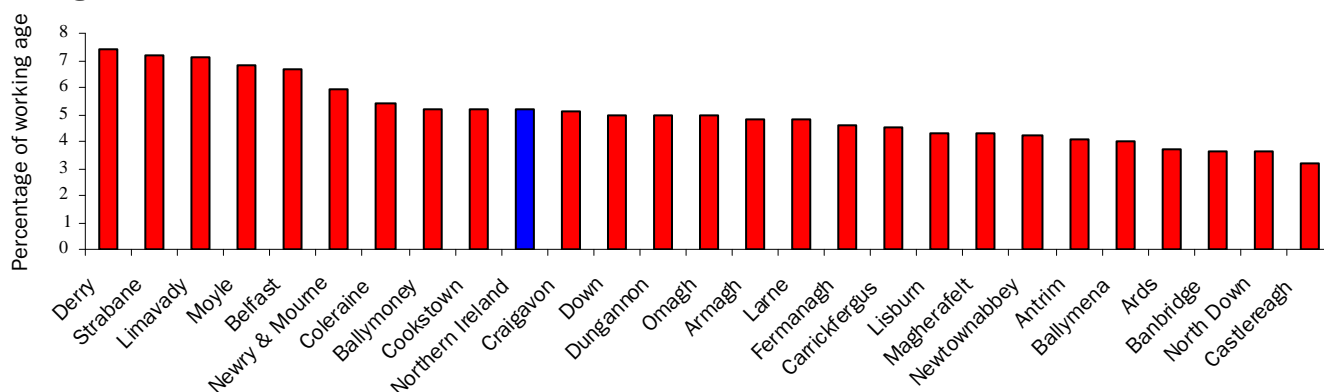
Employment and Training Measures

The Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) provides a number of services and programmes to help jobseekers find work. In September 2008 Steps to Work, the Department's new flexible approach to helping people to find work, was introduced in Northern Ireland and subsumes the main New Deal programmes. Overall, there has been an increase of 90.3% (4,569 persons) to 9,630 over the year to February 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



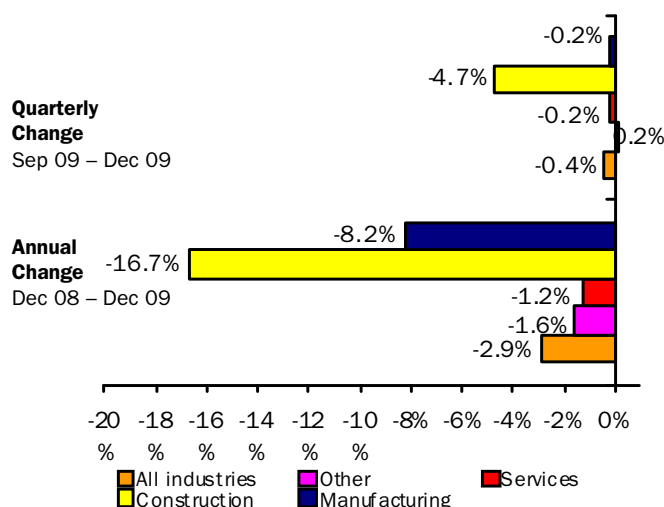
Redundancies

The Department was notified of 258 proposed redundancies over the period mid February 2010 to mid March 2010. This compares to 512 proposed redundancies notified to the Department in the previous monthly period. There were 141 confirmed redundancies in the month of February (Figure 5). Over the twelve monthly period there were a total of 4,091 confirmed redundancies, an increase of 26% from the previous year (3,258). The highest number of confirmed redundancies took place in Belfast District Council area which had 32.6% (1,332) of all redundancies over the year. Over the twelve monthly period there were a total of 4,655 proposed redundancies, an increase of 8% from the previous year (4,303). Currently there are 1,588 outstanding redundancies (that is, proposed but not confirmed), which is 29% lower than this time last year (2,236). Note that since all proposed redundancies do not actually take place, the confirmed total provides a better indication of real job losses.

Quarterly Employment Survey

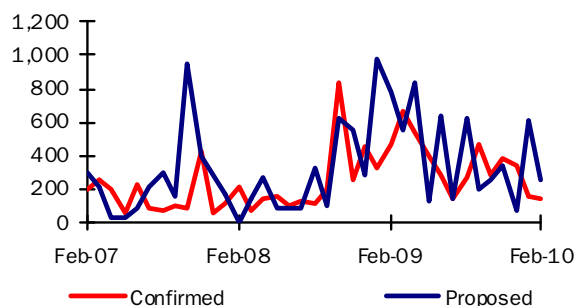
The QES provides an estimate of the number of jobs (rather than persons in employment) and is the preferred measure of change in employee jobs. The estimated seasonally adjusted employee jobs total in Northern Ireland at December 2009 was 699,310. This represents a decrease of 2,890 over the quarter and a decrease of 20,840 over the year.

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



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

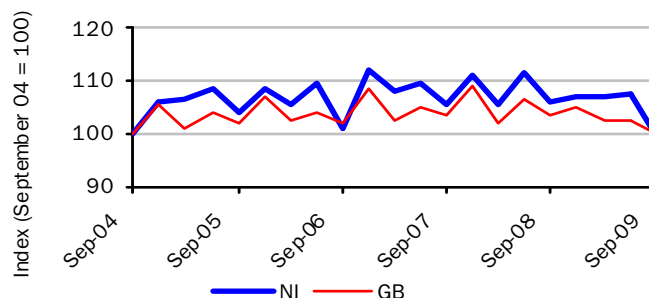
Confirmed and Proposed Redundancies
February 07 - February 10
Figure 5



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 December 2009, the average actual weekly hours worked in NI was 32.9 hours, similar to 31.9 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 November 2009 – January 2010 (see Table 2) record the unemployment rate at 6.3% (52,000 persons), down 0.2 percentage points from the previous quarter. Employment was estimated to have increased by 6,000 (0.8%) over the quarter to 766,000.

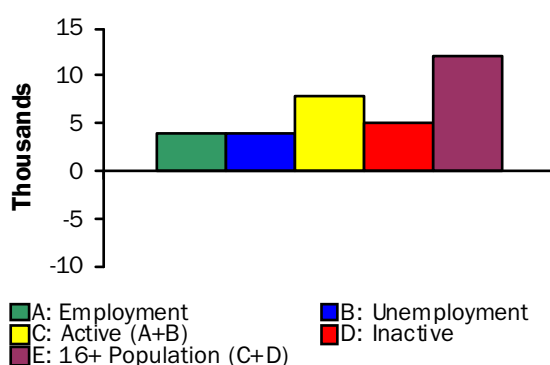
Labour Market change over the year

In the year to November 2009 – January 2010 (see Figure 7), LFS figures show increases of 4,000 in total employment and 4,000 in unemployment, leading to a rise of 8,000 in the economically active population (figures may not sum due to rounding). The number economically inactive rose by 5,000 over the year.

Labour Market Structure

Change over the year

Figure 7



Employment

Latest seasonally adjusted estimates show that there were 766,000 persons in employment, which represents a rise of 0.5 % (4,000 persons) over the year. Of the total, 53% (408,000) were male and 47% (358,000) were female.

There was no change in the estimate for male employment and a rise of 1.1% (+4,000) in female employment over the year.

Economic Inactivity

The number of economically inactive persons in the period November 2009 – January 2010 was estimated at 570,000. 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 November 2009 – January 2010 there were an estimated 308,000 economically inactive people of working age in NI. Of the total, 44% (135,000) were male and 56% (173,000) were female.

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

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

Economically Inactive of Working Age

Reason for not wanting work

Figure 8

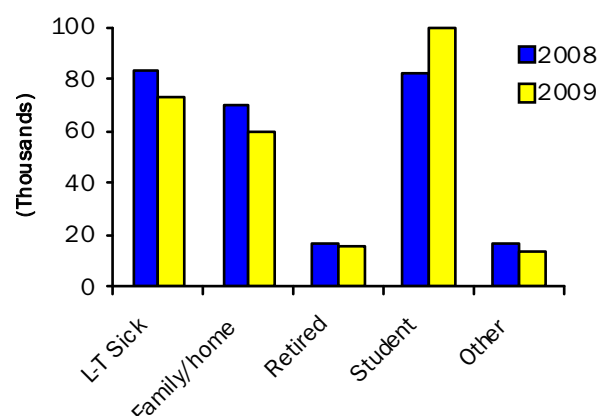


Figure 8 shows the reason given by these people for not wanting work. The largest categories were students (100,000), the long-term sick (73,000), and those looking after family/home (60,000). Among these categories, the largest change over the year occurred in those who were students (+18,000 or 22%).

Labour Market Structure – Seasonally adjusted
Table 2

	Total aged 16 and over	Total persons of working age 16-59/64	All aged 16+					(Thousands/Percentage)	
			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									
Nov-Jan 2007	1346	1073	811	777	34	535	4.2	73.3	70.2
Nov-Jan 2008	1362	1083	819	783	36	543	4.4	72.9	69.6
Nov-Jan 2009	1375	1091	810	763	48	565	5.9	72.0	67.7
Feb-Apr 2009	1379	1093	802	752	50	577	6.3	71.0	66.4
May-Jul 2009	1382	1095	802	749	54	579	6.7	70.7	65.9
Aug-Oct 2009	1385	1096	814	760	53	571	6.5	71.8	67.0
Nov-Jan 2010	1388	1098	818	766	52	570	6.3	72.0	67.3
Change on Quarter	3	1	4	6	-2	-1	-0.2	0.2	0.3
Change on Year	12	6	8	4	4	5	0.4	0.0	-0.4
MALES									
Nov-Jan 2007	651	553	442	423	19	209	4.3	78.1	74.7
Nov-Jan 2008	660	559	450	426	24	210	5.3	78.7	74.4
Nov-Jan 2009	667	563	444	408	36	223	8.1	77.1	70.8
Feb-Apr 2009	669	564	439	404	35	230	8.0	75.8	69.6
May-Jul 2009	670	565	439	400	39	232	8.9	75.5	68.6
Aug-Oct 2009	672	566	444	405	39	228	8.8	76.4	69.5
Nov-Jan 2010	674	567	446	408	38	228	8.5	76.2	69.5
FEMALES									
Nov-Jan 2007	695	520	369	354	15	325	4.1	68.2	65.4
Nov-Jan 2008	702	525	369	357	12	333	3.3	66.7	64.4
Nov-Jan 2009	708	528	366	354	12	342	3.2	66.6	64.5
Feb-Apr 2009	710	529	363	348	15	346	4.2	65.9	63.1
May-Jul 2009	711	529	364	349	15	348	4.1	65.7	63.0
Aug-Oct 2009	713	530	369	355	14	343	3.8	66.8	64.3
Nov-Jan 2010	714	531	372	358	14	342	3.7	67.5	64.9

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 (Nov 2009 – Jan 2010)	98 KB
LFS Reweighted Back Series 2006-2009 (please enable macros)	898 KB
LFS Quarterly Supplement – October - December 2009	341 KB
*** All data below this does not yet incorporate the latest Mid-Year Population revisions. A programme of work to update these bulletins using the latest population estimates is currently underway. ***	**
LFS 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 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 February 2010 was 56,860 (6.5% of the workforce), an increase of 1.2% (690) over the previous month. There was an increase of 30.3% (13,233) over the year and the rate increased by 1.5 percentage points. Five years ago the total was 29,596 (3.4%). (The seasonally adjusted claimant count increased by 100 over the month.)

Youth Claimants

18,077 under 25's (31.8% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in February 2010, an increase of 1.5% (271 claimants) over the month and an increase of 18.6% (2,836) over the year. Youth claimants represent 2.1% of the workforce.

Long-term Claimants

At February 2010, 11,687 (20.6% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more, an increase of 6.0% (665 claimants) over the month and an increase of 121.1% (6,400) 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 January 2010 increased by 4.2 percentage points (from 37.0% to 41.2%) since the same time last year. Of the 6,888 flows from the count in January 2010, 2,838 found employment compared to 2,303 of the 6,232 claimants who left the count in January 2009. This compares to 37.7% three months ago, and 41.7% five years ago.

In the period from January 2009 to January 2010 the highest proportion (43.3%) of persons leaving JSA to find employment was in November 2009, while in July 2009 the proportion finding employment was at its lowest (30.5%). The highest proportion (15.7%) of persons leaving JSA to enter education or training occurred in September 2009. Those who left JSA to claim other benefits varied between 3.3% and 5.5% in the period. Those who left JSA because they failed to sign peaked at 36.2% in July 2009.

Flows in to Job Seekers Allowance

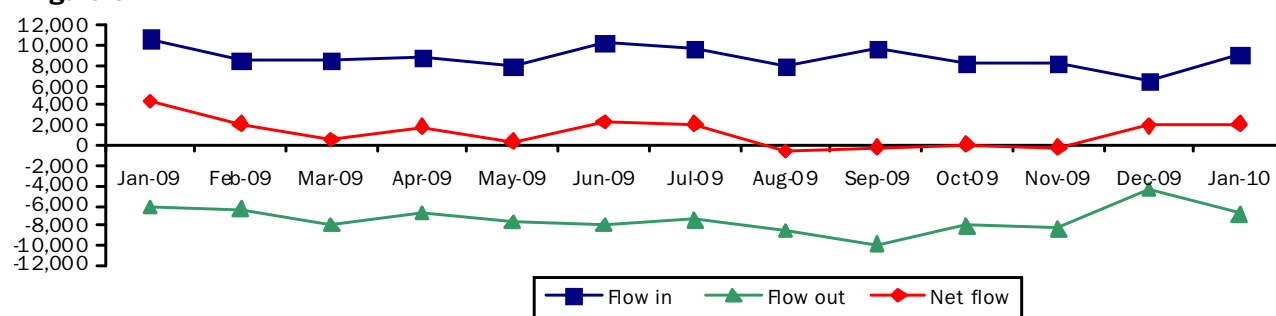
Of the 6,232 claimants who left the count in January 2009, 32.9% returned to the count within 3 months, 10.6% returned after 3-6 months and a further 9.8% returned after 6-12 months giving a total of 53.3% of those who left the count in January 2009 returned to claiming JSA within one year. This was lower than the 54.6% of leavers in January 2008 (1 year previously) and higher than 45.0% of leavers in January 2004 (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 January 2009 and January 2010. The net flow on to Job Seekers in January 2009 (4,529) was considerably higher than any other month in this period. August (575), September (177) and November 2009 (222) 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 – February 2010

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

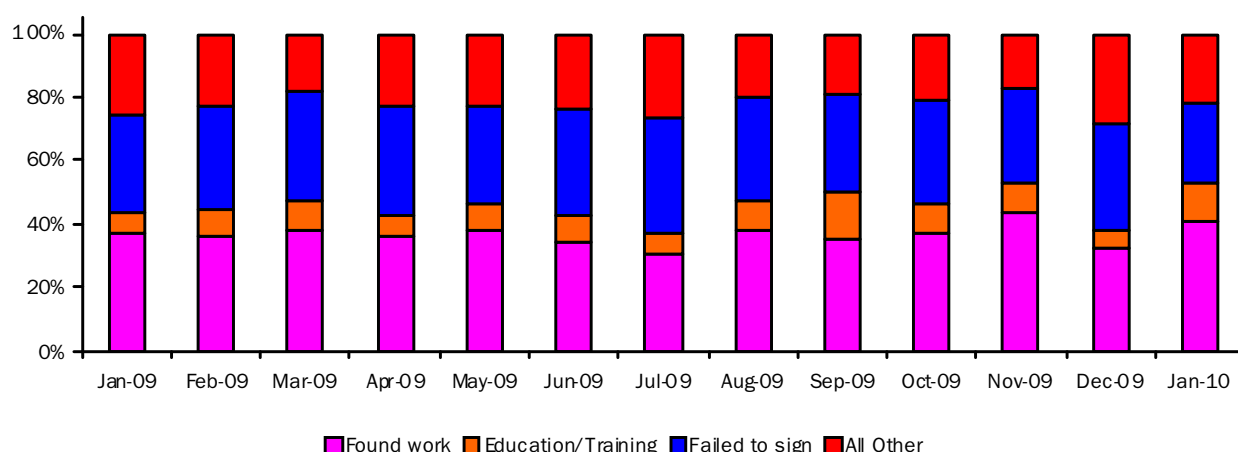
Table 5

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	1,040	314	1,354	6.0%	2.0%	4.1%	76	5.9%	285	26.7%	0.93
Ards	1,339	423	1,762	5.4%	1.9%	3.7%	-11	-0.6%	344	24.3%	0.46
Armagh	1,348	340	1,688	7.3%	2.0%	4.8%	-24	-1.4%	463	37.8%	0.72
Ballymena	1,172	361	1,533	5.9%	2.0%	4.0%	30	2.0%	337	28.2%	1.01
Ballymoney	790	178	968	8.1%	2.0%	5.2%	32	3.4%	197	25.6%	0.52
Banbridge	849	198	1,047	5.5%	1.4%	3.6%	22	2.1%	242	30.1%	0.52
Belfast	8,877	2,462	11,339	10.4%	2.9%	6.7%	85	0.8%	2,635	30.3%	1.38
Carrickfergus	846	275	1,121	6.6%	2.3%	4.5%	20	1.8%	252	29.0%	0.40
Castlereagh	969	292	1,261	4.8%	1.5%	3.2%	5	0.4%	481	61.7%	0.75
Coleraine	1,439	423	1,862	8.1%	2.6%	5.4%	20	1.1%	259	16.2%	0.82
Cookstown	895	271	1,166	7.5%	2.5%	5.2%	7	0.6%	269	30.0%	0.66
Craigavon	2,240	648	2,888	7.6%	2.4%	5.1%	14	0.5%	744	34.7%	0.79
Derry	3,879	1,184	5,063	11.1%	3.5%	7.4%	40	0.8%	1,006	24.8%	0.73
Down	1,761	399	2,160	7.7%	2.0%	5.0%	6	0.3%	555	34.6%	0.55
Dungannon	1,310	438	1,748	7.1%	2.7%	5.0%	-22	-1.2%	376	27.4%	0.79
Fermanagh	1,359	391	1,750	6.7%	2.2%	4.6%	38	2.2%	306	21.2%	0.74
Larne	749	178	927	7.4%	2.0%	4.8%	14	1.5%	255	37.9%	0.56
Limavady	1,206	323	1,529	10.5%	3.2%	7.1%	2	0.1%	181	13.4%	0.56
Lisburn	2,316	741	3,057	6.5%	2.1%	4.3%	96	3.2%	671	28.1%	0.69
Magherafelt	942	249	1,191	6.4%	1.9%	4.3%	-28	-2.3%	251	26.7%	0.67
Moyle	533	154	687	9.9%	3.2%	6.8%	20	3.0%	142	26.1%	0.48
Newry & Mourne	2,830	722	3,552	9.1%	2.5%	5.9%	82	2.4%	1,159	48.4%	0.70
Newtownabbey	1,662	461	2,123	6.4%	1.9%	4.2%	89	4.4%	612	40.5%	0.71
North Down	1,279	436	1,715	5.1%	1.9%	3.6%	89	5.5%	478	38.6%	0.54
Omagh	1,272	355	1,627	7.4%	2.3%	5.0%	21	1.3%	422	35.0%	0.73
Strabane	1,331	411	1,742	10.4%	3.6%	7.2%	-33	-1.9%	311	21.7%	0.50
NI TOTAL	44,233	12,627	56,860	7.8%	2.4%	5.2%	690	1.2%	13,233	30.3%	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 February 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 February 2010, 30.9% (17,395) of all claimants defined their usual (or previous) occupation as an Elementary Occupation. Elementary Occupations includes elementary agricultural, construction, process plant, goods storage, administrative, personal services, cleaning, security and sales occupations. A further 20.3% (11,460) gave their usual occupation as

working in the Skilled Trades. These two groups account for about one half of all claimants in February 2010. The smallest occupation group, with 2.2% (1,265) of all claimants, was Managers and Senior Officials.

Overall the NI claimant count (computerised claims only) increased by 1.3% over the month to February 2010. Seven of the nine occupational groups showed an increase in levels with the largest increase occurring in Sales and Customer Service Occupations which increased by 300 (4.5%), followed by Elementary Occupations which increased by 230 (1.3%). The occupational group that showed the largest decrease in levels was Professional Occupations which decreased by 75 (5.2%) followed by Associate Professional and Technical Occupations which decreased by 35 (1.4%)

Claimant Count (unadjusted) by Usual Occupation – February 2010 (Computerised claims only)

Table 6

Occupational Groups (Usual Occupation)	February 2010		Change over month	
	Number of Claimants	% of Claimants	Number of claimants	% change
Managers and Senior Officials	1,265	2.2	45	3.7
Professional Occupations	1,370	2.4	-75	-5.2
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,450	4.3	-35	-1.4
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	4,365	7.7	90	2.1
Skilled Trade Occupations	11,460	20.3	65	0.6
Personal Service Occupations	2,630	4.7	40	1.5
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	6,960	12.4	300	4.5
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	8,385	14.9	55	0.7
Elementary Occupations	17,395	30.9	230	1.3
Not Known	50	0.1	-10	-16.7
NI Total	56,330	100.0	710	1.3

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 4,091 confirmed redundancies over the year to 28th February 2010, an increase of 26% compared to the same period in the previous year (3,258). Of these, 141 confirmed redundancies took place during the calendar month of February 2010 and 161 in the previous month of January 2010. This compares to 474 in February 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 (1,332), Derry (651) and Craigavon (289) District Council areas.

Confirmed redundancies by District Council in year to 28 February 2010
Table 8

District Council Area	Total
Antrim	45
Ards	34
Armagh	116
Ballymena	33
Ballymoney	40
Banbridge	80
Belfast	1,332
Carrickfergus	31
Castlereagh	203
Coleraine	82
Cookstown	36
Craigavon	289
Derry	651
Down	3
Dungannon	218
Fermanagh	0
Larne	148
Limavady	71
Lisburn	91
Magherafelt	18
Moyle	0
Newry & Mourne	205
Newtownabbey	188
North Down	119
Omagh	58
Strabane	0
N.Ireland	4,091

Of these 4,091 confirmed redundancies, 2,040 or 50% were in the Manufacturing sector, with 473 redundancies (12% of all redundancies) occurring in the Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment Not Elsewhere Classified.

Altogether there have been 1,588 outstanding redundancies notified that have yet to take place compared with 2,236 this time one year ago (a decrease of 29%).

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 December 2009 seasonally adjusted employee jobs figure stands at 699,310.

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

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

Unadjusted

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

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

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

Manufacturing Employee Jobs

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

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

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

Changes in the Structure of Manufacturing Jobs (NI)

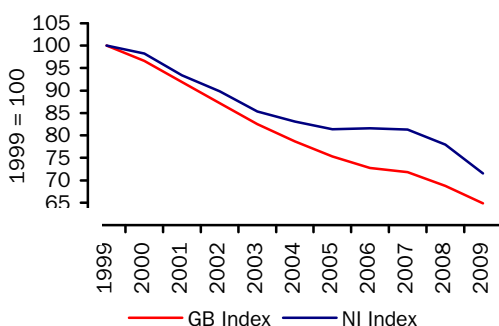
Over the period 1999-2009, Manufacturing jobs in NI decreased by 29,310, with 18 of the 23 manufacturing divisions recording a decrease. The largest decrease occurred in the Manufacture of Wearing Apparel, with a fall of 10,090 jobs. There were 5,840 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of Textiles, 4,490 fewer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

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

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

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

Figure 11



*GB figures for 2009 refer to September.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Northern Ireland Quarterly Employment Survey
Table 12

Table Name	Description	File Size
5.1	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted December 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 – December 2009	15.5 KB
5.5	NI Public Sector Jobs (Unadjusted) – December 2009	13.5 KB
5.6	NI Employee Jobs by Industry Section (Unadjusted) December 2008, September 2009 and December 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 – 2009	15.0 KB
5.9	NI Employee Jobs by 2-digit SIC07 Class – December 2009	31.5 KB

Other Quarterly Employment Survey Publications available on website
Table 13

Publication title	File Size
Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) Supplement - December 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.

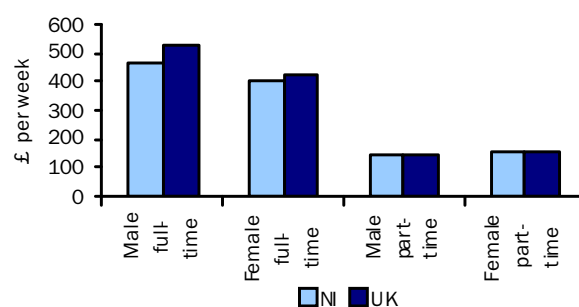
Please note, changes in NI earnings over the year and relative to the UK can be influenced by a range

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 January 2010

Table 18

	New Deal 18-24 (2, 3)	New Deal 25+ (2, 3)	Future Managers	Employment Support	Training for Success (4, 5)	Jobskills (4, 5)
<u>2008</u>						
Jan	2,100	2,350	150	850	-	8,400
<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
<u>2010</u>						
Jan	500	400	200	700	15,250	1,200

Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.

(1) Figures are rounded to the nearest fifty.

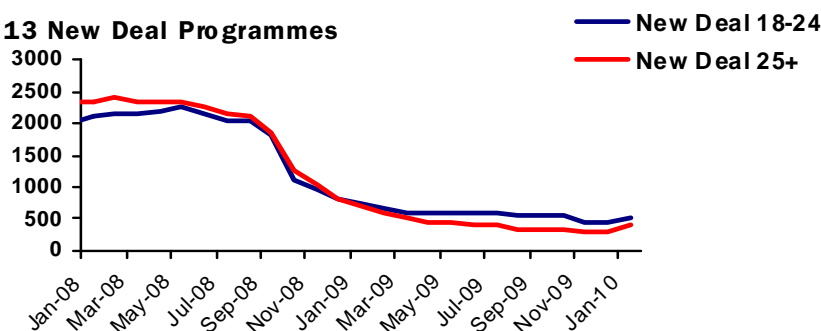
(2) New Deal 18-24 and 25+ figures relate to the last Sunday of each month and are revised on a monthly basis.

(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) January 2010 Jobskills and TfS figures are as at the 17th January 2010.

Figure 13 New Deal Programmes



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 2,876 standardised vacancies notified in the period ending 8th January 2010. This was

24% higher than the number of standardised vacancies notified in January 2009 (2,315) and a 10% decrease on the number of vacancies notified in January 2007 (3,212).

Vacancies filled and cancelled (Outflows)

The number of standardised placed and cancelled vacancies in the period ending 8th January 2010 was 4,658. This was a decrease of 6% from January 2009 (4,930) and a decrease of 31% from the same period three years previously (6,720).

Unfilled Vacancies

A total of 4,261 unadjusted vacancies remained unfilled on 8th January 2010, a decrease of 8% on the amount of unfilled vacancies in January 2009 (4,628) and a decrease of 38% on the amount unfilled in January 2007 (6,896).

Vacancies Notified, Outflow and Vacancies Unfilled: January 2007 to January 2010

Table 19

Report Period Ending		Vacancies notified (Inflows) (1)			Vacancies Filled and Cancelled (Outflows) (2)			Unfilled Vacancies (3)	
		Level Unadjusted (4)	Level (standardised) (5)	Change on same month in previous year	Level unadjusted (4)	Level (standardised) (5)	Change on same month in previous year	Level Unadjusted	Change on same month in previous year
2007	07-Jan	2,965	3,212	-13%	6,203	6,720	4%	6,896	-16%
2008	05-Jan	4,550	4,929	53%	6,918	7,495	12%	9,364	36%
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%
2010	08-Jan	3,319	2,876	24%	5,375	4,658	-6%	4,261	-8%

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.

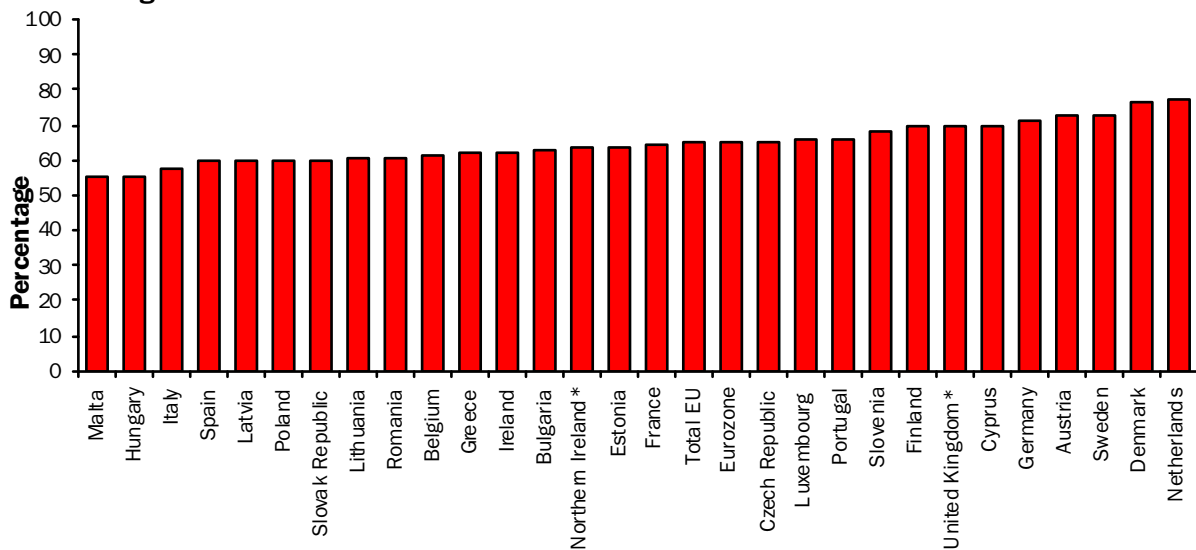
International - Regional Analysis

8

International Comparisons of ILO Employment and Unemployment

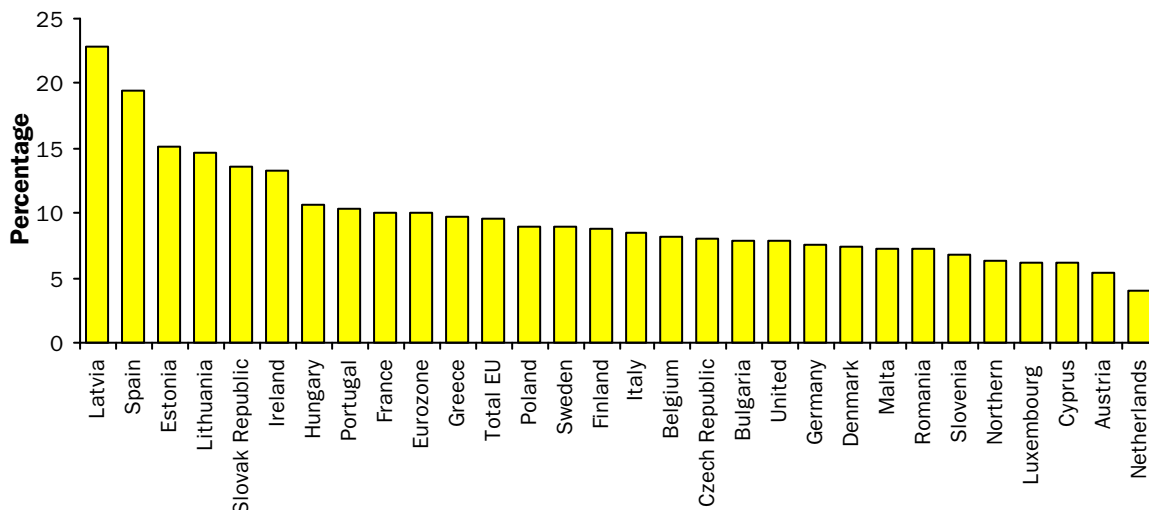
ILO Employment Rates (%) - Unadjusted

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. Figures behind the charts and further information can be found at; [International Comparisons of Employment](#)

Seasonally Adjusted Regional Summary, November 2009 – January 2010

Table 20

	Labour Force Survey (LFS) ¹						Employee Jobs ³	Claimant count rate (%) ⁴	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the year	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the month	Jobs Density Indicator ⁵
	Employment		Unemployment		Economically Inactive						
	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²					
	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²	Rate	Annual Change ²					
North East	68.5	-1.3	9.5	0.8	24.0	0.6	1,003	7.1	9.4	-2.3	0.72
North West	70.3	-1.4	8.6	0.9	22.9	0.8	2,927	5.6	11.9	-2.5	0.80
Yorkshire & the Humber	70.9	-1.4	8.7	1.5	22.1	0.1	2,124	6.0	15.5	-1.4	0.79
East Midlands	74.1	-1.9	7.5	1.0	19.7	1.1	1,836	4.9	9.9	-2.8	0.81
West Midlands	70.3	-1.0	9.5	1.1	22.1	0.0	2,237	6.4	10.0	-2.3	0.81
East	76.1	-2.0	6.6	0.9	18.4	1.3	2,314	4.1	11.9	-2.9	0.81
London	68.6	-2.8	8.8	1.3	24.6	2.1	3,977	4.6	20.5	-0.6	0.93
South East	76.7	-1.7	6.2	1.3	18.1	0.6	3,629	3.4	12.7	-3.5	0.86
South West	75.3	-2.8	6.2	1.0	19.6	2.1	2,173	3.3	7.7	-2.9	0.86
England	72.5	-1.9	7.8	1.1	21.2	1.0	22,221	4.8	12.9	-2.2	0.84
Wales	69.0	-1.0	9.2	1.5	23.7	-0.3	1,110	5.5	8.2	-2.4	0.76
Scotland	73.1	-2.3	7.6	2.5	20.6	0.3	2,332	4.9	22.1	-0.4	0.84
Great Britain	72.3	-1.9	7.9	1.3	21.3	0.9	25,663	4.8	13.4	-2.1	0.83
N Ireland	67.3	-0.4	6.3	0.4	28.0	0.0	702	6.4	32.6	0.2	0.78
United Kingdom	72.2	-1.8	7.8	1.2	21.5	0.9	26,365	4.9%	14.0	-2.0	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 February 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

9

DEFINITIONS

ILO definition

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

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

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

Sampling variability

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

If the 'annual change' for an estimate has increased or decreased by more than the 'sampling variability of the change', this change would be statistically significant. However, for the period November to January 2010 the annual change in the employment, unemployment and economic inactivity categories were not statistically significant at this level.

Please see attached link for further LFS notes and definitions:

[Labour Force Survey Notes and Definitions](#)

LFS revisions

LFS microdata has recently been revised to incorporate the latest population estimates. The revision effect LFS data from the period June to August 2006 onwards and were first published last month. 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. These are scheduled to be published next month.

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

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

Government Targets

Data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) are used in the measurement of targets set in the Northern Ireland Executive's Programme for Government (PSA targets) See www.pfgbudgetni.gov.uk/finalpfg.pdf for further details. The LFS and QES data feed into productivity estimates for NI and are therefore indirectly used to measure progress towards PSA 1: Productivity growth. In addition, LFS data is used to measure the proportion of the working age population qualified to Skill levels 2 and 3. This data therefore feeds into the measurement of PSA 2: Skills for prosperity.

Details of progress towards these targets can be found at:

www.pfgbudgetni.gov.uk/pfg_delivery_report_q4_08_09-final_-_pdf_version-5.pdf

For further information:

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

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