Northern Ireland Business Register and Employment Survey 2015

Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
Gníomhaireacht Thuaisceart Éireann um Staitisticí agus Taighde

Further Industry and Geography Breakdowns

First published: 12th April 2017
Geographical Area: Northern Ireland
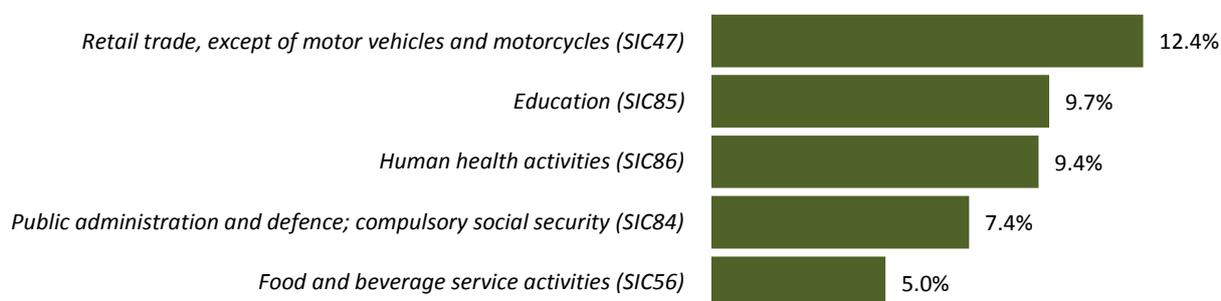Theme: Labour Market
Frequency: Biennially

This publication provides a more detailed range of statistics from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) 2015 published on 28th September 2016. These include disaggregation to 2, 3, 4 and 5 digit Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) and a breakdown at Northern Ireland Ward level.

The additional information is provided as Excel tables which are available via the following link: https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/bres-publications-and-tables-2015 and the index of tables (Page 3).

BRES is designed to give a best 'point-in-time' estimate of employee jobs disaggregated by industry and small areas. Please see user note on page 4 for further details.

Key Points

- As previously published, the number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland in September 2015 was estimated to be 717,105[1].

- The chart below shows the five industry divisions (2-digit SIC level) with the largest proportions of employees in Northern Ireland in 2015. All of these divisions are within the Services broad industry sector.

Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles (SIC47)	12.4%
Education (SIC85)	9.7%
Human health activities (SIC86)	9.4%
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security (SIC84)	7.4%
Food and beverage service activities (SIC56)	5.0%

- The top three divisions in Great Britain in 2015 were also Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles; Education; and Human health activities; however Food and beverage service activities was the fourth largest division, followed by Public administration and defence; compulsory social security.

[1] Excludes Agriculture but includes animal husbandry services and hunting, trapping and game propagation.

- At the most detailed SIC level (5-digit level), the largest proportions of employee jobs in Northern Ireland in 2015 were in Hospital activities (SIC 86101); Retail sale in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating (SIC 47110); and Primary education (SIC 85200). These are all within the **Services** broad industry sector.

5-digit SICs with the largest number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland, 2015
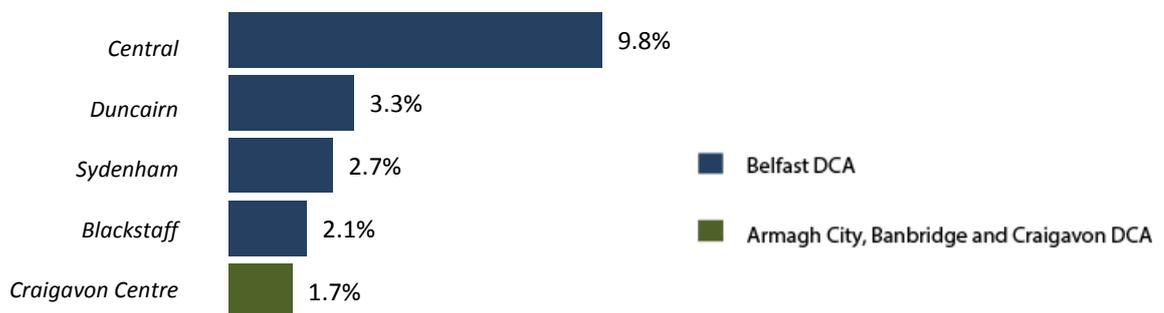
Hospital activities	*Retail sale in non-specialised stores*	*Primary education*
Employee jobs **46,274**	**33,400**	**25,409**
% of NI total **6.5%**	**4.7%**	**3.5%**

- The chart below shows the five wards with the largest proportions of employees in Northern Ireland in 2015. Together, the employee jobs in these five wards account for almost a fifth (19.6%) of all employee jobs in Northern Ireland. The four largest wards in terms of employee jobs are within the Belfast District Council Area; whilst the fifth largest is within Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon District Council Area.

Ward	%
Central	9.8%
Duncairn	3.3%
Sydenham	2.7%
Blackstaff	2.1%
Craigavon Centre	1.7%

■ Belfast DCA

■ Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon DCA

Publications and Tables from the Business Register and Employment Survey 2015:

1. **BRES Statistics Bulletin**   (first published Sept 2016)

2.   **Index of Tables**

National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

User Note – Detailed SIC Results

Whilst BRES employee jobs breakdowns by SIC give a best point-in-time estimate, users should proceed with caution in analysing changes in employee jobs by industry over time. BRES is not designed to be used as a time series, although it is recognised that users may use it in this manner. Increases/decreases in employee jobs by industry over time can occur for the following reasons:

- Births/deaths of businesses in the industry;
- Expansion/decline of existing businesses in the industry; } 'Real' change
- SIC changes. ⟶ 'Reclassification effect'

Economics and Labour Market Statistics Branch (ELMSB) is notified of a change in a business' SIC through a number of sources;

- As reported by the business through an annual or quarterly business survey return to ELMSB;
- By the Office for National Statistics (ONS); and
- By Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

These verified changes in SIC can cause a degree of volatility to the data which may be interpreted as 'real' changes.

Example

As a result of new guidance that stated that medical personnel must be on the premises for a nursing home to qualify as a medical nursing home, a number of businesses have been reclassified from SIC 86102 – Medical Nursing Home Activities, to SIC 87100 – Residential Nursing Care Activities. This involved some 9,194 employee jobs being reported under 87100 – Residential Nursing Care Activities in 2015 which had been previously reported under 86102 – Medical Nursing Home Activities in 2013.

SIC	Employee Jobs 2013	Employee Jobs 2015	2013 – 2015 Difference
86102 – Medical Nursing Home Activities	11,588	1,886	-9,702
87100 – Residential Nursing Care Activities	1,742	11,735	+9,993

9,194 employees moved from 86102 to 87100 as a result of reclassification

Extent of Reclassifications

Approximately 4% of business sites included in both BRES 2013 and BRES 2015 saw a change in their 5-digit SIC between the two years; whereas only 3% saw a change in their 2-digit SIC during the period. The reclassification effect is therefore larger at increased industry disaggregations.

User Note – Ward Level Results

A business is assigned to a ward using the business postcode. Postcode boundaries are subject to continuous change (see here for reasons why postcode boundaries change). This may result in a business being reported under a different ward from year-to-year, despite not physically moving locations. This should be considered when analysing small area data over time, as some changes may be due to reclassification of postcode boundaries rather than 'real' changes.

Contact Details

If you require further information or data in an alternative format, please contact:

Lynda Kennedy

Business Register and Employment Survey Section

Economic and Labour Market Statistics Branch

Department of Finance

Floor 2, Colby House

Stranmillis Court

Belfast, BT9 5RR

Telephone: **028 9052 9351**

Email: lynda.kennedy@finance-ni.gov.uk