

**Labour Market**

**Statistics Bulletin**

# Monthly Labour Market Report

**February 2015**



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- are produced according to sound methods, and
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Northern Ireland Statistics &  
Research Agency

# **Monthly Labour Market Report**

February 2015

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# Labour Market

## 1

Seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates for Northern Ireland for the period October - December 2014 showed an increase over the quarter in the number of economically inactive while the number of unemployed and employed decreased. The seasonally adjusted claimant count in January 2015 decreased by 1,700 over the month to 48,200. There were 305 proposed redundancies notified in the latest reference period and 283 confirmed redundancies in January 2015.

### Employment

The number of persons in employment in the period October - December 2014 was estimated at 815,000. This estimate decreased by 6,000 over the quarter but increased by 8,000 over the year. The employment rate for those aged 16-64 was estimated at 67.8%; this decreased by 0.7 percentage points over the quarter and increased by 0.3 percentage points over the year. The employment rate in NI was below the UK average (73.2%) and was the lowest rate among the twelve UK regions.

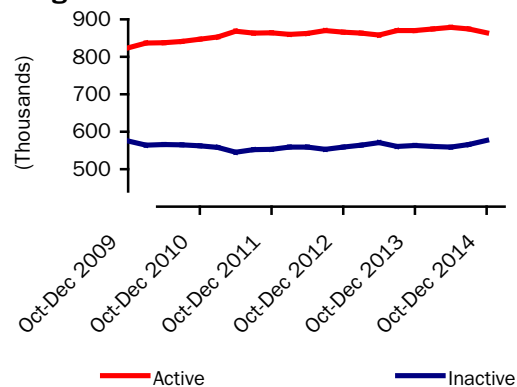
### Unemployment

The unemployment rate for the period October - December 2014 was estimated at 5.7%. This estimate decreased by 0.3 over the quarter and by 1.6 percentage points over the year. The number of unemployed persons was estimated at 50,000, down 3,000 over the quarter and down 14,000 over the year.

Unadjusted figures show that 55.6% of the unemployed have been unemployed for 1 year or more – up 8.2 percentage points over the year. They also estimate the unemployment rate for 18 - 24 year olds at 17.8% – down 5.4 percentage points over the year.

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

Figure 1



### Economically Inactive

The seasonally adjusted number of economically inactive persons in the period October - December 2014 was estimated at 577,000. This figure is up 11,000 over the quarter and up 14,000 over the year.

The NI economic inactivity rate for those aged 16-64 stood at 28.0%. This is significantly higher than the UK average rate (22.3%) and is the highest of the twelve UK regions. Unadjusted figures estimate that 29% of the economically inactive, aged 16-64, are sick/disabled, 26% are students, 25% are looking after the family/home, 11% are retired and 8% are 'other' reason.

Unadjusted figures, of all those economically inactive, show that while 91% of the inactive do not want work, the remaining 9% (53,000) want employment but do not satisfy the full ILO job search criteria (by actively seeking work and being available to start a job).

Estimates from the LFS have an associated

### 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 2014	815,000	+/-25,000	8,000	+/-32,000
Unemployment	Oct-Dec 2014	50,000	+/-11,000	-14,000	+/-15,000
Economically inactive	Oct-Dec 2014	577,000	+/-23,000	14,000	+/-29,000
Unemployment rate	Oct-Dec 2014	5.7%	+/-1.2pps	-1.6pps	+/-1.7pps
Employment rate <sup>1</sup>	Oct-Dec 2014	67.8%	+/-1.9pps	0.3pps	+/-2.4pps
Economic inactivity rate <sup>1</sup>	Oct-Dec 2014	28.0%	+/-1.8pps	0.9pps	+/-2.3pps
Claimant Count	January 2015	48,200		-10,300	

Note: pps = percentage points, <sup>1</sup> Rates based on new definition of working age (i.e. 16-64 for males and females) - see Section 9 for details.

degree of statistical error as they are based on a sample of the population. The annual changes for the main LFS categories of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity were tested for statistical significance. The results showed that none of the annual changes in the estimates were statistically significant i.e. the recorded change did not exceed the variability expected from a sample survey of this size (see table 1 and Section 9 for details).

**Unemployment Regional Comparison**

The latest NI seasonally adjusted unemployment rate (5.7%) is the same as the overall UK average rate (5.7%) and was the sixth lowest rate among the twelve UK regions. The NI rate was below the European Union (10.0%) and Republic of Ireland (10.7%) rates for November 2014. Comparable figures for October - December 2014 estimate the NI unemployment rate for 18-24 year olds at 17.8%, compared to a UK average rate of 14.2%.

**Claimant Count**

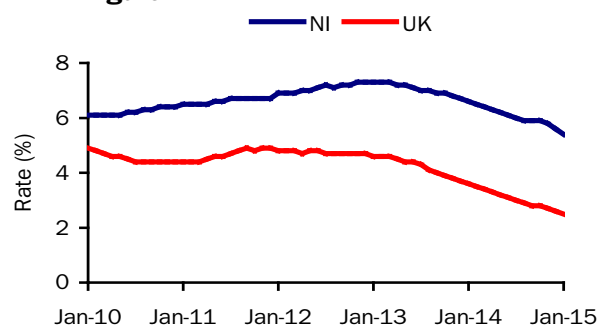
The more recent seasonally adjusted claimant count decreased by 1,700 from last month’s revised total. It now stands at 48,200 (5.4% of the workforce) in January 2015. Over the year the Claimant Count in NI has decreased by 10,300 (17.6%) and the workforce unemployment rate has decreased by 1.2 percentage points. The claimant count has fallen 16,600 since its most recent peak in December 2012 and this is the first time there has been a fall in twenty-five consecutive months since the series began.

**Claimant Count Regional Comparison**

The seasonally adjusted claimant count rate in NI (5.4%) was higher than the UK average rate (2.5%) and was the highest rate among the twelve UK regions. This is the 58<sup>th</sup> consecutive month that NI has had the highest or second highest UK region unemployment rate, on this measure. The monthly decrease in NI claimants (3.4%) was lower than the UK average decrease (4.5%) during the same period. The annual decrease in NI claimants (17.6%) was the lowest decrease of twelve UK regions (the annual decrease in the UK was 31.8%).

**Seasonally Adjusted Claimant Count Monthly Rates**

**Figure 2**



**Claimant count rates for District Council Areas**

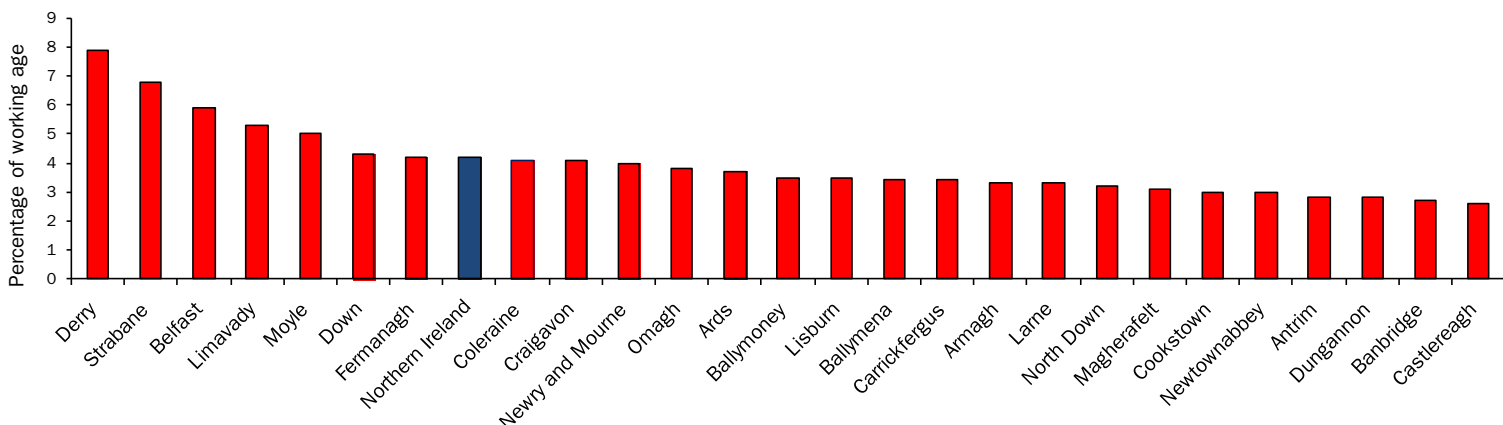
Figure 3 (unadjusted numbers as a percentage of the resident working age population) show that the highest rates at January 2015 were in Derry (7.9%), Strabane (6.8%), Belfast (5.9%), and Limavady (5.3%). All 26 District Council Areas showed a decrease over year, with the largest decreases in Dungannon (31.8%), Cookstown (28.9%) and Banbridge (27.9%).

**Context**

Please note that although there is a large degree of overlap between the LFS and claimant count measures of unemployment, they measure unemployment using different criteria. While they are broadly consistent in terms of longer term trends, the results may differ in any given period. A full explanation of differences between the LFS and claimant count definitions of unemployment are provided at the following link [http://www.detini.gov.uk/unemployment\\_measures.pdf](http://www.detini.gov.uk/unemployment_measures.pdf).

It should also be noted that while the claimant count provides a complete census of all those in receipt of Jobseekers Allowance the LFS is a survey based measure which has an associated statistical margin of error around all estimates, including the level of unemployment.

**Unadjusted Claimant Count Rates By District Council Area**  
**Figure 3**



### Redundancies

There were 305 proposed redundancies notified during the period mid January 2015 to mid February 2015. This compares to 22 proposed redundancies that were notified in the previous monthly period.

There were 283 confirmed redundancies in the month of January (Figure 5). Over the latest twelve month period there were a total of 2,281 confirmed redundancies, an increase of 12% from the previous year (2,028).

Over the latest twelve month period there were a total of 4,386 proposed redundancies, an increase of 102% from the previous year (2,174). Currently there are 1,922 outstanding redundancies (that is, proposed but not confirmed), which is 86% higher than this time last year (1,032).

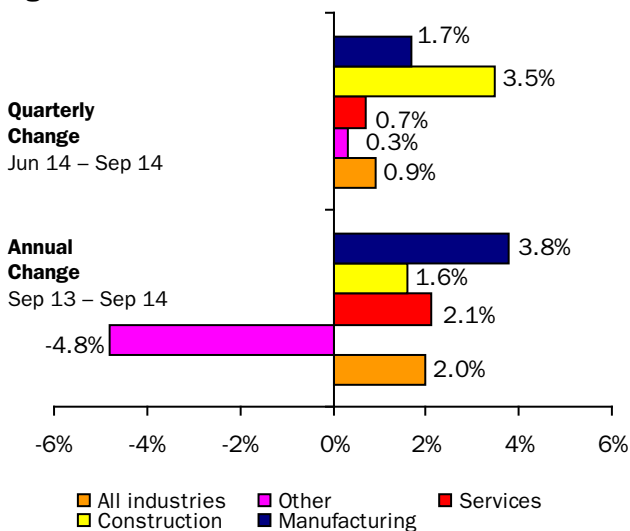
Note that since all proposed redundancies do not actually take place, the confirmed total provides a better indication of real job losses.

### Quarterly Employment Survey

The estimated seasonally adjusted employee jobs total in Northern Ireland at September 2014, first published in December, was 720,290. This represents an increase (+6,450 jobs) from the revised figure for the previous quarter and represents an increase of 14,200 jobs over the year (see Section 9 for details of QES revisions).

### Annual and Quarterly changes in employee jobs (seasonally adjusted\*)

Figure 4

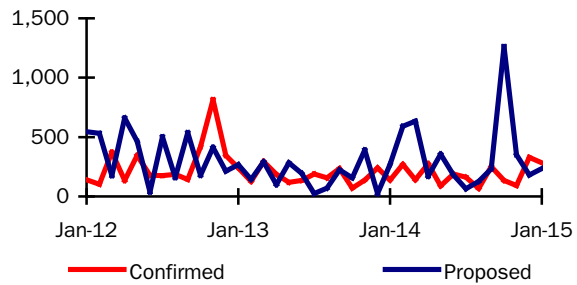


The seasonally adjusted quarterly change consisted of increases across; the Service Sector (+4,100 jobs), the Manufacturing Sector (+1,280 jobs), the Construction Sector (+1,010 jobs) and the Other Industries Sector (+60 jobs). Over the same period the Public Sector decreased by 370 jobs while the private sector increased by 6,080 jobs.

Over the year to September 2014, the public sector decreased by 1.4% (-3,030 jobs) compared to an increase of 3.5% (+17,060 jobs) in the private sector.

### Confirmed and Proposed Redundancies January 12 - January 15

Figure 5

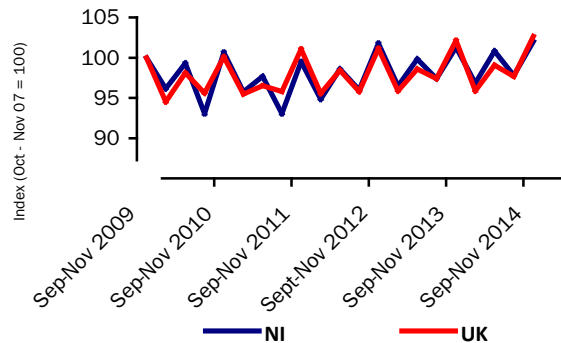


### Hours worked

In the three months to November 2014, the average actual weekly hours worked in NI was 34.3 hours – higher than the UK average (33.4) for the same period. For full-time workers, in Northern Ireland, the average actual number of hours worked was 38.7 and was below that for the UK (39.0). For part-time workers in Northern Ireland, the average actual numbers of hours worked stood at 17.9 hours whereas the respective figure stood at 16.7 hours in the UK.

### Index of average actual weekly hours worked, NI

Figure 6



### Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE)

Earnings results released on 19 November 2014 show that, over the year to April 2014, median gross weekly earnings for all employees (i.e. both full- and part-time) in NI decreased by 2.2% (to £358), compared with growth of 0.6% in the UK (to £418). NI full-time employees' gross weekly earnings at April 2014 were £457, which was approximately 88.2% of the figure in the UK (£518). NI full-time earnings experienced a decrease of 1.4% over the period, compared with an increase of 0.1% in the UK.

Full-time weekly private sector earnings in NI declined over the year by 0.9%, to £405. This represented a small widening of the NI/UK private sector pay gap, with the NI private sector at 82.2% of the UK figure. Part-time private sector earnings in NI grew 5.8% to £140 per week.

# 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)

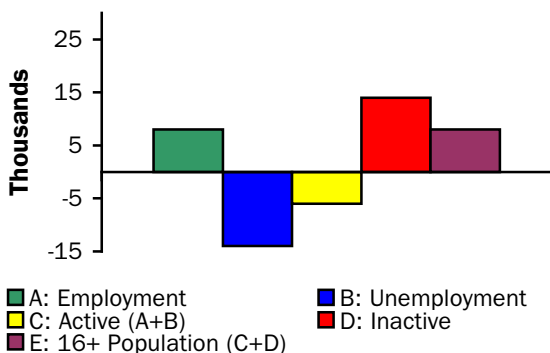
The latest seasonally adjusted Labour Force Survey estimates for October - December 2014 (see Table 2) estimated the unemployment rate at 5.7% (50,000 persons), down 0.3 percentage points from the previous quarter. The employment level decreased by 6,000 over the quarter (815,000 persons).

### Labour Market change over the year

In the year to October - December 2014 (see Figure 7), LFS figures estimated that total employment increased by 8,000, that unemployment decreased by 14,000, that numbers of economically active decreased by 6,000 (figures may not sum due to rounding). The number economically inactive increased by 14,000 over the year.

### Labour Market Structure Change over the year

Figure 7



### Employment

Latest seasonally adjusted estimates show that there were 815,000 persons in employment, which is up 8,000 over the year. Of the total, 53% (435,000) were male and 47% (379,000) were female.

Male employment rate increased by 1.2 percentage points over the year while the female rate decreased by 0.6 percentage points.

### Economic Inactivity

The number of economically inactive persons in the period October - December 2014 was estimated at 577,000. 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 (i.e. those aged 16 – 64) that are of most interest to labour market analysts. In October - December 2014, there were an estimated 326,000 economically inactive people aged 16-64 in NI. Of the total, 39% (129,000) were male and 61% (197,000) were female.

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

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

### Economically Inactive of Working Age Reason for not wanting work

Figure 8

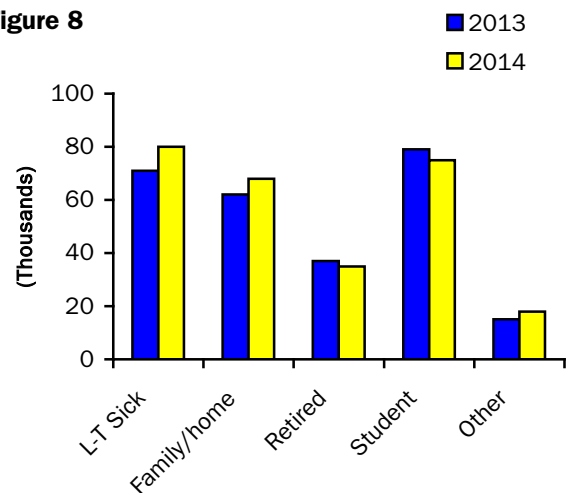


Figure 8 shows the reason given by these people for not wanting work. The largest categories were long-term sick (80,000), students (75,000) and those looking after family/home (68,000). Among these categories, the largest change over the year occurred for long-term sick (9,000 or 13.2%).



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

(Thousands/Percentage)

	Total aged 16 and over	Total persons of working age 16-64	All aged 16+				All working age 16-64		
	A	B	Total economically active	Total in employment	Unemployed	Economically inactive	Unemployment rate (%)	Activity rate 16-64 (%)	Employment rate (%) 16-64
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
<b>ALL PERSONS</b>									
Oct-Dec 2011	1,417	1,160	864	803	61	553	7.1	72.8	67.5
Oct-Dec 2012	1,425	1,161	866	799	67	559	7.7	72.6	67.0
Oct-Dec 2013	1,433	1,163	870	806	64	563	7.3	73.0	67.5
Jan-Mar 2014	1,435	1,164	874	811	63	561	7.2	73.2	67.8
Apr-Jun 2014	1,437	1,164	879	820	58	559	6.6	73.2	68.2
Jul-Sep 2014	1,439	1,165	874	821	52	566	6.0	73.0	68.5
Oct-Dec 2014	1,441	1,165	864	815	50	577	5.7	72.0	67.8
<b>Change on Quarter</b>	2	0	-9	-6	-3	11	-0.3	-1.0	-0.7
<b>Change on Year</b>	8	2	-6	8	-14	14	-1.6	-0.9	0.3
<b>MALES</b>									
Oct-Dec 2011	687	573	463	421	42	223	9.0	78.9	71.6
Oct-Dec 2012	691	574	465	418	47	227	10.0	78.5	70.5
Oct-Dec 2013	696	575	464	421	42	233	9.1	79.0	71.6
Jan-Mar 2014	697	576	468	424	43	230	9.3	79.0	71.5
Apr-Jun 2014	699	576	472	432	40	227	8.5	79.4	72.4
Jul-Sep 2014	700	576	466	432	35	233	7.4	78.6	72.6
Oct-Dec 2014	701	576	463	435	28	237	6.1	77.7	72.8
<b>FEMALES</b>									
Oct-Dec 2011	730	587	401	382	19	329	4.8	66.8	63.5
Oct-Dec 2012	733	587	401	381	20	333	5.0	66.9	63.5
Oct-Dec 2013	737	588	407	385	22	330	5.3	67.1	63.5
Jan-Mar 2014	738	588	406	387	19	331	4.8	67.4	64.1
Apr-Jun 2014	739	588	407	389	18	332	4.5	67.2	64.1
Jul-Sep 2014	740	589	407	390	18	332	4.4	67.5	64.5
Oct-Dec 2014	741	589	401	379	22	340	5.4	66.5	62.9

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.**

The estimates above have been revised to incorporate latest population figures - see note on revisions policy in Section 9.

Working age rates based on 16-64 population for both males and females - see Section 9 for details.

Figures may not sum due to rounding. \* - sample too small for a reliable estimate.

## Labour Market Structure – Sample of data available on website

**Table 3**

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

## Other Labour Force Survey Publications available on website

**Table 4**

Publication title	File Size
LFS Labour Market Statistics (October -December 2014)	210 KB
LFS Quarterly Supplement (July - September 2014)	268 KB
LFS Key Data Historical Series 1995 – present (please enable macros)	628 KB
LFS Historical Data 1984 - 1991	76 KB
Women in Northern Ireland Publication September 2014	674 KB
Labour Force Survey (LFS) Local Area Database 2013	587KB
LFS Archive data	**

# Claimant Count

# 3

## Unadjusted Claimant Count

The claimant count in NI at January 2015 was 49,577 (5.6% of the workforce), an increase of 1.0% (513) over the previous month. There was a decrease of 17.1% (10,252) over the year and the rate decreased by 1.2 percentage points. Five years ago the total was 56,170 (6.2%). (The seasonally adjusted claimant count decreased by 1,700 from the previous month's revised figure).

## Youth Claimants

A total of 12,501 under 25's (25.2% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in January 2015, representing an increase of 2.6% (311 claimants) over the month and a decrease of 18.3% (2,806) over the year. Youth claimants represent 1.4% of the workforce.

## Long-term Claimants

At January 2015, 18,010 (36.3% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more, representing a decrease of 0.3% (62 claimants) over the month and a decrease of 7.9% (1,550) over the year. Long-term claimants represent 2.0% of the workforce.

## Flows out from Job Seekers Allowance

The success rate of job seekers leaving the count to obtain employment in January 2015 remained unchanged since the same time last year. Of the 4,525 flows from the count in January 2015, 1,470 (32.5%) found employment, compared to 1,505 (32.5%) of the 4,625 claimants who left the count in January 2014. This compares to 42.1% three months ago and 33.8% six months ago.

In the period from January 2014 to January 2015 the highest proportion (48.0%) of persons leaving JSA to find employment is in December 2014, while in January 2014 and January 2015 the proportion finding employment was at its lowest (32.5%). The highest proportion (20.9%) of persons leaving JSA to enter education or training occurred in July 2014. Those who left JSA to claim other benefits varied between 3.7% and 6.2% in the period. Those who left JSA because they failed to sign peaked at 29.4% in January 2015.

## Flows on to Job Seekers Allowance

Of the 5,115 claimants who joined the count in January 2015, 36.3% were under 25, 27.8% were aged between 25-34 years, 15.1% were aged between 35-44 years, 13.3% were aged between 45-54 years and 7.5% were 55 and over. In January 2015, 3,445 males (67.4%) joined the count compared to 1,670 females (32.6%).

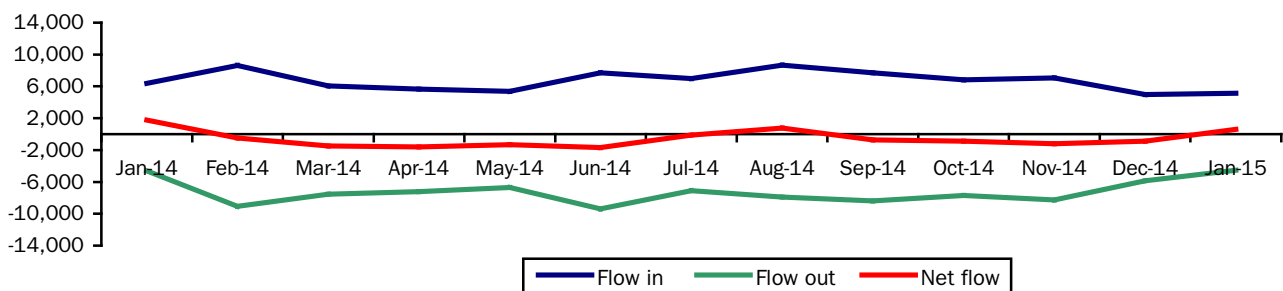
## Net Flow

There was a net flow of persons out from Job Seekers for 10 months and a net flow onto Job Seekers for 3 months between January 2014 and January 2015. Net flows off Jobseekers peaked in June 2014 with a net off-flow of 1,690 persons, while net flows onto Jobseekers peaked in January 2014 with a net on-flow of 1,770.

Further information on flows data is available in section 9.

## Flows in and out from JSA

Figure 9



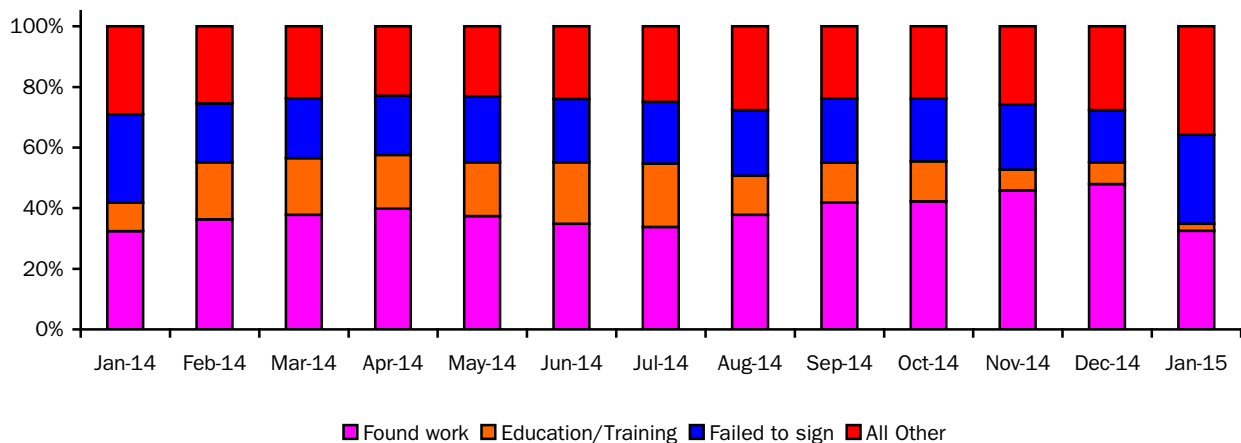
**Claimant Count by District Council Area – January 2015**  
**Number, Rate and % change over month and year (including jobs density indicator at 2012\*)**  
**Table 5**

District	Number of Claimants			% Of Working Age			Change over month		Change over Year		Jobs Density
	Males	Females	All	Males	Females	All	Number	%	Number	%	Indicator*
Antrim	660	294	954	3.9	1.7	2.8	26	2.8	-289	-23.3	0.94
Ards	1,258	529	1,787	5.3	2.1	3.7	18	1.0	-292	-14.0	0.41
Armagh	858	391	1,249	4.5	2.1	3.3	-12	-1.0	-448	-26.4	0.67
Ballymena	936	465	1,401	4.6	2.3	3.4	53	3.9	-160	-10.2	0.78
Ballymoney	494	210	704	4.9	2.1	3.5	11	1.6	-210	-23.0	0.49
Banbridge	610	229	839	3.9	1.5	2.7	18	2.2	-324	-27.9	0.45
Belfast	8,080	2,900	10,980	8.8	3.0	5.9	35	0.3	-2,014	-15.5	1.18
Carrickfergus	591	261	852	4.9	2.0	3.4	34	4.2	-235	-21.6	0.39
Castlereagh	812	310	1,122	3.9	1.4	2.6	48	4.5	-167	-13.0	0.65
Coleraine	1,075	445	1,520	5.9	2.4	4.1	26	1.7	-327	-17.7	0.69
Cookstown	456	257	713	3.8	2.1	3.0	-2	-0.3	-290	-28.9	0.66
Craigavon	1,674	789	2,463	5.5	2.6	4.1	3	0.1	-564	-18.6	0.71
Derry	3,908	1,692	5,600	11.4	4.7	7.9	104	1.9	-453	-7.5	0.68
Down	1,400	523	1,923	6.3	2.3	4.3	11	0.6	-307	-13.8	0.53
Dungannon	662	383	1,045	3.5	2.1	2.8	-7	-0.7	-488	-31.8	0.71
Fermanagh	1,162	491	1,653	5.9	2.5	4.2	-11	-0.7	-277	-14.4	0.74
Larne	478	198	676	4.8	1.9	3.3	28	4.3	-214	-24.0	0.53
Limavady	849	321	1,170	7.5	3.0	5.3	7	0.6	-262	-18.3	0.46
Lisburn	1,905	825	2,730	5.0	2.1	3.5	25	0.9	-570	-17.3	0.57
Magherafelt	602	303	905	4.1	2.1	3.1	24	2.7	-296	-24.6	0.61
Moyle	385	148	533	7.1	2.8	5.0	8	1.5	-96	-15.3	0.49
Newry & Mourne	1,819	749	2,568	5.6	2.3	4.0	-35	-1.3	-758	-22.8	0.62
Newtownabbey	1,200	459	1,659	4.6	1.6	3.0	58	3.6	-420	-20.2	0.6
North Down	1,110	445	1,555	4.6	1.8	3.2	24	1.6	-206	-11.7	0.48
Omagh	825	426	1,251	4.9	2.6	3.8	31	2.5	-378	-23.2	0.71
Strabane	1,153	572	1,725	9.0	4.5	6.8	-12	-0.7	-207	-10.7	0.58
<b>NI TOTAL</b>	<b>34,962</b>	<b>14,615</b>	<b>49,577</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-10,252</b>	<b>-17.1</b>	<b>0.71</b>

\* Data relates to 2012. 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

At January 2015, 32.5% (15,780) 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 17.5% (8,500) gave their usual occupation as working in Sales and Customer Service Occupations. These two groups account for approximately one half of all claimants in January 2015. The smallest occupation group, with 1.5% (735) of all claimants, was Managers and Senior Officials.

Overall the NI claimant count (computerised claims only) increased by 1.1% over the month to January 2015. Eight of the nine occupational groups showed an increase in levels, with the largest increase in levels occurring in Sales and Customer Service Occupations which increased by 190 (2.3%), followed by Administrative and Secretarial Occupations which increased by 100 (2.5%). The group showing the only decrease occurred in Personal Service Occupations, which decreased by 30 (0.8%).

## Claimant Count (unadjusted) by Usual Occupation – January 2015 (Computerised claims only)

Table 6

Occupational Groups (Usual Occupation)	January 2015		Change over month	
	Number of Claimants	% of Claimants	Number of claimants	% change
Managers and Senior Officials	735	1.5	15	2.1
Professional Occupations	1,050	2.2	10	1.0
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,330	4.8	75	3.3
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	4,100	8.5	100	2.5
Skilled Trade Occupations	6,110	12.6	60	1.0
Personal Service Occupations	3,505	7.2	-30	-0.8
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	8,500	17.5	190	2.3
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	6,380	13.1	45	0.7
Elementary Occupations	15,780	32.5	45	0.3
Not Known	30	0.1	0	0.0
<b>NI Total</b>	<b>48,520</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>1.1</b>

**Claimant Count - Data available on  
website: Table 7**

<b>Table Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>File Size</b>
Table 3.1	<u><b>Latest Seasonally Adjusted</b></u>	27KB
Table 3.2	<u><b>Latest Unadjusted</b></u>	22KB
Table 3.3	<u><b>Seasonally Adjusted Over the Year</b></u>	23KB
Table 3.4	<u><b>Unadjusted Over the Year</b></u>	21KB
Table 3.5	<u><b>Long-Term Claimant Count Over the Year</b></u>	20KB
Table 3.6	<u><b>Youth Claimant Count Over the Year</b></u>	21KB
Table 3.7	<u><b>Travel-to-Work-Area</b></u>	24KB
Table 3.8a	<u><b>District Council Area</b></u>	36KB
Table 3.8b	<u><b>NEW - District Council Area</b></u>	30KB
Table 3.9	<u><b>Parliamentary Constituency Area</b></u>	35KB
Table 3.10	<u><b>NUTSiii</b></u>	22KB
Table 3.11	<u><b>Usual Occupation</b></u>	13KB
Table 3.12	<u><b>Outflows by Destination (including percentage recycled)</b></u>	22KB
Table 3.13	<u><b>Total Annual Outflows by Destination</b></u>	18KB
Table 3.14	<u><b>On Flows by District Council Area and Age</b></u>	12KB
Table 3.15	<u><b>Ward Data</b></u>	150KB
Table 3.16	<u><b>Super Output Area</b></u>	108KB

# Redundancies

## 4

There were 2,281 confirmed redundancies over the year to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015, an increase of 12% compared to the same period in the previous year (2,028). Of these, 283 confirmed redundancies took place during the calendar month of January 2015 and 328 in the previous month of December 2014. This compares to 138 in January 2014 (one year ago).

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

The largest number of redundancies occurred in Belfast (780), Limavady (265) and Newtownabbey (241) District Council areas.

**Confirmed redundancies by District Council in year to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015**  
**Table 8**

District Council Area	Total
Antrim	55
Ards	57
Armagh	15
Ballymena	4
Ballymoney	0
Banbridge	4
Belfast	780
Carrickfergus	52
Castlereagh	63
Coleraine	62
Cookstown	14
Craigavon	48
Derry	98
Down	112
Dungannon	11
Fermanagh	49
Larne	52
Limavady	265
Lisburn	100
Magherafelt	48
Moyle	8
Newry & Mourne	36
Newtownabbey	241
North Down	100
Omagh	5
Strabane	2
<b>N. Ireland</b>	<b>2,281</b>

Of these 2,281 confirmed redundancies, 408 or 18% were in the Manufacturing sector, with 91 redundancies (4% of all redundancies) occurring in Manufacture of other transport equipment. A further 302 redundancies (13% of all redundancies) occurred in the Construction sector.

Altogether there are 1,922 outstanding redundancies that have been notified, but have yet to take place. This compares with 1,032 this time one year ago – an increase of 86%.

**Redundancies – Sample of Data Available on Website**  
**Table 9**

Regional Redundancy data	File size
<a href="#">District Council (Jan 2000 - date)</a>	33.0KB
<a href="#">Parliamentary Constituency (Jan 2000 - date)</a>	29.0KB
<a href="#">Travel-to-Work Area (Jan 2000 - date)</a>	29.0KB

Industrial Sector	File size
<a href="#">Standard Industrial Classification (Jan 2000 - date)</a>	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 2014 seasonally adjusted employee jobs figure first published on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014 stands at 720,290.

This represents an increase of 0.9% (or +6,450 jobs) from the revised June 2014 estimate of 713,830.

Over the quarter seasonally adjusted employee jobs increased across all sectors; the Construction Sector by 3.5% (+1,010 jobs), the Manufacturing sector by 1.7% (+1,280 jobs), in the Services sector by 0.7% (+4,100 jobs) and in the 'Other' industries sector by 0.3% (+60 jobs).

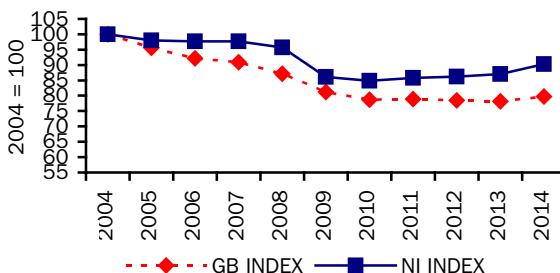
### Unadjusted

The September 2014 unadjusted employee jobs estimate stands at 717,820.

This represents an increase of 0.7% (+5,090 jobs) since June 2014 and an increase of 2.0% (+14,200 jobs) in the past year.

Over the year, September 2013 to September 2014, there were increases across; the Service sector by 2.1% (+11,910 jobs), in the Manufacturing Sector by 3.8% (+2,870 jobs), in the Construction sector by 1.6% (+480 jobs). There was a decrease in the 'Other' industries sector by 4.8% (-1,050 jobs).

**Manufacturing jobs for NI & GB indexed  
(September of each year)  
Figure 11**



### Manufacturing Employee Jobs

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

NI manufacturing jobs steadily declined between 2004 and 2010, falling to 85% of the 2004 figure.

NI Manufacturing employee jobs figures have then increased steadily from 2010 to 2014 now standing at 90% of the 2004 figure.

Manufacturing jobs in GB have been in decline from 2004 until 2010 before increasing slightly to the 2011 figure and then declining again to the 2013 figure of 78%. Between 2013 and 2014 there was some growth with the estimate standing at 80% of the 2004 level in September 2014.

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

Over the period 2004-2014, Manufacturing jobs in NI decreased by 6,240, with 17 of the 23 manufacturing divisions recording a decrease. The largest decrease occurred in the Manufacture of textiles, which recorded 2,410 fewer jobs. There were 1,600 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products, 1,530 fewer jobs in the Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products and 1,340 fewer in the Manufacture of wearing apparel.

However, these decreases were partially offset by increases in the Manufacture of pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations (+1,020 jobs), in the Manufacture of food products (+690 jobs) and in the Manufacture of transport equipment (+440 jobs).

The large decline in the Manufacture of Textiles, Wearing Apparel and Leather Products sectors has impacted on the structure of Northern Ireland Manufacturing jobs. In 2004 7.0% of Manufacturing jobs were located in the Textiles, Wearing Apparel and Leather sectors; by 2014 this had fallen to 3.2%.



**Quarterly Employment Survey**  
**Northern Ireland Seasonally Adjusted Employee Jobs\* September 2014**

**Table 10**

				% change in total	
	Males	Females	All persons	since last quarter	since last year
Manufacturing	60,900	16,960	77,870	1.7	3.3
Construction <sup>1</sup>	24,840	5,020	29,860	3.5	1.6
Services	245,350	346,450	591,800	0.7	2.1
Other <sup>2</sup>	17,820	2,950	20,760	0.3	-4.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>348,910</b>	<b>371,380</b>	<b>720,290</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>	Services	Other Industries <sup>2</sup>	All Industries	Public <sup>3,4,5</sup>	Private <sup>3,4,5</sup>
2007	March	83,700	43,460	567,060	21,050	715,270	220,260	495,180
	June	84,210	44,710	571,090	20,890	720,900	220,650	500,300
	September	83,950	45,320	575,120	21,070	725,470	219,400	506,190
	December	83,490	46,820	578,910	20,170	729,400	219,840	509,160
2008	March	83,580	45,860	582,880	20,150	732,460	219,840	512,820
	June	83,470	44,860	584,500	20,370	733,190	218,360	515,010
	September	82,280	43,500	581,250	20,440	727,470	216,170	511,210
	December	80,100	41,670	579,580	20,040	721,390	224,150	497,050
2009	March	78,090	39,420	577,680	19,960	715,150	224,410	490,920
	June	75,390	38,210	577,090	19,910	710,600	224,960	485,680
	September	74,080	36,780	577,440	19,800	708,100	225,480	482,440
	December <sup>^</sup>	73,270	37,120	581,010	19,820	711,230	225,040	486,200
2010	March	73,030	36,960	579,750	19,850	709,570	223,530	486,310
	June	73,120	36,200	579,140	19,620	708,080	221,740	486,300
	September	73,050	35,790	576,220	19,800	704,860	219,640	484,830
	December	73,750	33,610	573,570	19,830	700,750	219,340	481,590
2011	March	73,580	33,370	573,230	19,850	700,030	218,210	482,210
	June	73,500	32,780	570,930	20,260	697,480	216,780	480,550
	September	73,920	32,930	569,010	20,000	695,860	215,220	480,040
	December	75,170	31,610	564,740	19,880	691,410	213,920	477,880
2012	March	74,310	31,410	565,840	20,050	691,600	214,340	477,730
	June	74,680	31,250	567,080	21,000	694,020	213,470	480,330
	September	74,330	30,900	568,620	21,060	694,910	213,200	480,890
	December	73,080	29,680	571,100	21,260	695,130	214,110	481,650
2013	March	73,120	29,450	572,390	21,300	696,260	214,540	482,270
	June	74,180	29,190	576,180	21,560	701,110	214,520	486,240
	September	74,990	29,380	579,900	21,810	706,090	214,500	490,620
	December	77,010	30,310	580,790	20,650	708,760	212,940	494,410
2014	March	78,350	29,230	582,050	20,590	710,210	211,520	500,450
	June	76,590	28,850	587,700	20,700	713,830	211,840	501,600
	September	77,870	29,860	591,800	20,760	720,290	211,470	507,690

<sup>1</sup> Figures for females in the construction industry are not seasonally adjusted. <sup>2</sup> Covers Industry Sections A, B, D and E which have not been seasonally adjusted. <sup>3</sup> Public and Private splits may not sum to total. <sup>4</sup> Royal Mail plc was reclassified from the public sector to the private sector in October 2013. It is therefore included in the public sector for September 2013 and earlier periods, but not for subsequent periods. <sup>5</sup> Lloyds Banking Group and its subsidiaries were classified to the public sector from October 2008 to March 2013. They are therefore included in public sector estimates from December 2008 to December 2013 but not in earlier or subsequent periods.

<sup>^</sup> Due to revisions in the QES sampling methodology, a discontinuity in the jobs series exists for all estimates from Q3 2009 onwards. For more details please follow link: <http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats/index/stats-surveys/stats-qes/stats-qes-discontinuity-notice.htm>

\* 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
	Industry Split Tables	
5.1	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted September 2014	14 KB
5.2	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted 1998 – 2014	23 KB
5.3	NI Employee Jobs - Unadjusted 1998 – 2014	64 KB
5.4	NI Employee Jobs (Unadjusted) by Industry Section – September 2014	13 KB
5.5	NI Employee Jobs by Industry Section (Unadjusted) September 2013, June 2014 and September 2014	13 KB
5.6	Self Employment Jobs in NI by Broad Industry Group (June of Each Year)	13 KB
5.7	Workforce in Employment 1983 - 2014	13 KB
5.8	NI Employee Jobs by 2-digit SIC07 Class – September 2014	27 KB
	Public – Private Sector Tables	
5.9	NI Public Sector Jobs (Unadjusted) – September 2014	11 KB
5.10	NI Employee Jobs - Seasonally Adjusted (Public / Private) 1993 - 2014	16 KB
5.11	NI Employee Jobs - Unadjusted (Public / Private) 1993 - 2014	64 KB
5.12	NI Employee Jobs June 1971 – September 2014 - by SIC code	1,337KB
5.13	NI Employee Jobs June 1978 – September 2014 - by broad industry sector	56KB
5.14	NI Employee Jobs - Public Sector - December 2007 – September 2014	324KB

## Other Quarterly Employment Survey Publications available on website

**Table 13**

Publication title	File Size
Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) Supplement –September 2014	412 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, work pattern, industry and occupation. It has been designed by the Office for National Statistics and is carried out in Northern Ireland by NISRA statisticians. 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 2014 was £358, some 14.4% lower than the UK (£418). This represented a decline in NI median earnings for all employees of 2.2% over the year to April 2014, compared with growth of 0.6% in the UK.

NI full-time employees' median gross weekly earnings at April 2014 were £457, which was 88.2% of the figure in the UK (£518). NI full-time earnings experienced a decrease of 1.4% over the period, compared with growth of 0.1% in the UK. The median gross weekly part-time earnings in NI at April 2014 was £156, up 0.4% over the year, compared to a 0.8% increase in the UK (to £161).

Median gross weekly earnings for full-time employees in the NI private sector decreased by 0.9% to £405 as equivalent figures for the UK grew slightly (0.7%) to £493. This represented a small widening of the NI/UK private sector pay gap, with the NI private sector at 82.2% of the UK figure.

There has been a narrowing of the gender pay gap for all employees in NI over the period 2013-2014. Female median hourly earnings excluding overtime were 91.1% of male earnings at April 2014, compared to 90.5% a year earlier. The NI gender pay gap remains less marked than in the UK, where the equivalent female to male earnings ratio was 80.9% at April 2014. 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.

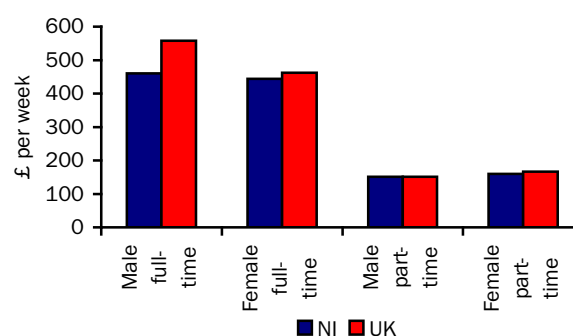
Please note, changes in NI earnings over the year and relative to the UK can be influenced by a range of factors including the timing of pay settlements, the extent of overtime, and differences in the

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 in section 13 (Background Notes) of the ASHE publication:

[NI ASHE 2014 Statistics Bulletin](#)

### Median gross weekly earnings by full-/part-time and gender, April 2014

Figure 12



### Median and mean gross weekly earnings 2010-14

Table 14

£ per week	Median			Mean		
	Full-time	Part-time	All	Full-time	Part-time	All
April 2014						
Men	460.5	151.4	416.4	550.8	175.9	484.6
Women	444.4	160.1	294.3	495.6	187.5	351.3
All	457.2	155.8	357.5	529.4	184.3	418.7
April 2013						
Men	479.1	144.9	431.2	568.7	176.7	504.4
Women	446.5	161.3	302.9	502.9	189.5	360.3
All	463.6	155.2	365.5	540.8	186.4	427.9
% Change 2013 - 14						
Men	-3.9	4.5	-3.4	-3.2	-0.5	-3.9
Women	-0.5	-0.7	-2.8	-1.4	-1.0	-2.5
All	-1.4	0.4	-2.2	-2.1	-1.1	-2.2
April 2012						
Men	477.7	138.8	420.0	558.9	172.0	492.2
Women	440.0	153.5	298.6	502.4	181.4	360.4
All	457.6	148.3	360.8	535.5	178.9	424.7
April 2011						
Men	461.8	139.2	412.7	557.9	179.2	496.1
Women	417.9	154.4	300.0	480.4	182.9	352.1
All	444.7	150.5	354.5	526.1	181.9	423.2
April 2010						
Men	455.6	132.4	410.8	537.1	191.2	487.8
Women	409.4	152.2	297.7	469.9	180.7	347.4
All	437.3	149.1	354.7	509.6	183.3	416.6

**Average full-time earnings by occupation, April 2014, based on the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC 2010)**

**Table 15**

	Count (thousands)	Median gross weekly pay (£)	Mean gross weekly pay (£)	Median total weekly hours	Mean total weekly hours
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	48	670.8	754.7	37.7	38.6
Professional Occupations	111	704.4	733.1	37.4	36.9
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	58	534.7	562.8	37.8	39.0
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	64	401.8	412.6	37.5	38.6
Skilled Trades Occupations	59	439.6	477.9	40.0	42.2
Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	28	327.2	349.1	37.5	39.2
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	28	295.1	329.6	39.0	39.0
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	57	380.0	410.6	40.0	42.1
Elementary Occupations	38	297.7	332.3	40.0	40.6

**Average full-time earnings by industry, April 2014, 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	299.8	370.9	40.0	41.5
Mining and quarrying	x	x	x	40.7	44.6
Manufacturing	87	449.6	537.4	40.0	41.6
Electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply	x	x	814.6	37.0	38.8
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	5	463.4	543.8	40.0	42.2
Construction	22	433.7	516.0	40.0	41.1
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	65	357.5	415.6	39.0	39.3
Transportation and storage	18	453.9	474.9	40.0	42.3
Accommodation and food service activities	15	280.1	322.4	38.0	39.4
Information and communication	17	623.1	642.2	37.5	38.0
Financial and insurance activities	13	537.6	655.7	35.0	35.6
Real estate activities	6	447.5	514.6	37.0	38.2
Professional, scientific and technical activities	21	460.0	531.3	37.5	37.6
Administrative and support service activities	24	332.2	426.8	39.3	39.9
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	53	526.1	574.7	42.0	41.6
Education	56	704.4	675.4	32.5	34.3
Human health and social work activities	64	459.5	524.7	37.5	38.5
Arts, entertainment and recreation	8	390.4	437.5	38.5	38.6
Other service activities	7	418.4	528.2	37.4	38.2
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services-producing activities of households for own use	x	x	x	x	x

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	<a href="#">ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables (excluding supplementary information)</a>	51 KB
6.2	<a href="#">ASHE 2004 Headline Data for Key Variables (including supplementary information)</a>	52 KB
6.3	<a href="#">ASHE 2005 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB
6.4	<a href="#">ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables (consistent with 2005 methodology)</a>	168 KB
6.5	<a href="#">ASHE 2006 Headline Data for Key Variables (consistent with 2007 methodology)</a>	176 KB
6.6	<a href="#">ASHE 2007 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	165 KB
6.7	<a href="#">ASHE 2008 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	165 KB
6.8	<a href="#">ASHE 2009 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	52 KB
6.9	<a href="#">ASHE 2010 Headline Data for Key Variables (SOC2000 basis)</a>	54KB
6.10	<a href="#">ASHE 2011 Headline Data for Key Variables (SOC2010 basis)</a>	64KB
6.11	<a href="#">ASHE 2012 Headline Data for Key Variables</a>	51KB
6.12	<a href="#">ASHE 2013 Headline Data for Key Variables (revised)</a>	52KB
6.13	<a href="#">ASHE 2014 Headline Data for Key Variables (provisional)</a>	83KB

# Vacancy Statistics and Employment & Training

## 7

**Due to improved data validation and cleansing, the way we publish information is changing. Data will now only be published in this report following publication on the DEL website <http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/statsandresearch.htm>. Information in Table 18 relating to Steps to Work and Training for Success will only be updated on a quarterly basis. The next Steps to Work Factsheet will be published on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 and the next Training for Success Bulletin will be published on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2015. A new series of Vacancy statistics commenced with the publication of a quarterly Vacancy Factsheet on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2015. The next Vacancy Bulletin will be published on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015.**

### Employment & Training Measures

#### Participation in the Department for Employment and Learning Schemes to December 2014

Table 18

	Steps to Work (2)	Future Managers	Employment Support	Training for Success (3)
<u>2012</u>				
December	14,100	150	600	17,900
<u>2013</u>				
December	13,850	200	550	14,400
<u>2014</u>				
January	14,150	200	550	14,050
February	15,250	200	550	13,800
March	15,750	200	550	13,450
April	15,400	150	550	13,100
May	13,800	100	550	12,750
June	9,550	150	550	12,400
July	8,100	150	550	12,000
August	5,650	150	550	-
September	4,400	150	550	-
October	-	150	550	-
November	-	150	550	-
December	-	100	500	-

**Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.**

(1) Figures are rounded to the nearest fifty.

(2) Steps to Work (StW) was widely introduced in NI in September 2008 and subsumed the main New Deal programmes. Referrals onto StW ended in May 2014 (with the exception of the Employer Subsidy strand) and the programme was subsequently replaced by DEL's new employment programme, Steps 2 Success, on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Figures relate to the last Friday of each month and are revised on a quarterly basis. Statistics for October, November and December 2014 will be published in April 2015.

(3) Training for Success (TfS), was introduced in September 2007 and replaced the Jobskills programme. In September 2008, TfS was restructured into two separate provisions, TfS and ApprenticeshipsNI (AppsNI). Programme-Led Apprenticeships (PLA) were introduced from 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as an intervention measure to respond to the economic downturn. The figures presented in this table under the TfS heading include AppsNI, PLA and TfS. Figures relate to the last Friday of the month and are revised on a quarterly basis. Statistics for August, September and October 2014 will be published in March 2015 and statistics for November and December 2014 will be published in June 2015.

## Vacancies Data

The information in Table 19 was first published in the Vacancies Factsheet on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

In December 2013 improvements were made to the methodology for recording and validating data on vacancies placed through the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL). These changes led to a break in the time series for vacancy statistics. This is the first vacancy statistical data released from the new time series. As such, data within this publication should not be directly compared with those from previous statistical releases.

Headline figures are presented for vacancies which have been notified to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits

Offices (J&BO) of the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL). A small proportion of vacancies notified are based in the UK mainland or in the Republic of Ireland. The statistics do not represent the total unsatisfied demand for staff by employers, but are only those vacant positions notified by employers to DEL.

## Notified Vacancies

There were 13,914 vacancies notified in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the 2014/15 financial year, 14,733 in quarter 2 and 12,039 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The proportion of full time/part time/casual vacancies has remained relatively constant over the first three quarters of the 2014/15 financial year.

**Vacancies Notified: April 2014 to December 2014**  
**Table 19**

Notified Vacancies (1)	Full-Time	Part-Time	Casual	Total
<u>2014</u>				
April	2,616	1,257	310	4,183
May	2,846	1,552	445	4,843
June	2,936	1,600	352	4,888
July	2,718	1,196	298	4,212
August	2,828	1,691	352	4,871
September	3,117	2,052	481	5,650
October	3,032	2,030	450	5,512
November	2,142	1,296	313	3,751
December	1,807	763	206	2,776
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,042</b>	<b>13,437</b>	<b>3,207</b>	<b>40,686</b>

**Figures in the above table are not National Statistics.**

(1) All Notified statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2015. Notified vacancies are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits Offices of the Department for Employment and Learning. Notified is subdivided by financial years which run from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**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/statsandresearch.htm> or alternatively contact the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) by telephoning (028) 9025 7609.**

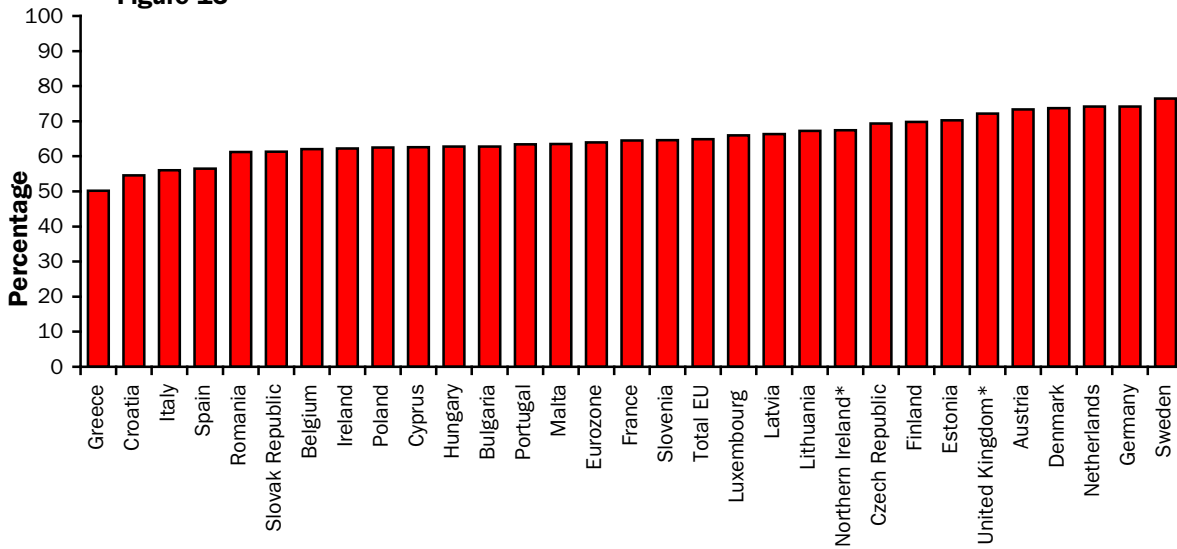
# International - Regional Analysis



## International Comparisons of ILO Employment and Unemployment

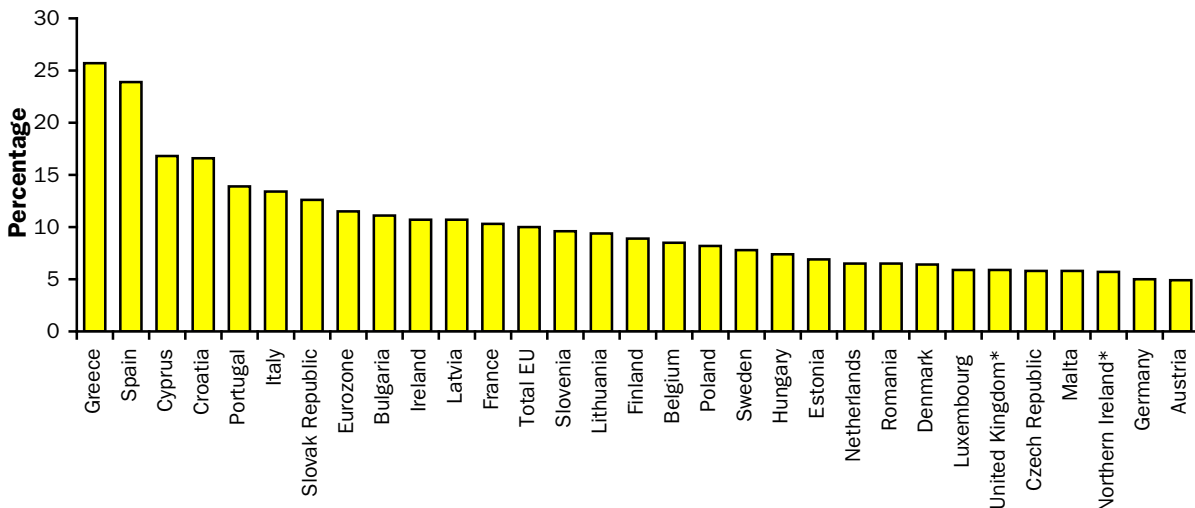
### ILO Employment Rates (%) - Unadjusted

Figure 13



### Unemployment Rates (%) - Seasonally Adjusted

Figure 14



Source: Eurostat

\* A NI employment rate comparable to the EUROSTAT figures has been produced from the Calendar Quarter 3 2014 LFS dataset. It is based on the population aged 15-64 and differs from the working age rates 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 (16-64) 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, October - December 2014

Table 20

	Labour Force Survey (LFS) <sup>1</sup>						Employee Jobs <sup>3</sup>	Claimant count rate (%) <sup>4</sup>	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the year	Claimant count level Percentage Change over the month	Jobs Density Indicator <sup>5</sup>
	Employment		Unemployment		Economically Inactive						
	Rate	Annual Change <sup>2</sup>	Rate	Annual Change <sup>2</sup>	Rate	Annual Change <sup>2</sup>					
North East	70.0	2.5	8.0	-1.9	23.8	-1.1	985	4.1	-31.4	-5.0	0.67
North West	70.9	2.2	6.5	-1.5	24.0	-1.1	3,116	2.4	-43.0	-7.9	0.75
Yorkshire & the Humber	72.7	1.6	6.1	-2.4	22.5	0.3	2,234	3.4	-29.6	-3.8	0.73
East Midlands	74.5	2.1	4.9	-2.0	21.6	-0.5	1,943	2.4	-32.1	-4.2	0.75
West Midlands	71.2	2.1	6.1	-2.2	24.0	-0.4	2,410	3.1	-32.7	-4.0	0.75
East	76.3	0.8	5.0	-0.7	19.5	-0.3	2,566	1.7	-36.5	-5.0	0.77
London	71.9	1.2	6.4	-1.8	23.1	0.2	4,829	2.3	-27.5	-3.0	0.92
South East	76.5	0.0	4.6	-0.5	19.7	0.4	3,929	1.4	-33.9	-4.7	0.81
South West	75.9	1.1	4.5	-1.8	20.5	0.4	2,269	1.4	-37.1	-5.2	0.81
England	73.5	1.3	5.7	-1.5	22.0	-0.2	24,283	2.3	-33.5	-4.7	0.79
Wales	69.2	-1.5	6.7	-0.3	25.7	1.9	1,189	3.3	-27.1	-4.3	0.71
Scotland	74.4	1.7	5.4	-1.8	21.3	-0.2	2,359	3.0	-26.5	-3.8	0.76
Great Britain	73.4	1.2	5.7	-1.5	22.1	-0.1	27,831	2.4	-32.5	-4.5	0.78
N Ireland	67.8	0.3	5.7	-1.6	28.0	0.9	712	5.4	-17.6	-3.4	0.71
United Kingdom	73.2	1.2	5.7	-1.5	22.3	0.0	28,554	2.5	-31.8	-4.5	0.78

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

<sup>2</sup> Data refer to percentage point change of respective rate.

<sup>3</sup> As at June 2014 (thousands).

<sup>4</sup> As at January 2015: percentage of the workforce.

<sup>5</sup> Not seasonally adjusted – data relates to 2012. Jobs Density – total number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population of working age in that area.

# Further Information

## 9

### Unemployment

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.

Unemployment rate - the percentage of economically active people who are unemployed. Please note that it is possible for the number of unemployed to increase and the unemployment rate to fall during the same period, as the latter measure is a ratio e.g. if the number of economically active has increased at a faster rate than the number unemployed, the unemployment rate will fall.

### Employment

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. The annual changes for the main LFS categories of employment,

unemployment and economic inactivity were tested for statistical significance. The results showed that none of the annual changes, for October - December 2014, were statistically significant over the year, i.e. the recorded change did not exceed the variability expected from a sample survey of this size and was likely to reflect a real change.

Please see attached link for further LFS notes and definitions:

[Labour Force Survey Notes and Definitions](#)

### LFS revisions

LFS microdata have recently been revised to incorporate estimates from the 2011 Census. The revision effect LFS data from the period June to August 2001 onwards and were first published in October 2014. The magnitude of the revisions are relatively small, with the revisions to the unemployment rate falling within +/-0.1 percentage points and the working age employment rate within +/- 0.2 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](#)

### Definition of 'working age'

The 'working age' definition, used in the calculation of employment and economic inactivity rates, was changed in August 2010 to include those aged from 16 to 64 for both men and women. Previously these rates were based on upper age limits of 59 for women and 64 for men, reflecting the state pension ages in the UK.

The change in definition follows a UK wide public consultation on the issue and the approach being applied to Northern Ireland labour market statistics mirrors the approach that the Office for National Statistics (ONS) are applying to other UK regions.

For a limited period, employment and economic inactivity rates based on the old working age definition (i.e. 16-59/64) will be available on request.

## Hours Worked

Due to current resource pressures, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has discontinued the publication of the Regional Workforce Hours data series. The Hours worked section now details data on the average actual hours worked as estimated by the LFS.

## Claimant Count definition

Claimant Count figures are derived from records of claimants held at Jobs and Benefits 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, which revises back for 3 years (usually April) to take account of latest assessment trends. The magnitudes of the revisions are relatively small, with the change of the monthly total claimants within +/- 0.8%. For further information see: [Claimant Count Revisions](#)

The 'Flows' data contained in section three is sourced to the Official of National Statistics (via the NOMIS website). Claimants appear as flows if they have either joined or left the count in the reference period or if they joined the count in a previous period, but were only processed during the reference period.

## Universal Credit

In November 2010 the government announced plans to reform the welfare system by creating a new Universal Credit. The new benefit will replace many of the current separate welfare benefits, as well as subsuming in-work support currently administered through tax credits. Among those benefits to be replaced is the means-tested element of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) which makes up a significant proportion of the monthly Claimant Count.

Universal Credit will progressively roll out from October 2013 in GB and Initially new claimants will begin to move to Universal Credit instead of Jobseeker's Allowance, with a migration of the existing caseload and recipients of other welfare benefits following at a later date.

Further details will be available nearer the time.

## Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE)

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:

[Northern Ireland Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings](#)

[ASHE Background Information](#)

## Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) Revisions

QES estimates are revised quarterly to reflect the latest information provided to the Department by employers. The June 2014 seasonally adjusted estimate first published in September 2014 has subsequently been revised up (0.1%). For further details of QES revisions please see link below:

[QES Background Information](#)

### **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 [Programme for Government](#) 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:

[Programme for Government Delivery Report](#)

### **For further information:**

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

<http://www.detini.gov.uk/index/what-we-do/deti-stats-index.htm>

You can also contact Economic & Labour Market Statistics Branch by:

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