

LABOUR MARKET FACT SHEET - NORTHERN REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FORUM (WDF)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the labour market for the Northern Regional WDF in Northern Ireland. Northern Regional WDF comprises Coleraine Borough Council, Ballymena Borough Council, Ballymoney Borough Council, Moyle District Council, Antrim Borough Council, Newtownabbey Borough Council, Larne Borough Council, Carrickfergus Borough Council and Magherafelt District Council.

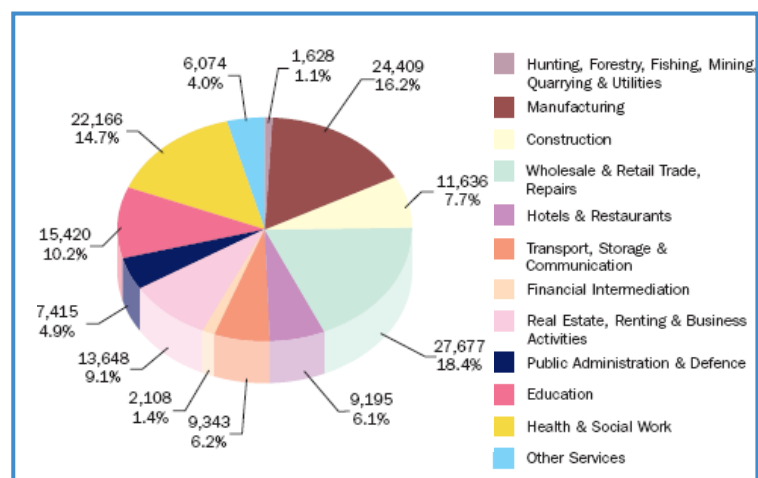
OVERVIEW

There are currently 184,000 people working in the Northern Regional WDF. The working age employment rate is 74.2%, the working age economic activity rate is 76.6% and the working age economic inactivity rate is 23.4%.¹ The claimant count rate is currently 3.7%.²

In 2007, the population of the Northern Regional WDF was 414,194, with 49.2% being males (203,674) and 50.8% being females (210,520). The working age population in Northern Regional WDF was 254,716.³

EMPLOYEE JOBS³

- There were 150,719 employee jobs in Northern Regional WDF in 2007. This represented an increase of 3,486 (2.4%) since 2005.
- Almost one fifth of jobs were in Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repairs (18.4%), followed by 16.2% of jobs in Manufacturing.
- In 2007, Financial Intermediation accounted for only 2,108 jobs (1.4%).



ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT DEMAND FOR OCCUPATIONS⁴

Annual development demand for occupations includes both expansion demand (growth) and replacement demand caused by permanent retirements, leavers to another occupation, leavers to unemployment/inactivity and leavers to migration. The key occupations expected to grow in the Northern Regional WDF to 2015 include Sales (2,150 jobs per year), Elementary Administration and Service (2,100 jobs per year) and Administrative (1,650 jobs per year). Occupations with lower levels of demand include Protective Service, Health Professionals and Customer Service.

¹ Labour Force Survey Local Area Database 2007, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

² Claimant Count, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

³ Census of Employment 2007. Figures for employee jobs do not include those who are self-employed.

⁴ Information supplied by Nick Rogers of the Economic Development Policy Unit of North Down Borough Council.

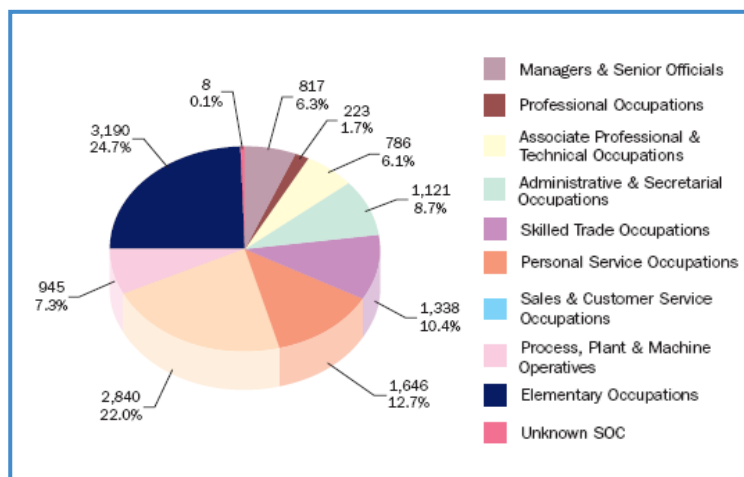
FURTHER EDUCATION⁵

In 2007/08, 15.8% of enrolments were in Education and Training courses and 11.5% of enrolments were in Business, Administration and Law Courses.

Only 0.6% of enrolments were in Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care courses and 0.5% of enrolments were in Preparation for Life and Work courses. There were only 10 enrolments on History, Philosophy and Theology courses.

VACANCIES⁶

- Just under a quarter of all notified vacancies in 2008 in the Northern Regional WDF were in Elementary Occupations (24.7%), whilst 22.0% were in Sales and Customer Service Occupations.
- The smallest number of vacancies in 2008 was in Professional Occupations accounting for 1.7% of all vacancies.



DID YOU KNOW THAT IN THE NORTHERN REGIONAL WDF...

- in 2007, females made up 50.2% of all employees³.
- almost two thirds (66.2%) of jobs were full-time in 2007³.
- in 2001, 14.8% of the population in 2001 had qualification Levels 4 and 5 (First degree and higher). 41.5% had no qualifications.⁷
- in 2008 there were 452 confirmed redundancies. This equates to 16.3% of the total number of redundancies in Northern Ireland in 2008.⁸
- in 2007 there were a total of 13,495 VAT registered businesses. Of these 31.7% were in the Agriculture industry and just under a fifth in Construction (17.0%).⁹

USEFUL LINKS

JobCentre Online	Contains vacancies currently notified to Jobs and Benefits offices: www.jobcentreonline.com
Careers Service Northern Ireland	Provides an impartial all age careers information, advice and guidance service: www.careersserviceni.com
Office for National Statistics	Official Labour Market Statistics for UK: www.statistics.gov.uk/default.asp
Eures	The European Mobility Portal: www.europa.eu.int/eures/home.jsp
Department of Enterprise Trade and Investment	Economic and Labour Market statistics for NI: www.detini.gov.uk/cgi-bin/gethome

Information provided by the Department for Employment and Learning. Last Updated: April 2009.

⁵ FESR

⁶ Client Management System, Department for Employment and Learning

⁷ Census 2001

⁸ Redundancies, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

⁹ Inter-departmental Business Register, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment