



## LABOUR MARKET FACT SHEET - SOUTH EASTERN REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FORUM (WDF)

This factsheet provides an overview of the labour market for the South Eastern Regional WDF in Northern Ireland. South Eastern Regional WDF comprises Lisburn City Council, North Down Borough Council, Ards Borough Council and Down District Council.

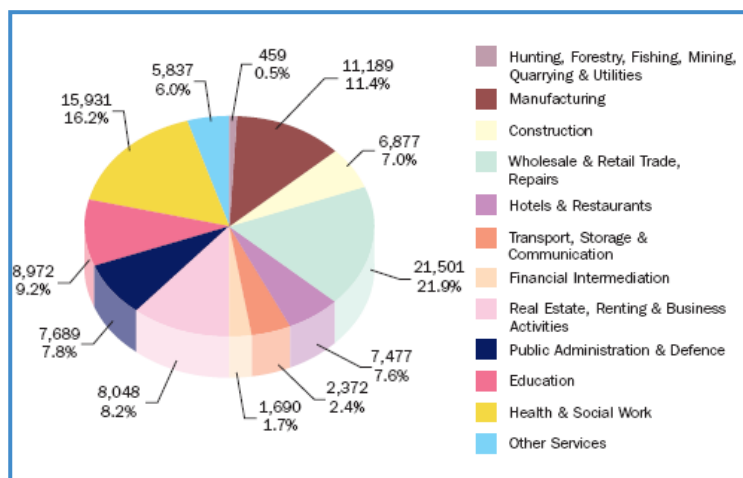
### OVERVIEW

There are currently 149,000 people working in the South Eastern Regional WDF. The working age employment rate is 71.9%, the working age economic activity rate is 75.0% and the working age economic inactivity rate is 25.0%.<sup>1</sup> The claimant count rate is currently 3.3%.<sup>2</sup>

In 2007, the population of the South Eastern Regional WDF was 338,482, with 49.0% being males (165,692) and 51.0% being females (172,790). The working age population in the South Eastern Regional WDF was 208,535.<sup>3</sup>

### EMPLOYEE JOBS<sup>3</sup>

- There were 98,042 employee jobs in the South Eastern Regional WDF in 2007. This represented an increase of 3,044 (3.2%) since 2005.
- Over one fifth of jobs were in Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repairs (21.9%), followed by 16.2% of jobs in Health and Social Work.
- Financial Intermediation accounted for only 1,690 jobs in the South Eastern Regional WDF (1.7%).



### ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT DEMAND FOR OCCUPATIONS<sup>4</sup>

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 that are expected to grow in the South Eastern Regional WDF to 2015 include Sales (1,700 jobs per year), Elementary Administration and Service (1,550 jobs per year) and Administrative (1,550 jobs per year). Occupations with lower levels of demand include Protective Service, Health Professionals and Customer Service.

<sup>1</sup> Labour Force Survey Local Area Database 2007, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

<sup>2</sup> Claimant Count, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

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

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

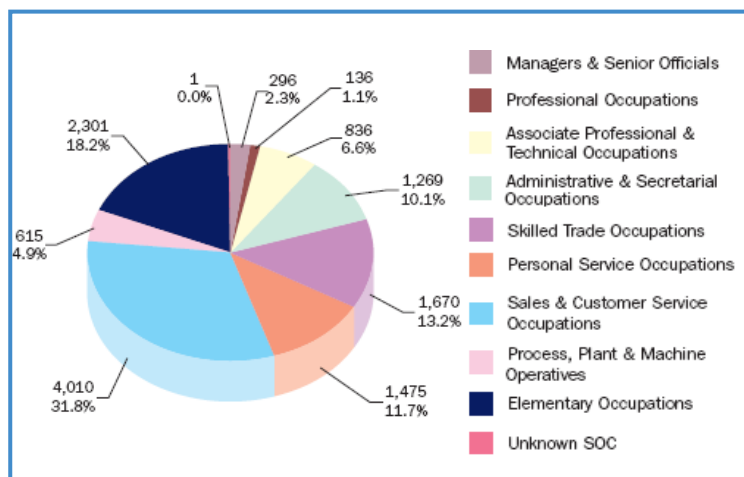
## FURTHER EDUCATION<sup>5</sup>

In 2007/08, 14.9% of enrolments were in Education and Training courses and 11.6% of enrolments were in Construction, Planning and the Built Environment courses.

Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care courses and Social Sciences courses each accounted for 1.4% of enrolments. Only 0.5% of enrolments were in History, Philosophy and Theology courses.

## VACANCIES<sup>6</sup>

- Less than a third of all notified vacancies in 2008 in the South Eastern Regional WDF were in Sales and Customer Service Occupations (31.8%), whilst 18.2% were in Elementary Occupations.
- The smallest number of vacancies in 2008 was in Professional Occupations accounting for 1.1% of all vacancies.



## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN THE SOUTH EASTERN REGIONAL WDF...

- in 2007, females made up 53.2% of all employees<sup>3</sup>.
- almost two thirds (62.7%) of jobs were full-time in 2007<sup>3</sup>.
- in 2001, 17.5% of the working age population in 2001 had qualification Levels 4 and 5 (First degree and higher). 36.4% had no qualifications.<sup>7</sup>
- in 2008 there were 114 confirmed redundancies. This equates to 4.1% of the total number of redundancies in Northern Ireland in 2008.<sup>8</sup>
- in 2007 there were a total of 9,420 VAT registered businesses. Of these a fifth (20.4%) were in the Agriculture industry and 16.9% were in Construction.<sup>9</sup>

## USEFUL LINKS

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

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

<sup>5</sup> FESR

<sup>6</sup> Client Management System, Department for Employment and Learning

<sup>7</sup> Census 2001

<sup>8</sup> Redundancies, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

<sup>9</sup> Inter-departmental Business Register, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment