

Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough

# COMPETITIVENESS/ EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION/SKILLS REPORT

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MAY 2016



Armagh City  
Banbridge  
& Craigavon  
Borough Council

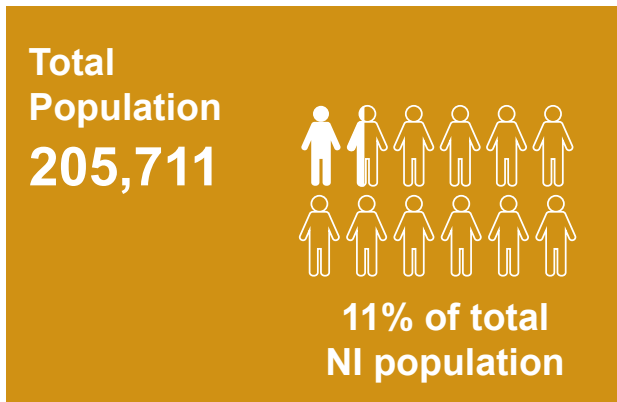
## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the economic and educational conditions in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough to help inform the development of a community plan.

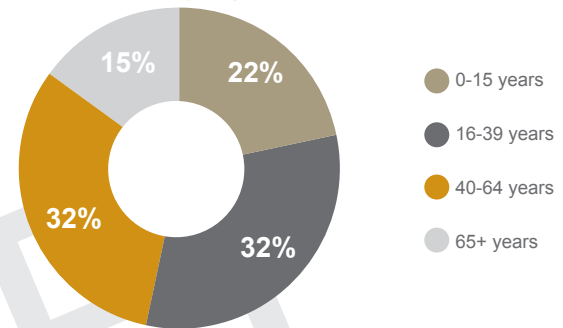
Information is presented on a range of topics including economic activity, unemployment, earnings, businesses, education and skills.

## KEY FINDINGS

### Population (2014)

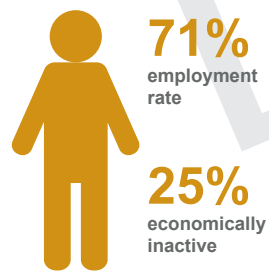


### Population by Age

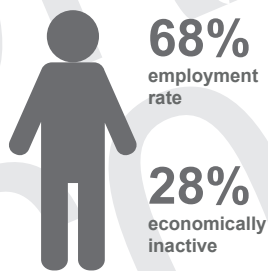


### Labour Market (2014)

Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon



Northern Ireland



Labour market is composed of Economically Inactive and Economically Active (latter includes those in employment AND those seeking work)

Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon

**4%** of population claiming unemployment benefit

**33%** long-term (over one year)

**25%** youth (aged 18-24)

Northern Ireland

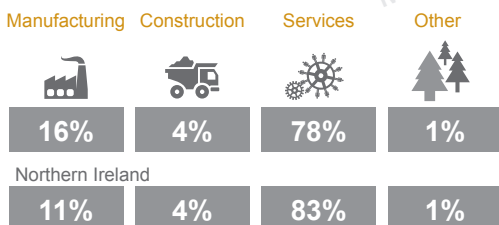
**5%** of population claiming unemployment benefit

**34%** long-term (over one year)

**25%** youth (aged 18-24)

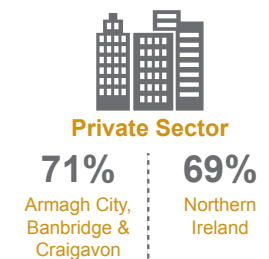
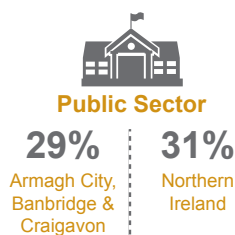
### Jobs (2013)

**68,004** employee jobs\*



\*These figures do not include the self-employed or agricultural labour

### Public/Private Sector Employment



## Earnings (2015)

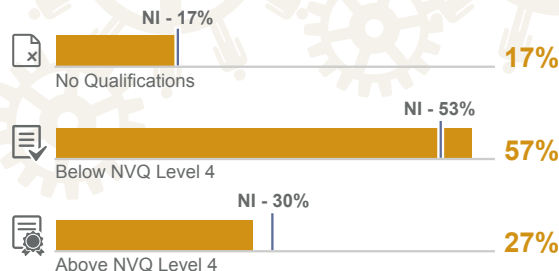


**£22,600** Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon

**£25,800** Northern Ireland

Median gross annual earnings by place of work for full-time sector employees

## Qualifications (2014)



## Business Base (2015)

### Number of Registered Businesses



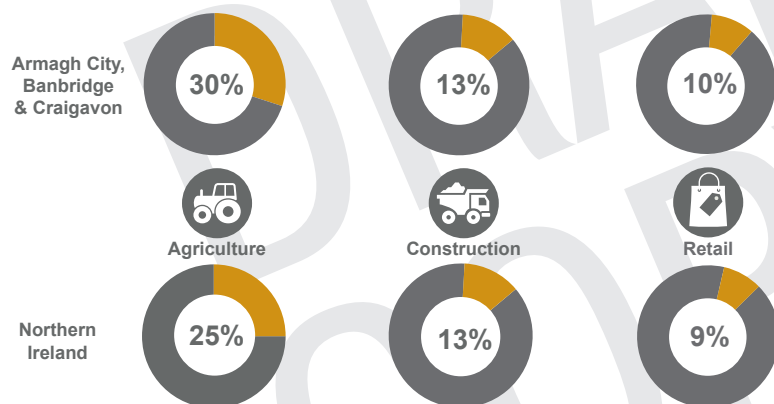
(This accounts for 11% of all the businesses in Northern Ireland)

### Businesses by Size

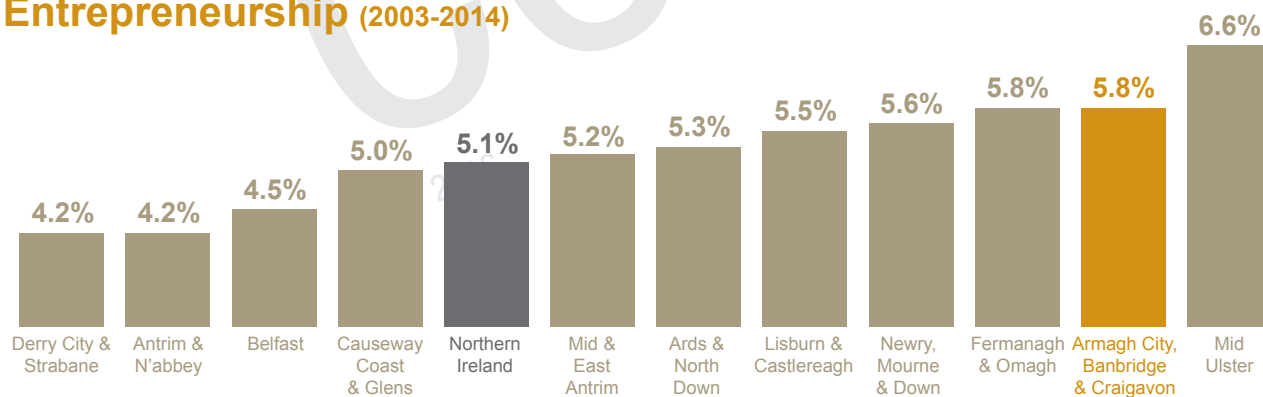


Sub-totals based on rounded data

### Businesses by Top 3 Sector



## Entrepreneurship (2003-2014)



Based on the percentage of the population who have started or are in the process of starting a business

DEMOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

In 2014 the population of the Borough was estimated at 205,711 (11% of the total NI population). Of these 129,787 or 63% were working age (16-64 years), a similar proportion to NI (64%).

The population is projected to increase by 12% or almost 24,500 people to 2026 - double the rate of population increase projected for NI as a whole (population projections 2012- based).

The number of young people (0-15 years) is expected to increase by over 4,000 to 49,700 (9% increase).

The number of working age people (16-64 years), is projected to increase from 129,787 to 139,235 (an extra 9,448 people) in 2026. A 7% increase, compared to an increase of less than 1% for NI overall.

The older age group (65 years and over) in the Borough is expected to have the largest percentage increase of 36%.

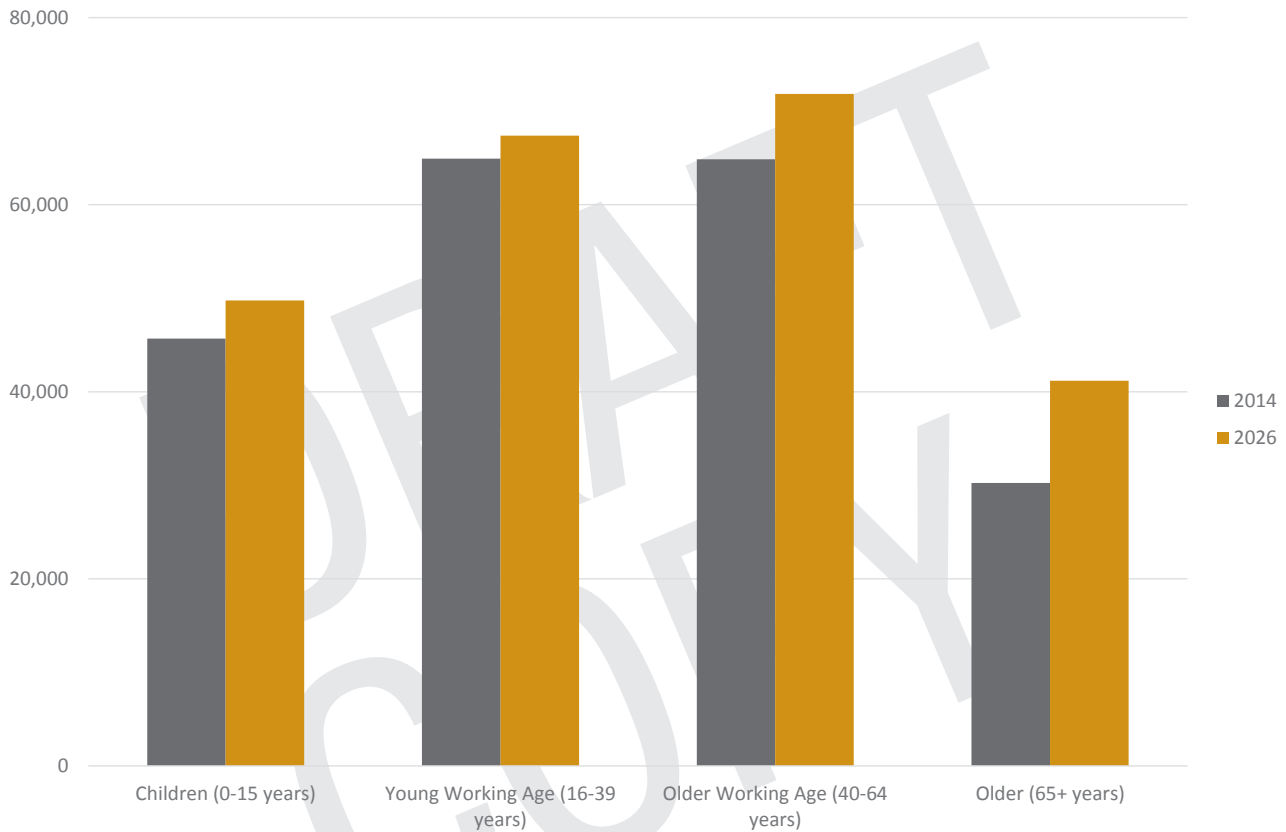


Figure 1. Population of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon 2014 - 2026. Source: NISRA.

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### NI ECONOMY

Economic activity in NI (using NISRA's Composite Economic Index) has shown an overall increasing trend in the 2 years since 2013, it is now around 3% above the low point reached in 2012, but remains approximately 8% below the previous peak in 2007.

The Northern Ireland Composite Economic Index (NICEI) is an experimental quarterly measure of the performance of the Northern Ireland (NI) economy based on available official statistics. Existing published quarterly indices are weighted using ONS Regional Accounts Gross Value Added (GVA) data to provide a proxy measure of total economic output in the NI economy on a quarterly basis.

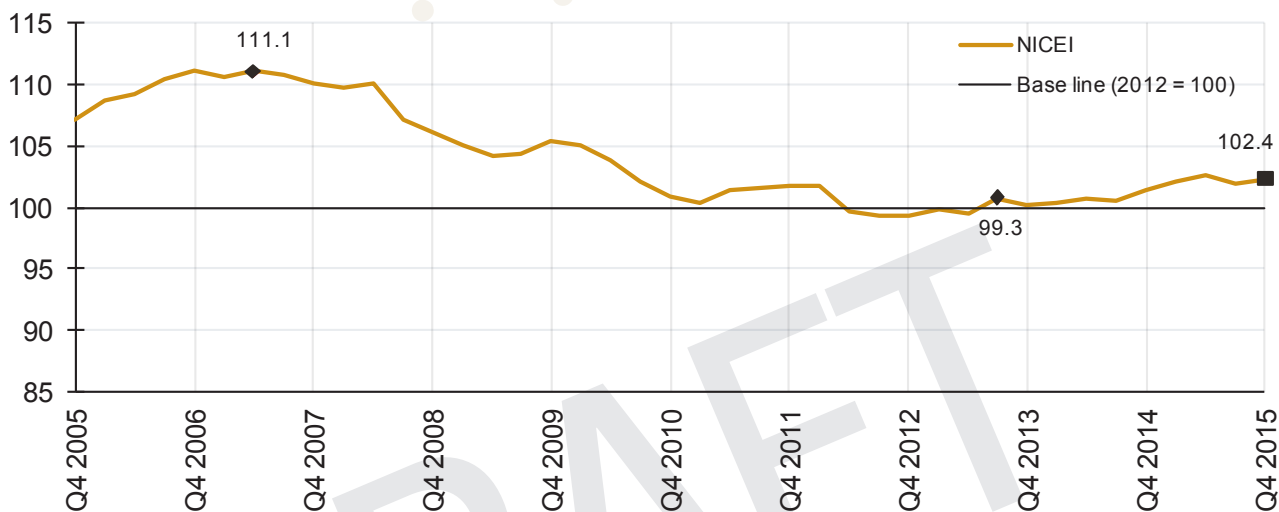


Figure 2. NI Composite Economic Index. Source: NISRA.

Private/ Public - The increases seen from 2013 are due to the private sector, while public sector has fallen. The private sector is now approximately 6% above the minimum in 2012; while the public sector is at the lowest value since the series began.

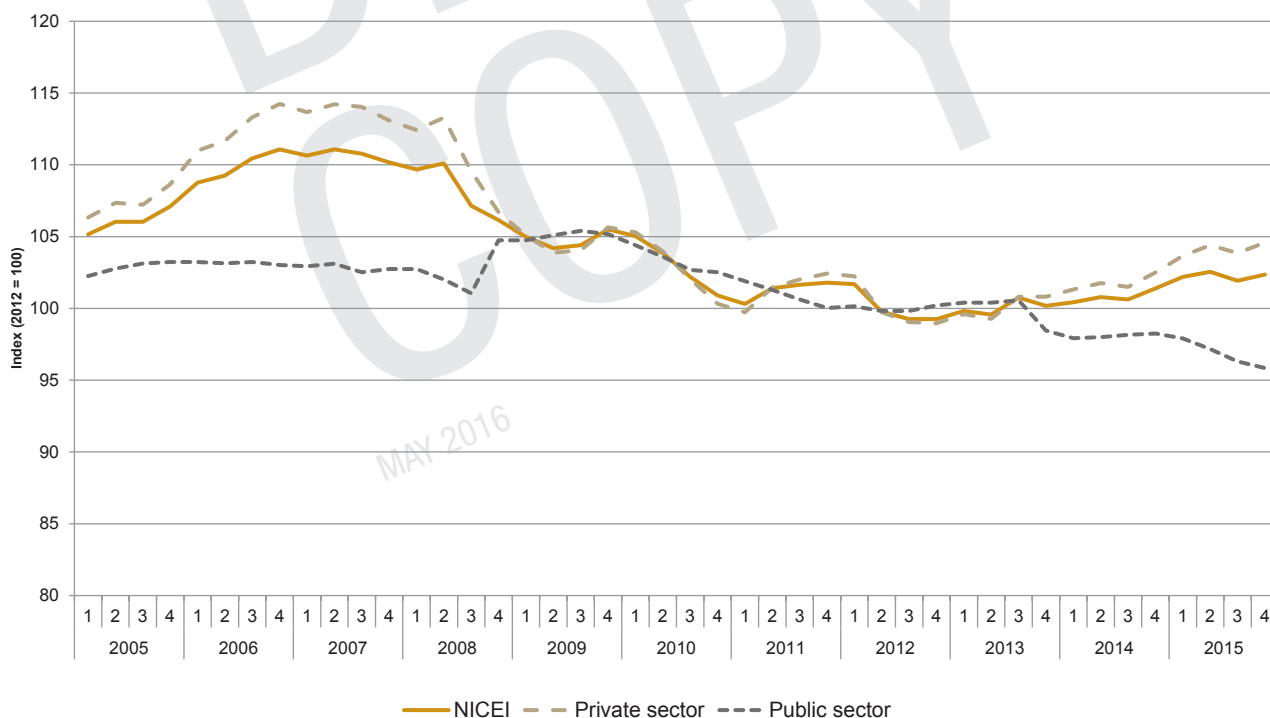


Figure 3. Overview of Composite Economic, Private Sector & Public Sector Indices, 2005-2015. Source: NISRA.

Within the private sector, the fall since 2007 was especially seen in construction, followed by recent improvements in 2014 and 2015.

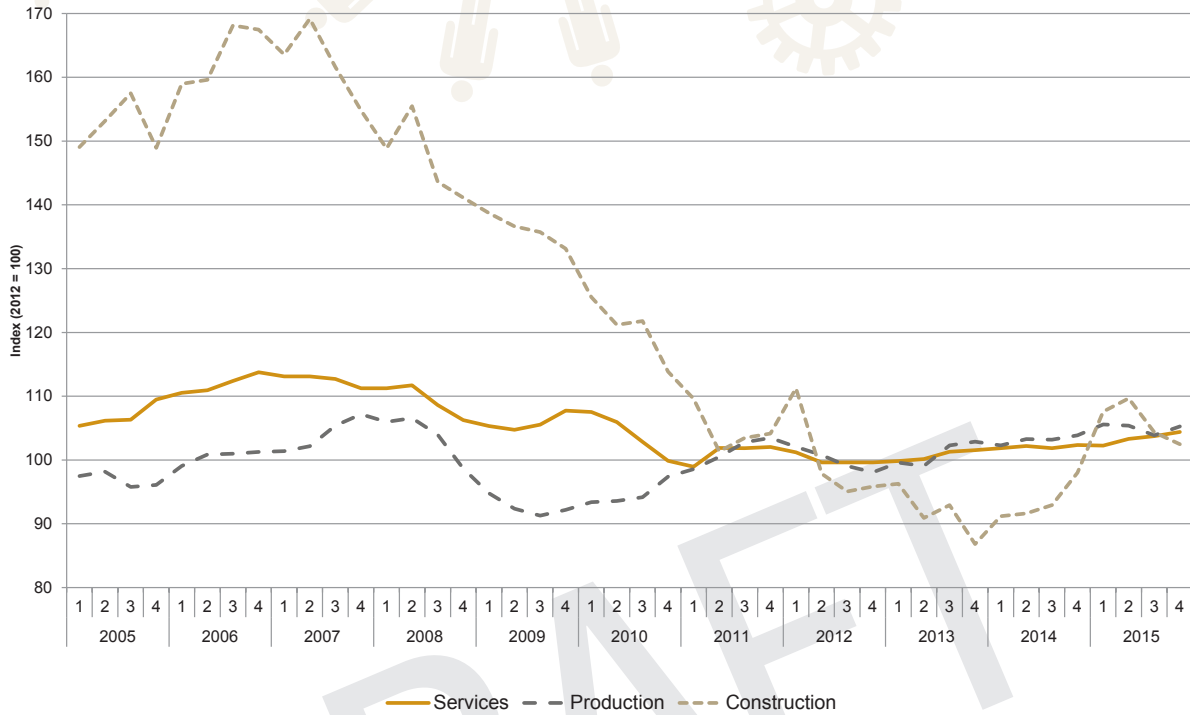


Figure 4. Overview of Private Sector Component Indices, 2005-2015. Source: NISRA.

Although the measures are not produced on a fully equivalent basis, comparisons with the UK Gross Domestic Product (GDP) suggest that the UK had a shorter downturn than NI, along with a faster recovery.

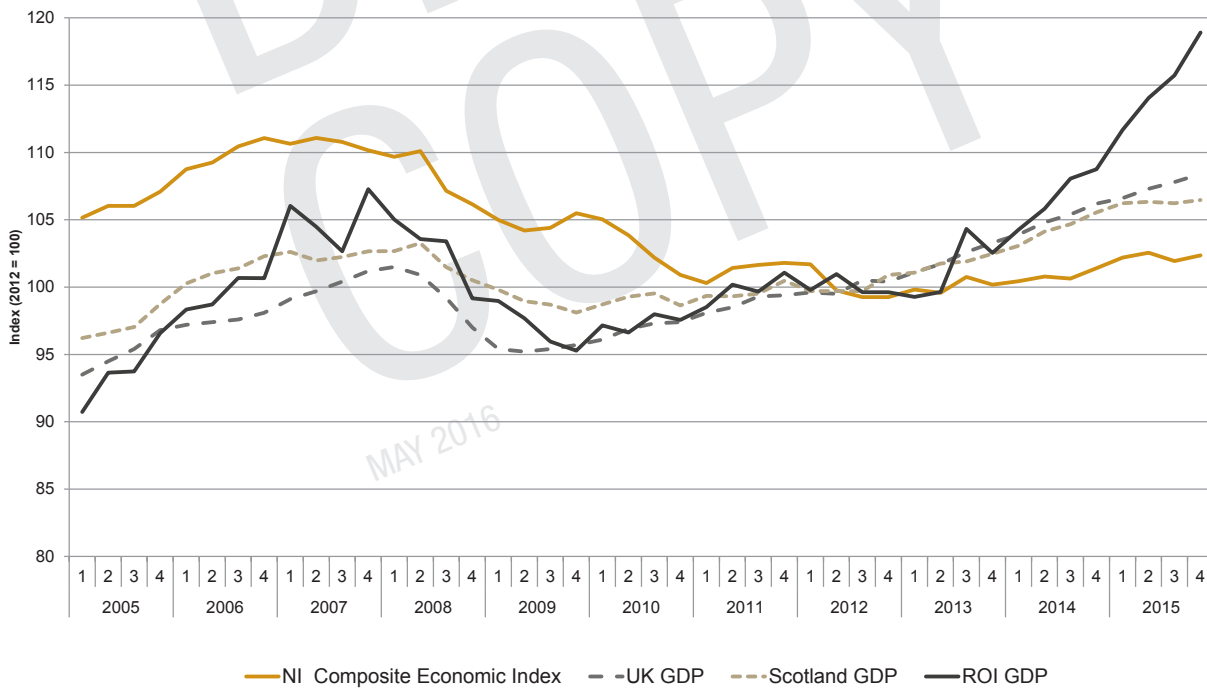
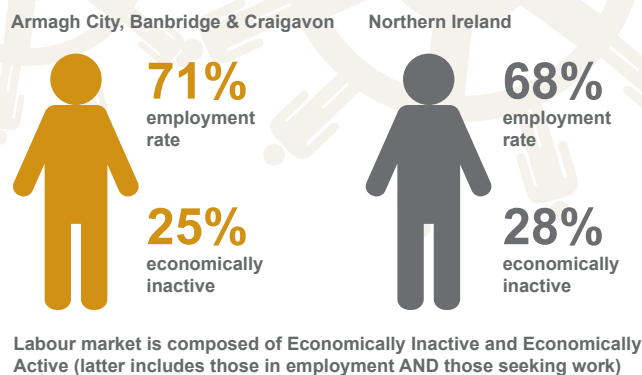


Figure 5. Comparison of NICEI with UK, Scotland & Republic of Ireland (ROI) GDP, 2005-2015. Source: NISRA.

## LABOUR MARKET



The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a household 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.

In 2014, three quarters of 16-64 year olds in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough were economically active (this includes those in employment and those seeking work) and one quarter were economically inactive (not looking for work or not available for work, this will include all those who are looking after a home, long term sick or disabled, students and retired). The economic activity rate in the Borough (75%) was slightly above the NI rate (73%).

There were 90,000 people aged 16-64 in employment in the Borough, a higher proportion of 16-64 year olds were in employment (71%) than in NI overall (68%).

Ards and North Down had the highest economic activity rate, the highest employment rate and lowest inactive rate.

	Economic activity rate (16-64)		Employment rate (16-64)		Economically inactive rate (16-64)		Total
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number
Antrim and Newtownabbey	62,000	74%	60,000	72%	22,000	26%	84,000
Ards and North Down	68,000	76%	66,000	74%	21,000	24%	89,000
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	95,000	75%	90,000	71%	32,000	25%	127,000
Belfast	156,000	69%	145,000	65%	70,000	31%	225,000
Causeway Coast and Glens	66,000	73%	60,000	66%	25,000	27%	91,000
Derry City and Strabane	66,000	67%	56,000	57%	33,000	34%	100,000
Fermanagh and Omagh	51,000	69%	48,000	64%	23,000	31%	74,000
Lisburn and Castlereagh	67,000	75%	63,000	71%	22,000	25%	89,000
Mid and East Antrim	61,000	74%	57,000	69%	22,000	27%	83,000
Mid Ulster	72,000	75%	66,000	70%	24,000	25%	95,000
Newry Mourne and Down	80,000	75%	77,000	72%	26,000	25%	106,000
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>844,000</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>789,000</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>320,000</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>1,164,000</b>

Table 1. Labour Market 2014. Source: Labour Force Survey, NISRA.

Economic activity and employment levels in the Borough have been relatively stable over the last 5 years.

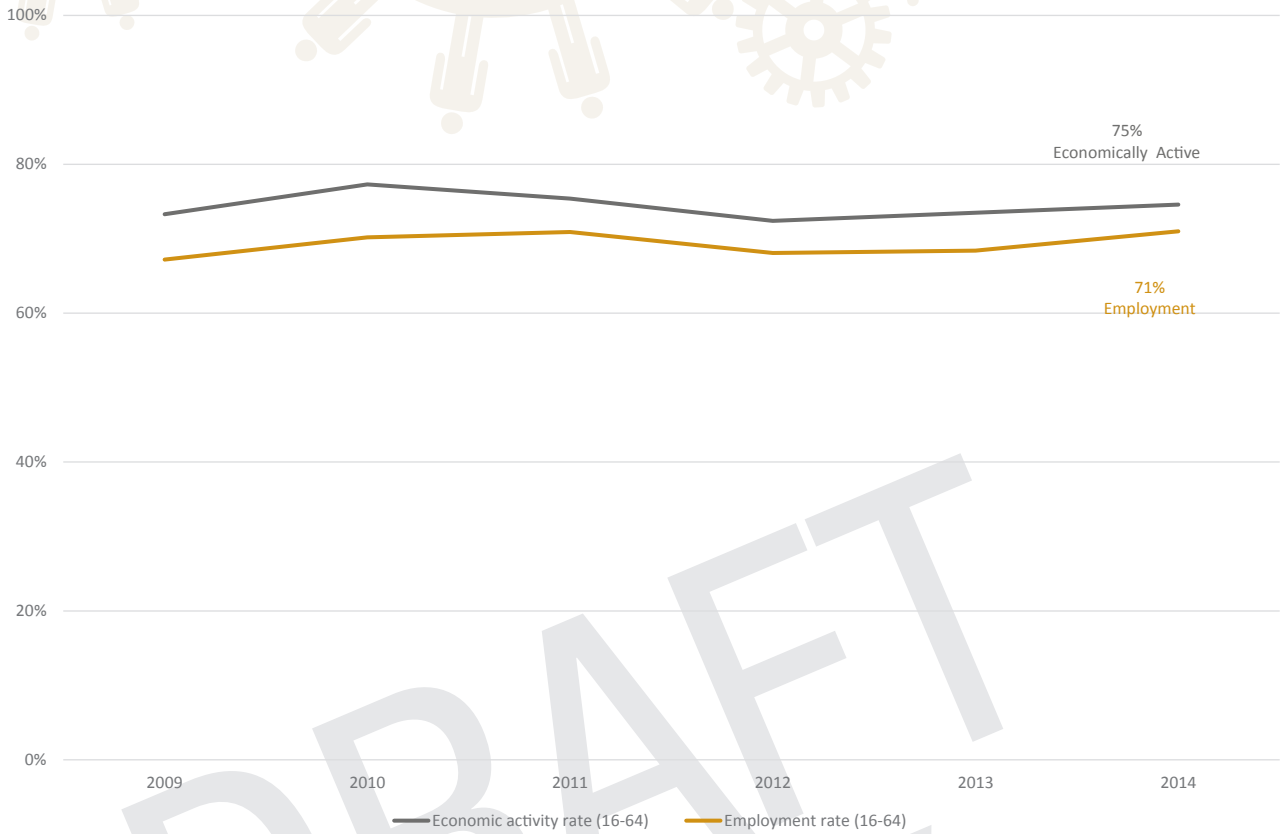


Figure 6. Economic Activity and Employment in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, 2009-2014. Source: Labour Force Survey, NISRA.

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## EMPLOYMENT

At the quarter December-February 2016 the NI employment rate (68.9%) was the highest it has been since March-May 2008.

The NI employment rate has consistently been below the UK average over the last 10 years. In December-February 2016 the NI employment rate (68.9%) was below the UK average (74.1%) and was the lowest of the twelve UK regions.

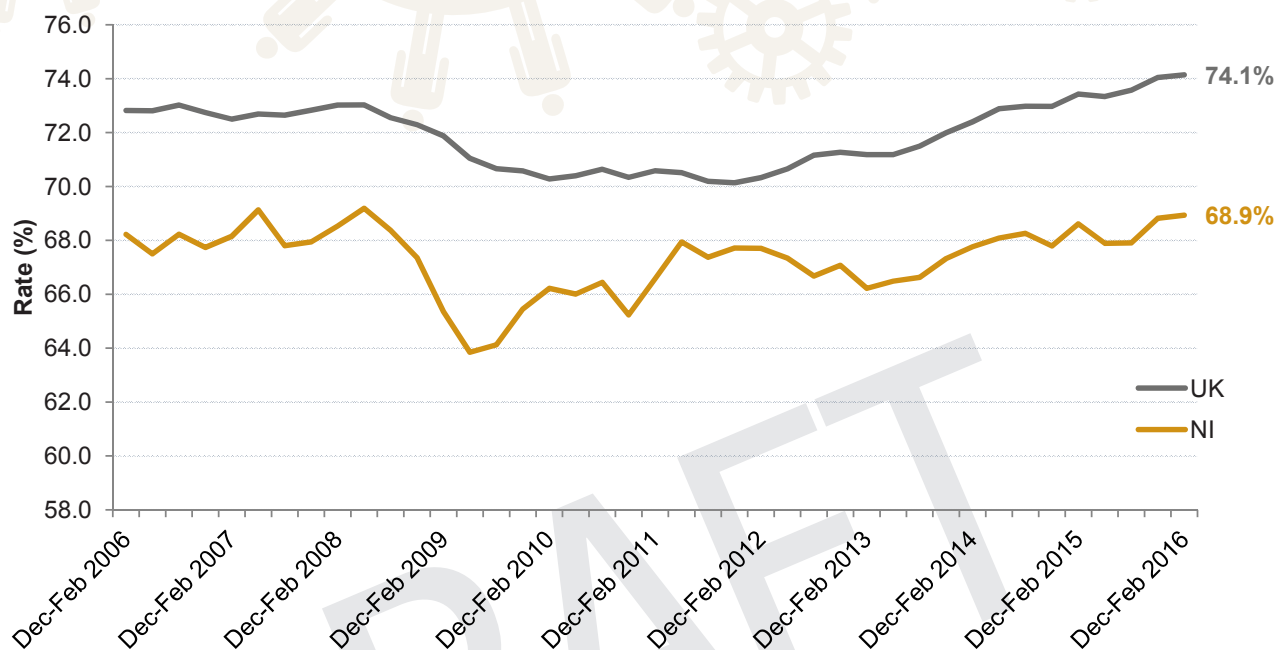


Figure 7. Seasonally adjusted employment rate, Dec-Feb 2006 to Dec-Feb 2016. Source: Labour Force Survey, NISRA.

In 2014, there were 92,000 people aged 16 or over in the Borough who were in employment. 75,000 (82%) of these were full-time and 17,000 (18%) part-time. Of those 16 and over in employment, 77,000 (84%) were employees and 14,000 (15%) were self-employed.

	Total in employment (16+)	In full-time employment (16+)	In part-time employment (16+)	Employees (16+)	Self-employed (16+)
Antrim and Newtownabbey	62,000	47,000	15,000	53,000	9,000
Ards and North Down	68,000	48,000	19,000	57,000	10,000
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	92,000	75,000	17,000	77,000	14,000
Belfast	148,000	110,000	38,000	131,000	14,000
Causeway Coast and Glens	61,000	46,000	15,000	49,000	10,000
Derry City and Strabane	58,000	44,000	14,000	47,000	9,000
Fermanagh and Omagh	50,000	36,000	13,000	38,000	11,000
Lisburn and Castlereagh	65,000	51,000	14,000	56,000	8,000
Mid and East Antrim	59,000	43,000	16,000	51,000	8,000
Mid Ulster	68,000	54,000	14,000	55,000	12,000
Newry, Mourne and Down	79,000	61,000	18,000	62,000	16,000
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>811,000</b>	<b>614,000</b>	<b>193,000</b>	<b>677,000</b>	<b>121,000</b>

Table 2. Employment (16+) breakdown 2014. Source: Labour Force Survey, NISRA.

In the Labour Force Survey, the employed are: people aged 16 or over who did at least one hour of paid work in the reference week (whether as an employee or self-employed); those who had a paid job that they were temporarily away from; those on government-supported training and employee programmes and those doing unpaid family work.

## EMPLOYEE JOBS

The Census of Employment is conducted every two years and provides information on the nature and characteristics of non-agricultural businesses.

In 2013, 29% of employee jobs in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon were in the public sector, while 71% were in the private sector.

	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
Antrim and Newtownabbey	16,426	30%	38,653	70%	55,079
Ards and North Down	9,946	27%	27,098	73%	37,044
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	20,035	29%	47,969	71%	68,004
Belfast	72,159	34%	138,265	66%	210,424
Causeway Coast and Glens	11,969	30%	27,364	70%	39,333
Derry City and Strabane	16,855	34%	33,398	66%	50,253
Fermanagh and Omagh	12,852	33%	25,592	67%	38,444
Lisburn and Castlereagh	17,097	33%	34,386	67%	51,483
Mid and East Antrim	10,617	25%	31,785	75%	42,402
Mid Ulster	10,462	22%	37,396	78%	47,858
Newry, Mourne and Down	14,547	28%	36,631	72%	51,178
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>212,965</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>478,536</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>691,501</b>

Table 3. Employee Jobs 2013. Source: NI Census of Employment. NISRA.

The three largest sectors in terms of jobs in the Borough were:

- Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles
- Human Health And Social Work Activities
- Manufacturing

Together these made up over half (54%) of all employee jobs in the borough. Note the Census of Employment figures exclude agriculture but include animal husbandry service activities and hunting, trapping and game propagation.

A quarter (25%) of male employee jobs were in Manufacturing and almost a third (31%) of female employee jobs were in Human Health and Social Work Activities.

	Male		Female		Total		NI Total
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	%
Agriculture, Forestry And Fishing*	48	0%	16	0%	64	0%	0%
Mining And Quarrying	*	0%	*	0%	*	0%	0%
Manufacturing	7,961	25%	2,788	8%	10,749	16%	11%
Electricity, Gas, Steam And Air Conditioning Supply	*	0%	*	0%	*	0%	0%
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management And Remediation Activities	517	2%	143	0%	660	1%	1%
Construction	2,663	8%	376	1%	3,039	4%	4%
Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	6,448	20%	6,777	19%	13,225	19%	18%
Transportation And Storage	2,858	9%	372	1%	3,230	5%	4%
Accommodation And Food Service Activities	1,225	4%	1,746	5%	2,971	4%	6%
Information And Communication	305	1%	200	1%	505	1%	2%
Financial And Insurance Activities	193	1%	514	1%	706	1%	3%
Real Estate Activities	190	1%	274	1%	464	1%	1%
Professional, Scientific And Technical Activities	995	3%	1,146	3%	2,140	3%	4%
Administrative And Support Service Activities	2,728	8%	1,792	5%	4,520	7%	7%
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	1,821	6%	1,608	4%	3,429	5%	8%
Education	1,269	4%	5,309	15%	6,578	10%	10%
Human Health And Social Work Activities	1,642	5%	11,214	31%	12,856	19%	18%
Arts, Entertainment And Recreation	728	2%	636	2%	1,364	2%	2%
Other Service Activities	416	1%	856	2%	1,272	2%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,213</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>35,791</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>68,004</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 4. Employee jobs, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon and NI total 2013. Source: NI Census of Employment, NISRA. \*Note Census of Employment figures exclude agriculture but include animal husbandry service activities and hunting, trapping and game propagation.

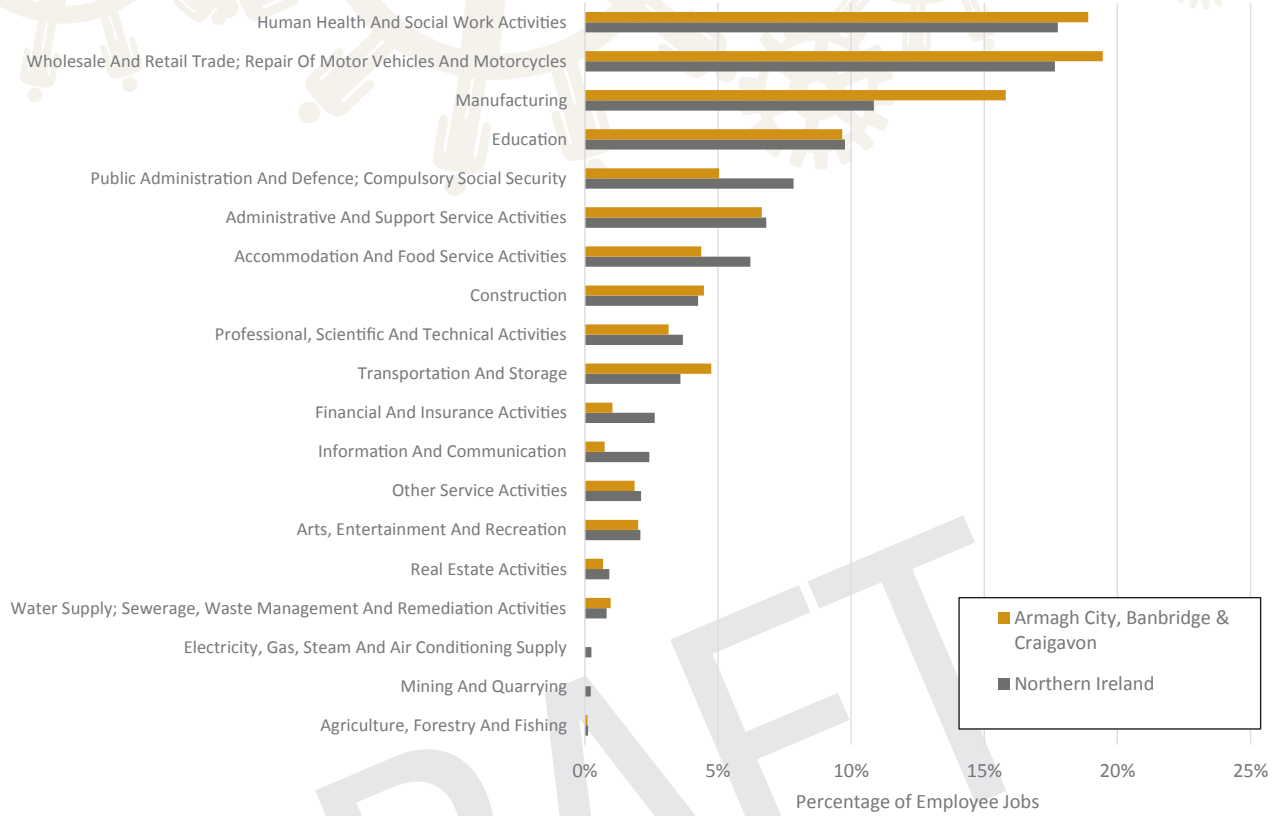


Figure 8. Employee jobs, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon and NI, 2013. Source: NI Census of Employment, NISRA. Note Census of Employment figures exclude agriculture but include animal husbandry service activities and hunting, trapping and game propagation.

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## AGRICULTURE

Almost all farm businesses in Northern Ireland are owned and operated either by an owner occupier or by a family partnership. Most labour is therefore provided by the farm family. Over 7,000 people in Borough were employed in agriculture. Over two thirds were farmers and their spouses (68%), while just under a third (32%) were other workers.

Long-term trend data for all of NI shows declining numbers in all labour categories, although farmers, particularly full-time farmers, have fallen more quickly than spouses and other-workers. These trends reflect an overall decline in the number of farms and greater reliance on part-time labour.

	Farmers & partners			Other workers			Agricultural labour force
	Full-time	Part-time	Spouses	Full-time	Part-time	Casual/ seasonal	
Antrim and Newtownabbey	660	430	273	151	187	152	1,853
Ards and North Down	548	347	231	273	165	170	1,734
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	2,150	1,827	841	789	531	920	7,058
Belfast	23	16	5	66	9	7	126
Causeway Coast and Glens	1,960	1,230	687	279	460	512	5,128
Derry City and Strabane	1,276	817	401	240	284	323	3,341
Fermanagh and Omagh	3,241	2,746	1,142	360	630	689	8,808
Lisburn and Castlereagh	580	481	256	139	148	202	1,806
Mid and East Antrim	1,301	865	489	204	331	258	3,448
Mid Ulster	2,654	2,354	901	437	659	664	7,669
Newry, Mourne and Down	2,244	2,318	858	525	567	496	7,008
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,637</b>	<b>13,431</b>	<b>6,084</b>	<b>3,463</b>	<b>3,971</b>	<b>4,393</b>	<b>47,979</b>

Table 5. Farm labour force, June 2015. Source: Agricultural Census, DAERA.

In 2015 there were 3,246 farms in the Borough, 13% of the total farms in NI. The fourth largest number in the 11 council areas.

Almost three quarters (74%) of these farms were 'very small', the farm size profile matched that for NI as a whole.

Standard Outputs (SOs) are defined by the European Union and are calculated as reference values for a variety of farm products. The average Standard Output in the Borough is 93,100 Euros per farm which is higher than the NI average of 74,900 Euros per farm recorded for June 2015. Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon had the fourth highest Standard Output per farm of the 11 Councils.

The aggregated SO for each council area will be influenced by the number of farms and the various enterprise mix found on each farm. For example, higher than average numbers of mushroom farms and orchards in Armagh would increase the average output values. The Borough has the largest area of horticulture crops grown 1,769 hectares or (18% of all NI crop area).

In NI as a whole, despite showing an increase of 3 per cent in 2015 (linked to changes in Common Agricultural Policy support arrangements), the number of farms has been in long term decline. This is a result of economic drivers that make off-farm work more financially attractive while simultaneously encouraging the formation of larger scale production units to minimise costs and maintain farm income.

	Average SO/farm (€ '000)	Number of farms					Percentage distribution			
		V. Small	Small	Medium	Large	Total	V.Small	Small	Medium	Large
Antrim and Newtownabbey	95.3	617	135	48	90	890	69	15	5	10
Ards and North Down	119.8	444	90	42	119	695	64	13	6	17
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	93.1	2,397	379	181	289	3,246	74	12	6	9
Belfast	100.7	21	3	2	2	28	75	11	7	7
Causeway Coast and Glens	88.7	1,712	393	168	244	2,517	68	16	7	10
Derry City and Strabane	75.2	1,271	251	82	131	1,735	73	14	5	8
Fermanagh and Omagh	51.3	4,262	505	209	157	5,133	83	10	4	3
Lisburn and Castlereagh	91.1	627	94	49	91	861	73	11	6	11
Mid and East Antrim	80.0	1,310	264	102	130	1,806	73	15	6	7
Mid Ulster	84.3	3,227	466	243	219	4,155	78	11	6	5
Newry, Mourne and Down	52.5	3,190	371	123	157	3,841	83	10	3	4
<b>NI</b>	<b>74.9</b>	<b>19,078</b>	<b>2,951</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>1,629</b>	<b>24,907</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>

Table 6. Number of farms by farm business size, June 2015. Source: Agricultural Census, DAERA. Note: Farm business size classification is calculated from Standard Labour Requirements. Farms are allocated based on the postcode of the farmer's main dwelling.

### EARNINGS

The Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) provides information on employees' hourly, weekly and annual earnings by gender, work pattern, industry and occupation.

Both median and mean results are reported by ASHE. 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 skewed data such as earnings as it is influenced less by extreme values.

Incomes in NI have increased over time, but for almost 20 years the median gross weekly earnings for full-time employees in NI has consistently been below the UK average. Earnings in NI are the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest of all the UK regions (Wales and East Midlands being lower).



Figure 9. NI and UK median gross weekly earning for full-time employees, 1997 - 2015. Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), NISRA.

To understand earnings in the context of inflation, historic data are adjusted using the Consumer Prices Index (CPI). This gives a measure of the 'real' value of earnings, with a decrease meaning that earnings growth is below inflation. When adjusted for inflation, the increase in NI earnings in 2015 was the first since 2009. This recovery in earnings was primarily driven by increases in the private sector.

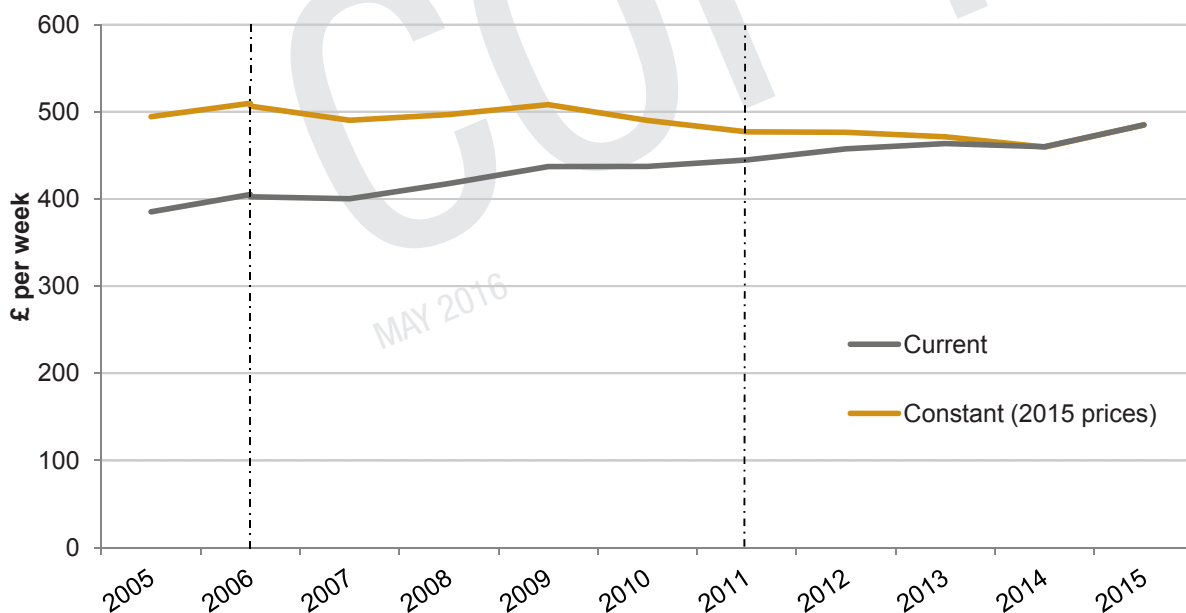


Figure 10. NI median full-time gross weekly earnings in current and constant (2015) prices, 2005-2015. Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), NISRA.



Employee wages were lower in the council area than in NI as a whole, both for those employees who work in the area and those who live in the area.

	Weekly Earnings (£)		Annual Earnings (£)	
	Work based	Residence based	Work based	Residence based
Antrim and Newtownabbey	490	479	27,400	25,300
Ards and North Down	439	487	23,200	26,800
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	444	464	22,600	23,400
Belfast	535	503	28,200	26,500
Causeway Coast and Glens	381	422	19,900	22,500
Derry City and Strabane	471	432	23,700	22,500
Fermanagh and Omagh	440	468	23,300	25,800
Lisburn and Castlereagh	461	517	24,000	29,500
Mid and East Antrim	453	454	24,200	24,700
Mid Ulster	418	419	21,900	22,600
Newry, Mourne and Down	436	479	23,800	25,800
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>25,800</b>	<b>25,800</b>

Table 7. Median gross weekly and annual earnings for full-time employees 2015. Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), NISRA.

Weekly earnings were less for females both in the Borough and in NI overall.

Full-time Employees	Weekly Earnings (£) (Work based)		
	Male	Female	All
Antrim and Newtownabbey	501	451	490
Ards and North Down	438	440	439
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	459	411	444
Belfast	556	507	535
Causeway Coast and Glens	391	368	381
Derry City and Strabane	424	501	471
Fermanagh and Omagh	441	438	440
Lisburn and Castlereagh	463	435	461
Mid and East Antrim	472	416	453
Mid Ulster	428	371	418
Newry, Mourne and Down	437	428	436
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>485</b>

Table 8. Median gross weekly earnings (work based) by gender for full-time employees 2015. Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, NISRA.



Private sector earnings in NI are over 25% lower than the public sector. For full-time NI employees, median weekly earnings in the private sector (£429) were 26% lower than in the public sector (£577) at April 2015, this was true for both men (19% lower) and women (40% lower). Some of the difference between the public and private sectors in NI may be due to differences in the composition of the workforces.

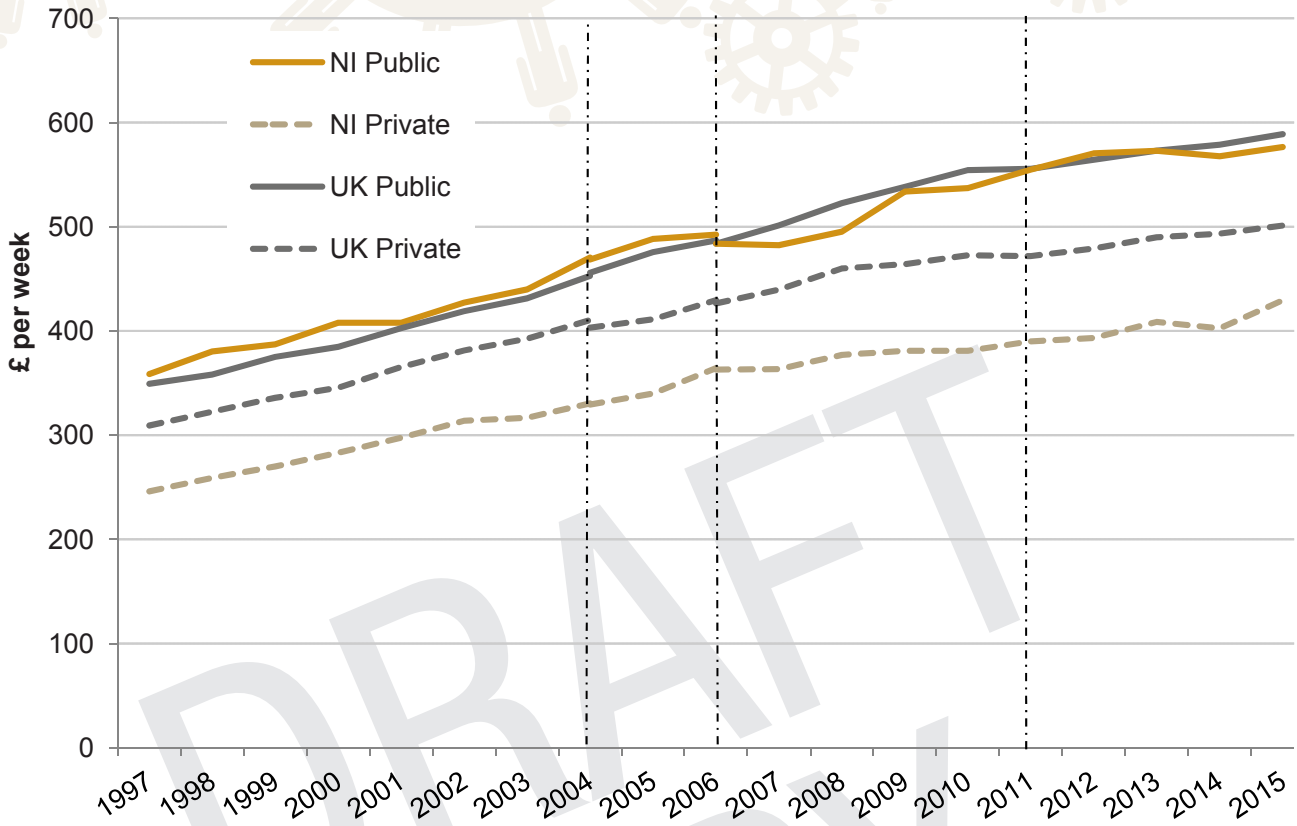


Figure 11. Median gross weekly earnings (NI versus UK) for full-time employees in the public and private sectors, 1997-2015. Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), NISRA.

In NI in 2015, full-time weekly earnings were highest in education (£708) and lowest in accommodation and food service activities (£298).

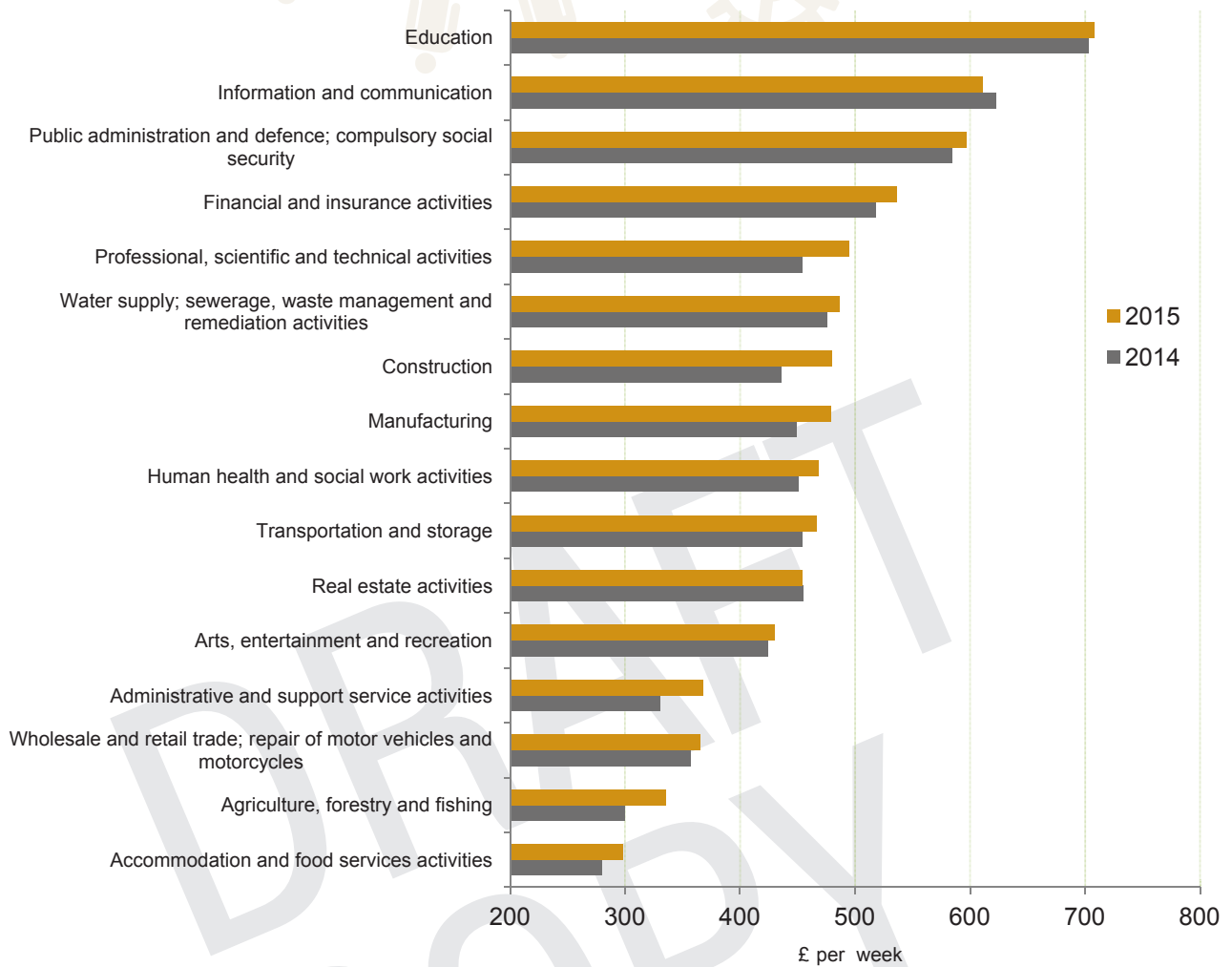


Figure 12. Median gross weekly full-time earnings by industry, 2014-2015. Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), NISRA.

## TRAVEL TO WORK

The Census 2011 provides travel to work data - this is currently only available for the previous 26 Local Government Districts.

56% of people in NI lived and worked in the same area (i.e. the same legacy council area), while 44% travelled to work in another area (a different legacy council).

Of those who lived in Armagh, Banbridge or Craigavon:

- 66% also work in the area, with most working in Craigavon (39%)
- Rates for living and working in the same area were highest in Craigavon (61%), followed by Armagh (50%) and were lowest in Banbridge (34%).
- 34% travelled to work outside the three areas, most worked in Belfast (12%), Lisburn (7%) and Newry & Mourne (5%).

Council Area	Live and work in same council area %	Those who live in Armagh, Banbridge or Craigavon by location of work %
Antrim	48	1
Ards	35	0
Armagh	50	17
Ballymena	61	0
Ballymoney	35	0
Banbridge	34	10
Belfast	78	12
Carrickfergus	29	0
Castlereagh	23	1
Coleraine	67	0
Cookstown	53	0
Craigavon	61	39
Derry	87	0
Down	52	1
Dungannon	62	3
Fermanagh	84	0
Larne	45	0
Limvady	44	0
Lisburn	40	7
Magherafelt	52	0
Moyle	40	0
Newry and Mourne	75	5
Newtownabbey	35	1
North Down	40	0
Omagh	70	0
Strabane	55	0
NI	56	100
<b>Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>

Table 9. Travel to work (usual residents aged 16 and over in employment). Source: 2011 Census, ONS via NOMIS. Note - results for Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon are combination of the 3 legacy council areas and therefore will not exactly match the new council area. Percentages rounded.

Usual residence												
	Antrim	Ards	Armagh	Ballymena	Ballymoney	Banbridge	Belfast	Carrickfergus	Castlereagh	Coleraine	Cookstown	Craigavon
Antrim	9,465	107	42	1,485	35	18	4,538	139	282	108	73	171
Ards	271	9,384	71	83	6	33	8,492	80	2,875	19	10	138
Armagh	125	100	9,169	116	13	397	1,212	8	104	26	72	3,954
Ballymena	2,801	28	62	13,920	419	77	2,418	92	160	399	80	123
Ballymoney	352	8	12	1,692	3,273	4	537	6	32	2,352	64	15
Banbridge	188	68	448	79	5	5,583	2,799	78	291	18	27	2,098
Belfast	1,414	801	128	386	29	126	75,031	493	5,580	147	74	749
Carrickfergus	491	47	20	182	8	25	5,325	4,305	326	23	6	97
Castlereagh	320	751	28	82	6	42	15,377	120	5,885	21	8	217
Coleraine	294	16	26	929	1,115	17	824	17	62	12,496	124	51
Cookstown	227	4	134	169	43	9	521	6	29	219	5,871	239
Craigavon	444	53	1,747	118	6	1,062	3,780	98	347	27	102	19,915
Derry	80	6	31	100	35	6	619	5	41	376	155	36
Down	145	568	73	43	2	202	5,249	48	1,383	16	13	320
Dungannon	92	13	1,147	34	17	40	963	10	76	68	929	1,079
Fermanagh	48	7	89	29	8	13	423	1	28	77	68	62
Larne	492	26	16	680	10	5	2,263	858	128	39	5	42
Limvady	108	5	14	111	49	5	337	6	25	916	37	12
Lisburn	1,292	227	177	138	4	433	17,480	121	1,571	64	39	1,455
Magherafelt	1,009	8	41	820	136	7	1,229	18	44	628	997	54
Moyle	94	4	2	483	354	2	357	9	26	766	22	12
Newry and Mourne	126	151	901	70	2	756	1,969	67	135	15	25	762
Newtownabbey	1,639	167	48	687	24	27	14,463	985	847	75	30	166
North Down	287	2,404	30	78	4	45	10,729	135	1,778	26	4	142
Omagh	54	3	65	30	17	16	425	2	30	87	285	119
Strabane	23	3	16	13	6	1	169	2	10	68	71	18

Table 10. Travel to work (usual residents aged 16 and over in employment). Source: 2011 Census, ONS via NOMIS. Invest NI West Regional Briefing.

Place of work														
	Derry	Down	Dun-gannon	Fer-managh	Larne	Lim-vady	Lisburn	Magh-erafelt	Moyle	Newry and Mourne	New-town-abbey	North Down	Omagh	Strabane
1	42	33	39	8	187	15	669	407	14	68	1,442	142	4	2
8	23	526	35	10	36	4	562	14	1	93	550	3,572	5	2
4	12	44	1,275	40	9	5	313	24	0	1,223	142	66	60	4
3	69	35	31	6	429	35	189	380	85	76	787	65	13	1
5	143	3	44	23	70	129	39	161	339	4	141	10	7	6
8	10	558	127	9	32	1	2,155	5	1	1,548	215	87	14	2
9	150	448	133	82	317	19	3,710	88	15	258	4,506	1,578	64	7
7	17	33	14	3	754	4	252	11	4	66	2,497	158	5	0
7	49	392	42	16	79	1	1,130	14	2	63	788	678	8	2
1	746	15	75	53	42	626	103	404	402	9	150	33	65	29
9	264	14	1,490	44	16	48	62	1,143	4	22	84	10	278	30
5	14	247	875	33	41	7	2,272	16	2	651	379	101	43	5
6	26,710	11	208	163	7	1,003	47	160	8	15	67	13	240	438
0	11	11,346	35	6	72	2	1,149	16	2	796	257	233	3	0
9	338	22	10,796	560	8	25	158	146	5	104	94	18	651	38
2	162	14	576	14,986	9	107	43	71	27	23	39	17	835	93
2	12	58	2	3	5,091	2	127	16	28	73	1,352	73	2	0
2	2,657	3	43	146	13	4,033	32	337	26	2	49	14	44	65
5	46	550	196	24	94	9	17,213	34	4	229	1,030	355	22	2
4	419	7	196	81	54	198	69	7,072	68	14	211	24	117	36
2	67	4	34	34	112	40	24	93	1,804	5	43	3	109	7
2	25	774	112	20	105	0	378	16	3	20,462	338	102	20	2
6	48	93	42	11	617	9	630	51	8	176	11,241	367	12	2
2	22	163	23	8	67	2	491	15	3	121	704	11,673	6	1
9	399	12	782	1,017	7	34	58	110	43	24	46	16	10,118	708
8	1,861	5	70	221	3	66	26	43	15	7	27	9	1,639	5,343

## UNEMPLOYMENT

Two measures of unemployment are the Labour Force Survey (LFS) unemployment and the claimant count. Although the two series measure different things, the overall NI trend for both is similar over time.

### LFS Unemployment

LFS unemployment: The International Labour Organisation (ILO) define unemployed as 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.

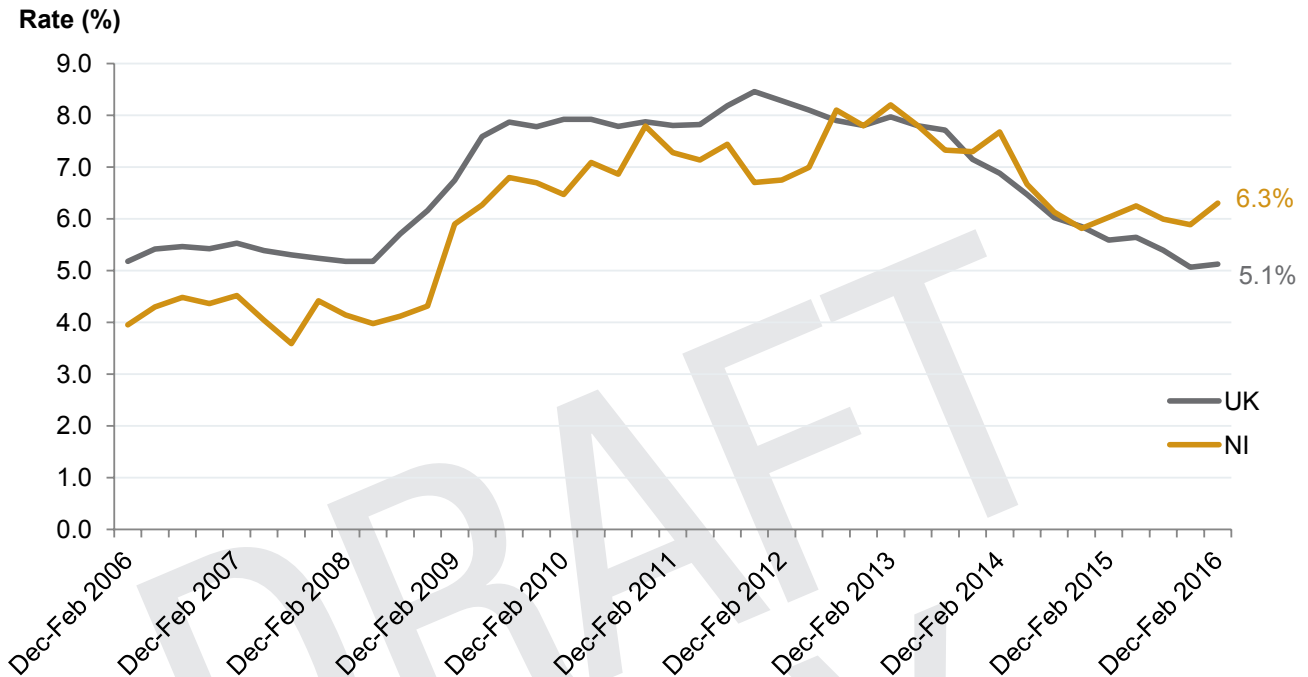


Figure 13. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, Oct-Dec 2005 to Oct-Dec 2015. Source: Labour Force Survey, NISRA.

The figure above shows unemployment rates on the current 3 month rolling average for NI and UK over the last decade. The unemployment rate in NI was at its lowest point of 3.6% in June - August 2007 and peaked at 8.2% in December - February 2013. NI has had a lower unemployment rate than the UK for much of the last decade until June - August 2012.

The most recent NI unemployment rate (6.3%) was:

- above the overall UK average rate (5.1%)
- the joint second highest rate among the twelve UK regions
- below the European Union (8.9%) rate for January 2016 and Republic of Ireland (8.8%) rate for February 2016.

The long-term unemployment rate (percentage of unemployed who have been unemployed for 1 year or more) was 47.8%, which was markedly higher than the UK average (27.9%).

The youth unemployment rate (percentage of economically active 18 - 24 year olds who are unemployed) was 18.5% and was higher than the UK average rate (11.9%).

### CLAIMANT COUNT

The claimant count is an administrative data source derived from Jobs and Benefits Offices systems, which records the number of people claiming unemployment-related benefits (Jobseeker's Allowance).

The NI claimant count has consistently been above the UK average over the last 10 years. At March 2016, the seasonally adjusted claimant count rate in NI (4.3%) was higher than the UK average rate (2.1%).

NI continued to have the highest or second highest UK regional unemployment rate since April 2010, on this measure.

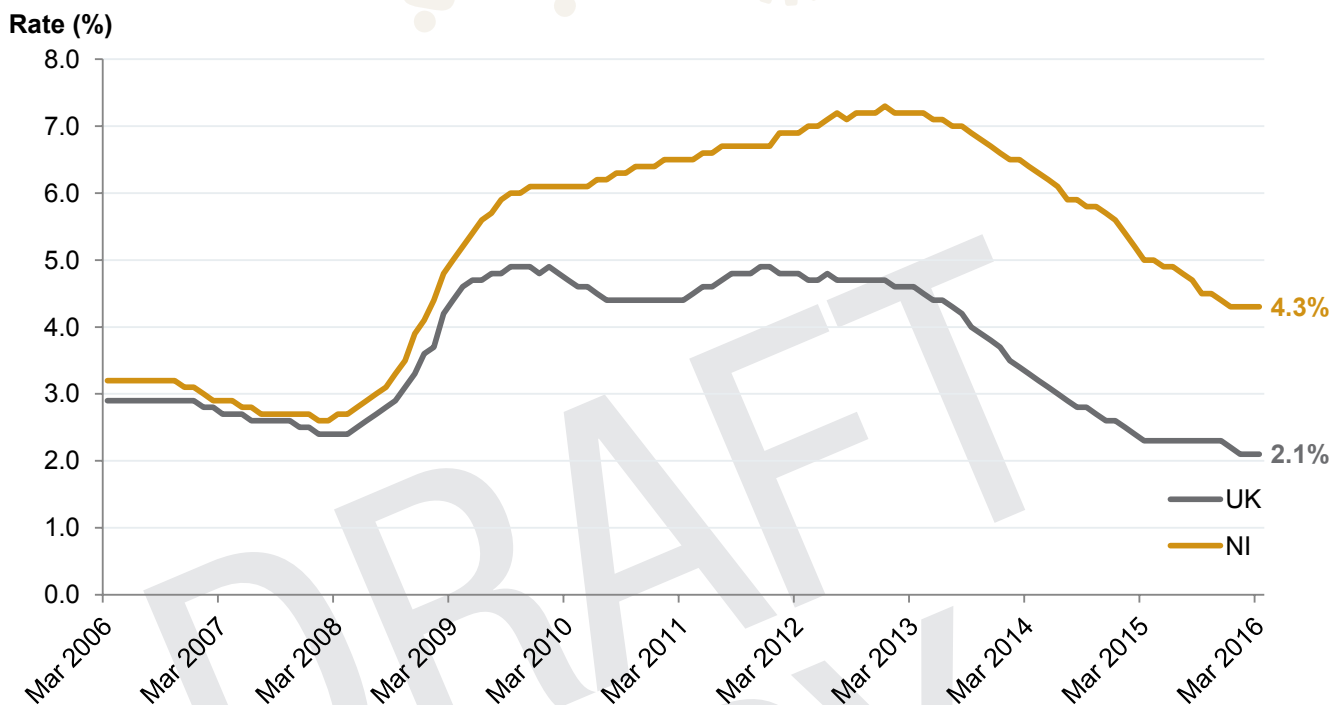


Figure 14. Seasonally adjusted claimant count monthly rates, March 2006 - March 2016. Source: NISRA.

#### Youth claimants (not adjusted for seasonality)

In NI a total of 9,973 under 25's (25.6% of all claimants) were claiming benefits in March 2016.

#### Long-term claimants (not adjusted for seasonality)

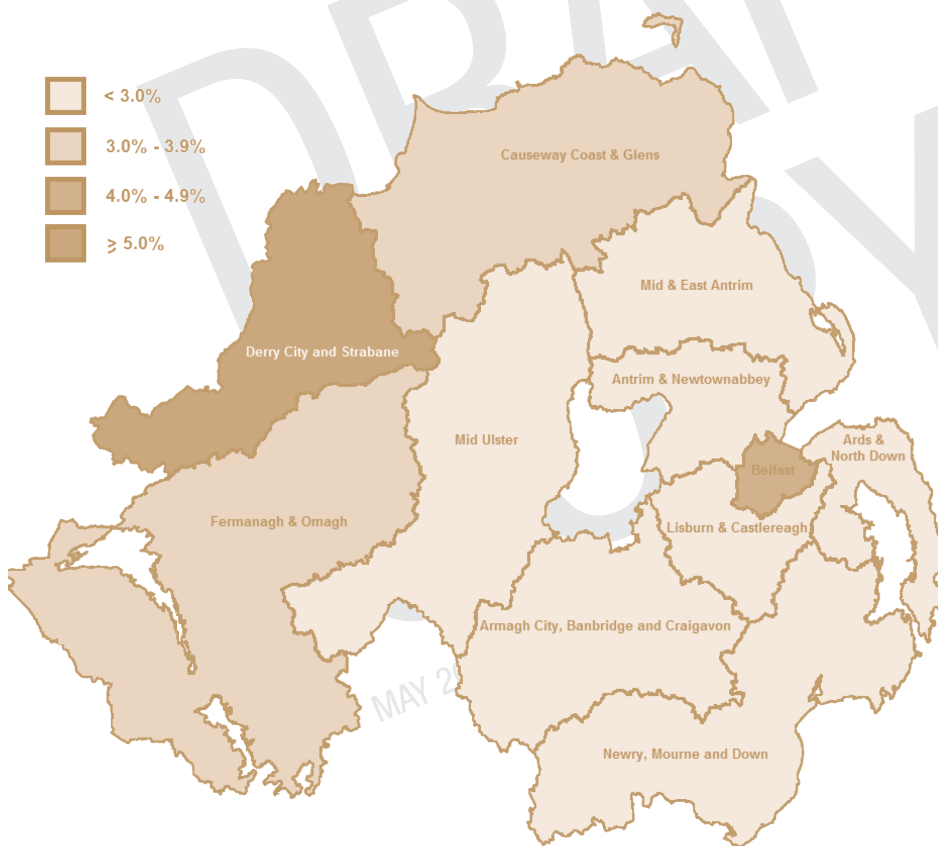
In NI, at March 2016, 14,202 (36.4% of all claimants) were claiming benefit for a year or more.



As of March 2016, the highest claimant count rates were in Derry City and Strabane (6.2%) and Belfast (4.4%), using claimant count data unadjusted for seasonality. Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon had a rate of (2.6%) below the NI average (3.3%). The Borough has had a lower claimant count rate than NI as a whole over the last two decades.

	Number of claimants			% of working age		
	Males	Females	All	Males	Females	All
Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,672	637	2,309	3.9	1.4	2.6
Ards and North Down	1,943	815	2,758	4.1	1.6	2.8
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	2,312	1,067	3,379	3.6	1.6	2.6
Belfast	7,167	2,559	9,726	6.6	2.3	4.4
Causeway Coast and Glens	2,226	1,019	3,245	4.9	2.3	3.6
Derry City and Strabane	4,158	1,844	6,002	8.8	3.8	6.2
Fermanagh and Omagh	1,502	770	2,272	4.1	2.1	3.1
Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,251	597	1,848	2.9	1.3	2.1
Mid and East Antrim	1,672	731	2,403	3.9	1.7	2.8
Mid Ulster	1,169	683	1,852	2.5	1.5	2.0
Newry, Mourne and Down	2,229	987	3,216	4.0	1.8	2.9
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>27,301</b>	<b>11,709</b>	<b>39,010</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.3</b>

Table 11. Claimant count by Council Area (not seasonally adjusted), March 2016. Source: NISRA.



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Figure 15. Claimant count rate by Council Area, March 2016. Source: NISRA.



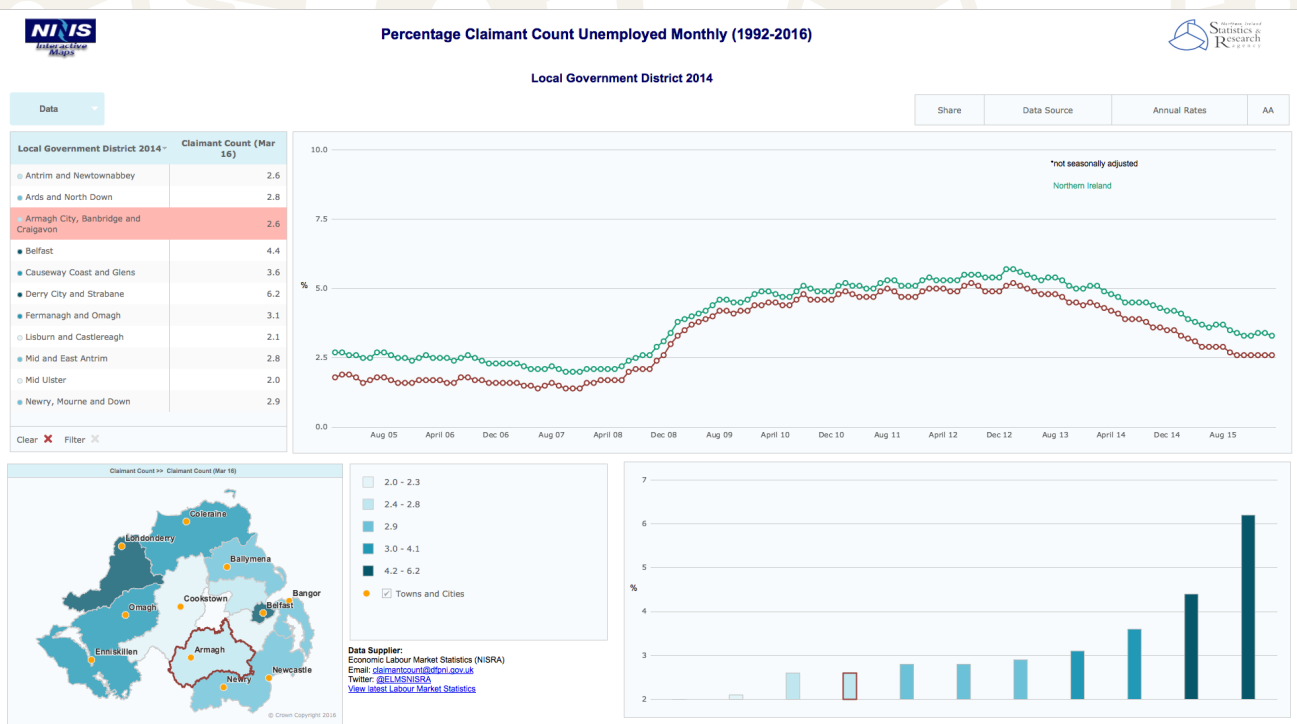


Figure 16. Claimant Count Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon and NI (not seasonally adjusted), March 2016. Source: NISRA.

The number of people claiming unemployment benefits in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon in 2014 was 5,159 giving a claimant rate of 4.0% (below Northern Ireland at 4.6%). A third of claimants were classified as being long-term unemployed (over a year) (33.0%) similar to the overall Northern Ireland figure of 34.2%. As with Northern Ireland, a quarter of claimants were aged 18-24.

	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon			Northern Ireland		
	Number	Rate	Annual Change	Number	Rate	Annual Change
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge &amp; Craigavon</b>						
Total	5,159	4.0%	-16.7%	54,101	4.6%	-13.6%
Men	3,502	5.4%	-17.9%	37,796	6.5%	-14.3%
Women	1,657	2.6%	-14.2%	16,305	2.8%	-11.9%
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>
18-24	1,280	25.0%	-25.4%	13,270	25.0%	-20.2%
25-49	2,815	54.8%	-16.0%	29,345	55.3%	-15.1%
50+	1,040	20.2%	-5.9%	10,425	19.6%	-4.2%
<b>Duration</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>
Over 6 months	2,785	54.3%	-12.4%	29,385	55.4%	-11.0%
Over a year	1,700	33.0%	-5.0%	18,135	34.2%	-0.9%

Table 12. Claimant Count (not seasonally adjusted) 2014. Source Claimant Count, NISRA.

The usual occupations of claimants, the occupations being sought and the associated skill levels for those in the council area who are claiming unemployment benefits in March 2016 are shown below.

Occupation	Skill Level	Usual occupation	Sought occupation	Difference
00 : Occupation unknown	-	5	5	0
11 : Corporate Managers	4	45	60	15
12 : Managers and Proprietors in Agriculture and Services	3	5	5	0
21 : Science and Technology Professionals	4	20	35	15
22 : Health Professionals	4	0	0	0
23 : Teaching and Research Professionals	4	30	35	5
24 : Business and Public Service Professionals	4	15	15	0
31 : Science and Technology Associate Professionals	3	45	50	5
32 : Health and Social Welfare Associate Professionals	3	20	30	10
33 : Protective Service Occupations	3	0	0	0
34 : Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	3	50	75	25
35 : Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	3	25	30	5
41 : Administrative Occupations	2	205	220	15
42 : Secretarial and Related Occupations	2	60	20	-40
51 : Skilled Agricultural Trades	3	90	80	-10
52 : Skilled Metal and Electronic Trades	3	65	115	50
53 : Skilled Construction and Building Trades	3	90	195	105
54 : Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	3	25	45	20
61 : Caring Personal Service Occupations	2	150	155	5
62 : Leisure and Other Personal Service Occupations	2	60	95	35
71 : Sales Occupations	2	560	570	10
72 : Customer Service Occupations	2	40	25	-15
81 : Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	2	520	480	-40
82 : Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	2	230	240	10
91 : Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations	1	530	405	-125
92 : Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	1	485	385	-100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,375</b>	<b>3,375</b>	<b>0</b>

Table 13. Skill level and usual/sought occupations of claimant count (unadjusted for seasonality) in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, March 2016. Source: Claimant Count, NISRA.

Of those in the council area who are claiming unemployment related benefits, the most common occupation sought was Sales (570 people or 17% of total claimants). The top five usual and sought occupations are all relatively low skilled, as shown below.

Occupation	Skill Level	Usual occupation		Sought occupation	
		Count	%	Count	%
71 : Sales Occupations	2	560	17	570	17
91 : Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations	1	530	16	405	12
81 : Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	2	520	15	480	14
92 : Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	1	485	14	385	11
82 : Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	2	230	7	240	7

Table 14. Top usual and sought occupations of claimant count (unadjusted for seasonality) in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, March 2016. Source: Claimant Count, NISRA.

The majority of those on the claimant count in the Council area had usual occupations of lower skill levels, for example general education plus some work related training or experience. There were more claimants seeking work at higher skill levels.

Skill Level	Usual	Sought	Difference
Level 1	1,015	785	-230
Level 2	1,825	1,810	-15
Level 3	415	625	210
Level 4	115	150	35
<b>Total*</b>	<b>3,370</b>	<b>3,370</b>	<b>0</b>

Table 15. Skill level of usual and sought occupations of claimant count (unadjusted for seasonality) in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, March 2016. Source: Claimant Count, NISRA. \* excludes occupation unknown.

### CLAIMANT COUNT DEFINITIONS

**Claimant count:** The NI claimant count consists of all people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) at Jobs and Benefits offices. They must declare that they are out of work, capable of, available for and actively seeking work during the week in which their claim is made. From June the GB claimant count includes JSA claimants and out-of-work claimants of Universal Credit.

**Percentage of workforce:** This measure expresses the number of claimants as a percentage of workforce jobs plus claimants. Workforce jobs are the sum of employee jobs, self-employment jobs, HM Forces, & government-supported trainees. This measure is only available at the NI level.

**Residence-based proportions:** This is the official measure below national/regional level. It expresses the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16-64, sourced from the mid-year population estimates. This measure is used for sub regional analysis.

#### Skill levels

**Level 1** - equates with the competence associated with a general education, usually acquired by the time a person completes his/her compulsory education and is signalled via a satisfactory set of school-leaving examination grades. Competent performance of jobs classified at this level will also involve knowledge of appropriate health and safety regulations and may require short periods of work-related training.

**Level 2** - covers a large group of occupations, all of which require the knowledge provided via a good general education as for occupations at the first skill level, but which typically have a longer period of work-related training or work experience. Occupations classified at this level including machine operation, driving, caring occupations, retailing, and clerical and secretarial occupations.

**Level 3** - occupations that normally require a body of knowledge associated with a period of post-compulsory education but not to degree level. A number of technical occupations fall into this category, as do a variety of trades occupations and proprietors of small businesses. In the latter case, educational qualifications at sub-degree level or a lengthy period of vocational training may not be a necessary prerequisite for competent performance of tasks, but a significant period of work experience is typical.

**Level 4** - relates to what are termed 'professional' occupations and managerial positions in corporate enterprises or national/local government. Occupations at this level normally require a degree or equivalent period of relevant work experience.

### ECONOMIC INACTIVITY

Labour Force Survey Economically Inactive: people who are neither in employment nor unemployed on the International Labour Organisation (ILO) measure. This group includes all those who are looking after a home, long term sick or disabled, students and retired.

Over the last 10 years the NI economic inactivity rate was consistently higher than the UK.

In the quarter December-February 2016, the NI economic inactivity rate for those aged 16-64 stood at 26.3%. This is the lowest rate for NI since the series began in 1995. However, it was significantly higher than the UK average rate (21.7%) and was the highest of the twelve UK regions.

The number of economically inactive persons (16-64) in NI was estimated at 306,000, of these, 36% (112,000) were male and 64% (195,000) were female.

Of the 16-64 economically inactive (unadjusted for seasonality),

- 83% did not want a job while 17% did
- 30% were long-term sick / disabled, 26% were students, 26% were looking after the family / home, 11% were retired and 8% cited an 'other' reason for inactivity.

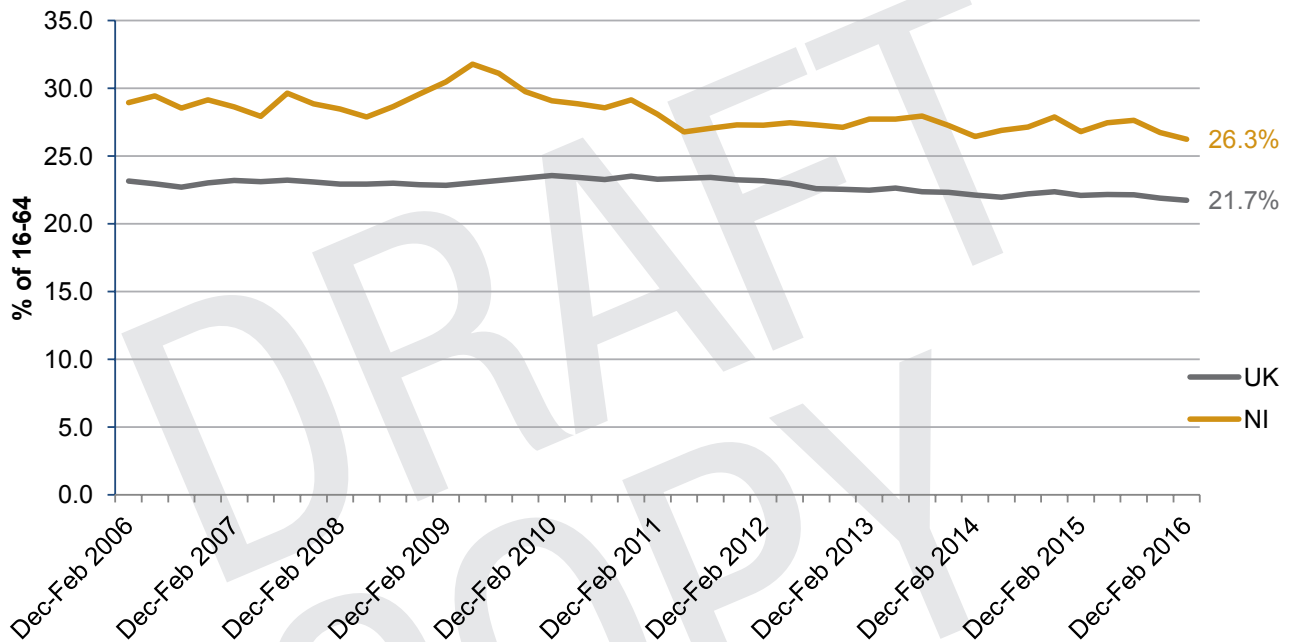


Figure 17. Seasonally adjusted economic inactivity rates (16-64), Dec-Feb 2006 to Dec-Feb 2016. Source: Labour Force Survey, NISRA.

## BUSINESSES

There were 7,770 VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in 2015, 11% of all businesses in NI. This was the third largest number of business operating in NI in 2015, after Belfast and Mid Ulster.

	Number	Percentage
Antrim and Newtownabbey	3,685	5%
Ards and North Down	4,285	6%
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	7,770	11%
Belfast	9,015	13%
Causeway Coast and Glens	5,460	8%
Derry City and Strabane	4,570	7%
Fermanagh and Omagh	7,310	11%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	4,315	6%
Mid and East Antrim	4,505	7%
Mid Ulster	7,950	12%
Newry, Mourne and Down	7,615	11%
Unknown District	1,615	2%
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>68,085</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 16. Number and percentage of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in NI March 2015. Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), NISRA.

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon saw an increase of 50 businesses from 2014.

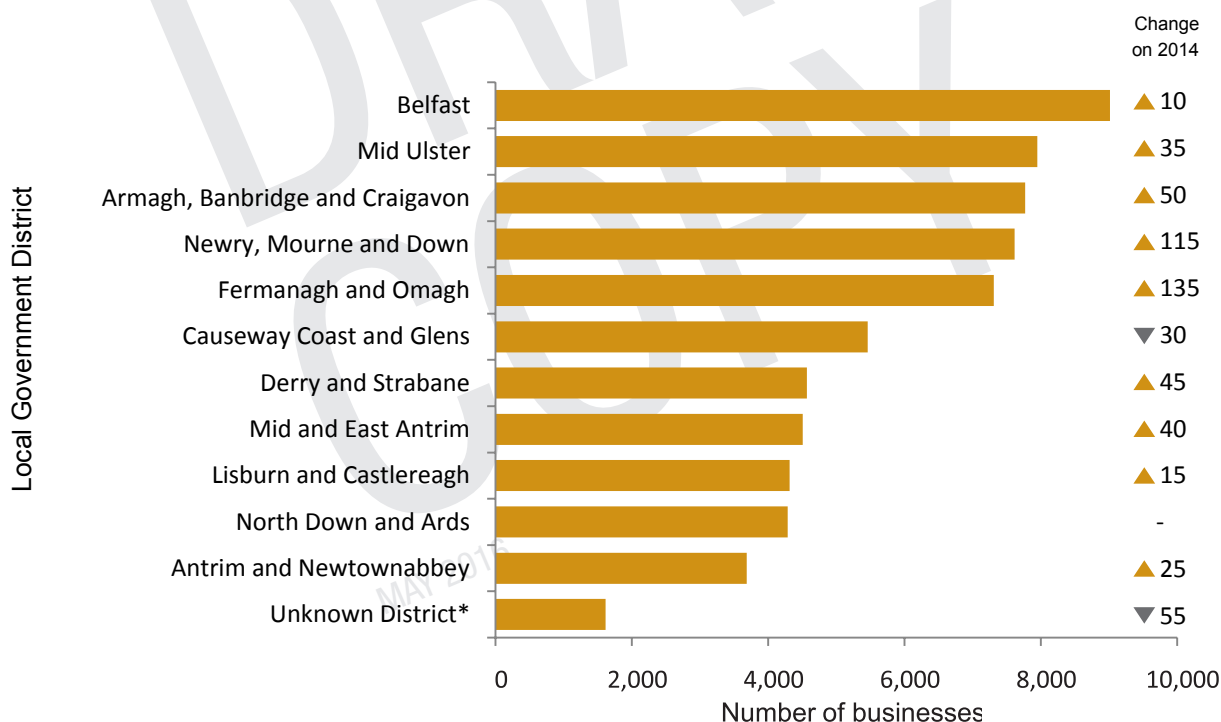


Figure 18. Number and percentage of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in NI March 2015. Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), NISRA.

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough has a similar business profile to Northern Ireland as a whole and is predominantly comprised of small enterprises.

	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon		Northern Ireland	
	Number	%	Number	%
Small (<50 employees)	7,640	98.4%	66,570	97.8%
Medium (50 - 249 employees)	105	1.4%	1,225	1.8%
Large (250+ employees)	20	0.2%	295	0.4%
<b>All enterprises</b>	<b>7,765</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>68,090</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 17. VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Northern Ireland by employment size band. Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), March 2015. NISRA Figures rounded to nearest 5..

The largest industry group is Agriculture, forestry and fishing, accounting for 30% of all VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in the Borough in 2015. This is higher proportion of than for NI overall (25%). Agriculture, forestry and fishing was the largest industry group in all Local Government Districts in 2015 with the exception of Belfast, where Professional, scientific and technical was the largest industry group (18% of all businesses in Belfast).

The second largest industry group is Construction and the third largest is Retail; accounting for 13% and 10% of all businesses in the Borough respectively. Together, these three industries represent just over half (52%) of all VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in the Borough, compared to 48% for NI overall.

	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon		Northern Ireland	
	Number	%	Number	%
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	2,305	30%	17,255	25%
Production	495	6%	4,380	6%
Construction	1,025	13%	8,975	13%
Motor trades	305	4%	2,350	4%
Wholesale	415	5%	3,265	5%
Retail	735	10%	6,140	9%
Transport & storage (inc. postal)	365	5%	2,160	3%
Accommodation & food services	330	4%	3,580	5%
Information & communication	105	1%	1,615	2%
Finance & insurance	85	1%	1,050	2%
Property	190	2%	1,925	3%
Professional, scientific & technical	445	6%	5,210	8%
Business administration and support services	235	3%	2,365	4%
Public administration and defence	*	*	65	0%
Education	45	1%	600	1%
Health	240	3%	2,875	4%
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	450	6%	4,275	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,770</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>68,085</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 18. VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Northern Ireland by Broad Industry Group, March 2015. Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), NISRA.



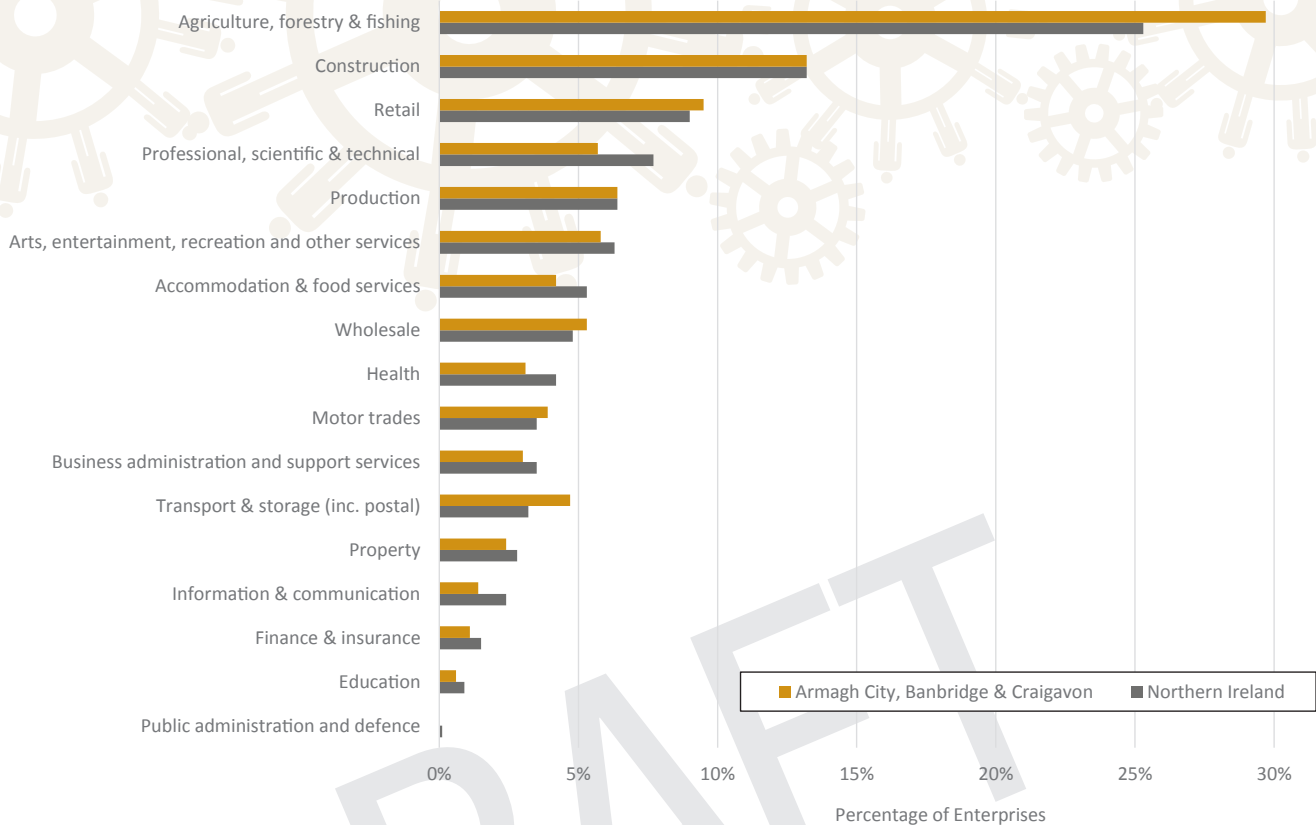


Figure 19. Proportion of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses by Broad Industry Group, March 2015. Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), NISRA.

**IDBR Definition**

Information on VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses is available from the Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR) - a central register of all businesses in the UK.

The IDBR covers most of the economy including the Agriculture, Production and Service sectors in Northern Ireland. It does not, however, include very small businesses which fall below the VAT threshold (£81,000 in 2014/2015) or do not operate a PAYE scheme.

### APPROXIMATE GROSS VALUE ADDED

The Northern Ireland Annual Business Inquiry (NIABI) collects both financial and employment information from businesses and other establishments and covers about two thirds of the economy. This includes the Production, Construction, Distribution and Service industries in Northern Ireland but excludes public sector activity for the most part.

The Annual Business Inquiry showed that in 2013, the income generated by turnover in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, less the cost of goods and services used to create this income was estimated to be £1,727 million. This amount represents the approximate Gross Value Added (aGVA). The Borough had the third highest aGVA after Belfast (£6,212m) and Mid Antrim (£2,334m).

	Turnover (£m)	Purchases (£m)	aGVA (£m)
Antrim and Newtownabbey	5,735	4,184	1,566
Ards and North Down	2,448	1,657	794
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	5,679	4,097	1,727
Belfast	16,950	11,372	6,212
Causeway Coast and Glens	2,754	2,015	744
Derry City and Strabane	3,535	2,474	1,089
Fermanagh and Omagh	2,718	2,008	739
Lisburn and Castlereagh	4,898	3,551	1,387
Mid and East Antrim	9,148	3,018	2,334
Mid Ulster	6,063	4,704	1,439
Newry, Mourne and Down	4,294	3,012	1,326
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>64,271</b>	<b>42,134</b>	<b>19,366</b>

Table 19. Turnover, Purchases and Approximate Gross Value Added 2013. Source: Annual Business Inquiry, NISRA.

aGVA in the Borough has increased over the three most recent years, seeing a 4% increase from 2012 to 2013, similar to increase for NI overall (3%).

aGVA	2011	2012	2013
Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,817	1,555	1,566
Ards and North Down	807	854	794
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	1,613	1,655	1,727
Belfast	4,984	5,972	6,212
Causeway Coast and Glens	800	770	744
Derry City and Strabane	1,094	1,200	1,089
Fermanagh and Omagh	762	773	739
Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,317	1,312	1,387
Mid and East Antrim	1,848	1,970	2,334
Mid Ulster	1,404	1,412	1,439
Newry, Mourne and Down	1,150	1,253	1,326
North Down and Ards	807	854	794
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>17,748</b>	<b>18,755</b>	<b>19,366</b>

Table 20. Approximate Gross Value Added (£m) 2011-2013 (Figures current prices for each year). Source: Annual Business Inquiry, NISRA.



## INVEST NI ASSISTANCE AND INVESTMENT

Invest NI offered £25m in assistance to companies in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in 2014/15. This was the second highest total assistance offered after Belfast and the third highest per head of adult population. The total planned investment related to these projects was £305m, the second highest investment and the highest investment per head of the 11 local government districts.

	Offers	Offers Per 10,000	Assistance (£m)	Assistance (£) Per Head	Investment (£m)	Investment (£) Per Head
Antrim and Newtownabbey	313	27	15	136	129	1,163
Ards and North Down	257	20	3	26	21	161
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	498	31	25	156	305	1,904
Belfast	1,257	45	86	243	457	1,575
Causeway Coast and Glens	237	21	2	21	10	90
Derry City and Strabane	463	39	13	110	67	568
Fermanagh and Omagh	263	29	4	46	25	281
Lisburn and Castlereagh	363	33	5	46	21	189
Mid and East Antrim	257	23	6	52	31	276
Mid Ulster	648	59	19	170	181	1,644
Newry, Mourne and Down	405	30	11	85	105	773
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>4,973</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>1,367</b>	<b>916</b>

Table 21. Invest NI Offers, Assistance and related Investment 2014/15. Source: Invest NI via NISRA NINIS.

Since 2002/03 Invest NI provided a total of £179m in assistance to companies in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, an average of £14m per year.

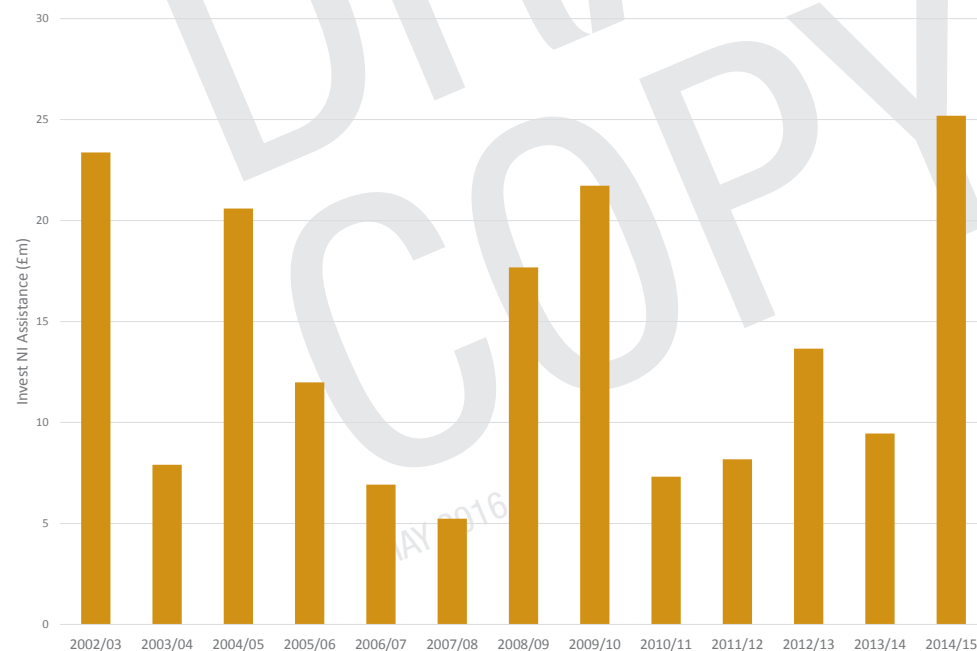


Figure 20. Invest NI Assistance to companies in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon 2002/03 - 2014/15. Source: Invest NI via NISRA NINIS.

Inward Investment is defined as investment into the NI economy by externally owned businesses i.e. where at least 50% of the ownership is based outside NI. A total of £202.4m was secured by Invest NI for the Borough over the past 5 years. The countries of origin are shown in the table on page 34

Invest NI Inward Investment (£m)	Austria	Brazil	Canada	China	Denmark	Finland	France	Germany	Great Britain	India	Irish Republic	Italy	Japan	Netherlands	Norway	South Africa	Spain	Sweden	Switzerland	United States	Total
Antrim & Newtownabbey		0.8							117.9		1.5		1.6							64.8	186.6
Ards & North Down		6.0							18.1		0.1									0.8	25.0
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon		179.3				0.0			5.1		13.6									4.4	202.4
Belfast			143.1	0.3			11.6	4.0	406.7	3.8	20.0			0.3	0.6		0.0			394.2	984.7
Causeway Coast & Glens									0.4		0.2		2.6	0.1					0.1	0.4	3.7
Derry City & Strabane							0.4	0.1	2.6		13.6		8.8					0.5		84.3	109.8
Fermanagh & Omagh			2.4						1.6		17.5									25.9	47.9
Lisburn & Castlereagh					0.0	0.0	24.4		1.0	0.0	0.8									3.7	30.0
Mid & East Antrim							6.5		1.3		0.0		65.7			0.0		0.0		10.1	83.6
Mid Ulster	2.4		13.0		0.6		1.3		10.0		1.8	0.1		13.8	0.0			7.2		14.6	64.7
Newry, Mourne & Down			0.3						2.5		3.8									24.3	30.9
NI	2.4	179.3	165.7	0.3	0.6	0.0	44.3	4.1	572.3	3.8	73.8	0.1	78.7	14.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.1	638.9	1,786.8

Table 22. Invest NI Inward Investment 2010/11 - 2014/15. Source: Invest NI. Note - Figures include both first-time inward investments and reinvestments by existing externally-owned clients. £0.74 m of investment by EDO / UNI / NI Screen is included in the tables - this refers to investment planned by External Delivery Organisations, Universities or funding to NI Screen, the beneficiaries of which will not be restricted to the area in which they are located.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Information on levels of Entrepreneurship is available from the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM), which measures entrepreneurial activity of people who have started or are in the process of starting a new business – called Total early-stage Entrepreneurial Activity (TEA). Results are based on a survey so will have associated confidence intervals.

The rate of early-stage entrepreneurship in Northern Ireland in 2014 is 6.7%, a similar level to that for the UK overall (8.6%) - the TEA rate for Northern Ireland is not significantly lower than that for the UK in 2014. Overall, a TEA rate of 6.7% in Northern Ireland equates to around one in every fifteen adults aged 18-64 or over 75,000 individuals.

Looking at the 2002-2014 period the rate of early-stage entrepreneurial activity in Northern Ireland, as in the UK, has risen throughout the recession, peaking around 2011-12. The level of early-stage entrepreneurial activity in Northern Ireland has typically tracked the UK trend.

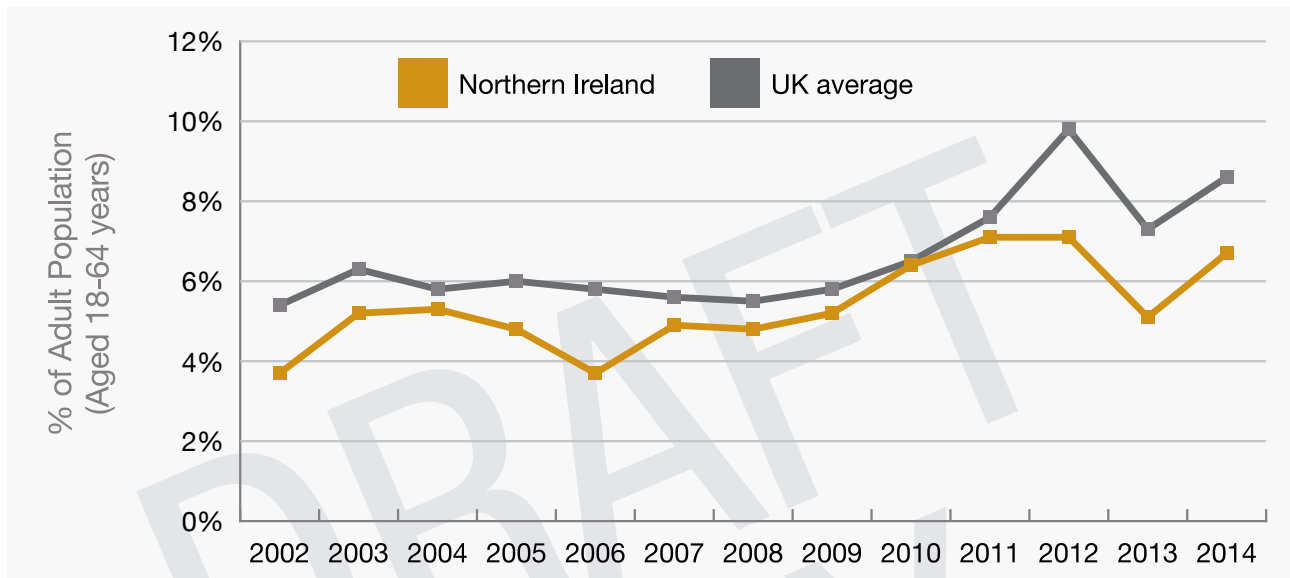
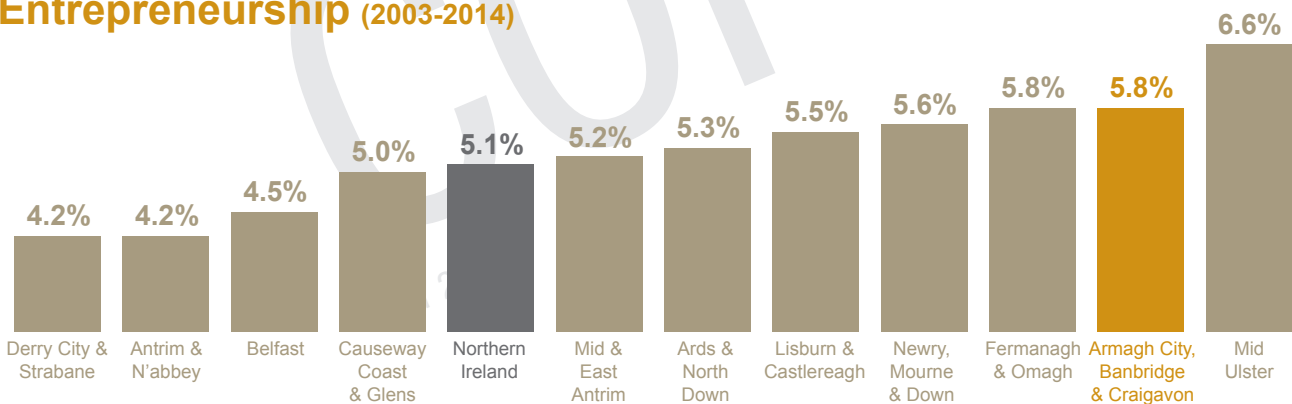


Figure 21. Total early-stage Entrepreneurial Activity in Northern Ireland and the UK, 2002-2014. Source: GEM.

Using data for 2003 to 2014, 5.8% of 18-64 year olds in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon started or are in the process of starting a business, the second highest rate of the 11 council areas after Mid Ulster (6.6%).

## Entrepreneurship (2003-2014)



Based on the percentage of the population who have started or are in the process of starting a business

Figure 22. Entrepreneurship, percentage of adult population (18-64 years), 2003-2014. Source: GEM via Invest NI council area profile.

Entrepreneurship for those in the 18-29 age group in NI has shown a gradual increase from around 4% in 2002 to just under 7% in 2014, similar to the trend for the UK overall.

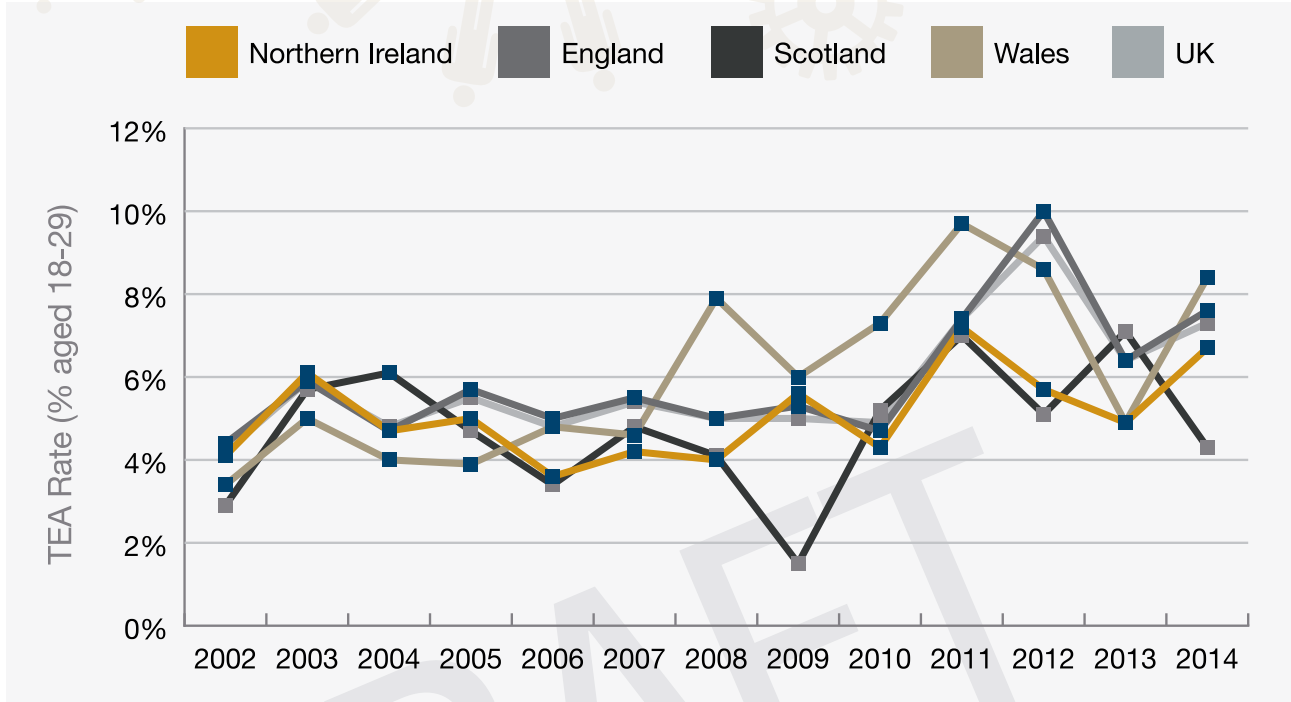


Figure 23. Total early-stage Entrepreneurial Activity in the UK Home Nations for 18-29 year olds, 2002-2014. Source: GEM.

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## BUSINESS DEMOGRAPHY

In 2014, there were 495 business births in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon (using combined counts for the previous Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon councils). The business birth rate in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon as a proportion of active enterprises was 8.0%, similar to the NI level of 8.7%. The birth rate for NI was the lowest of the four UK regions and lower than the UK birth rate of 13.7%.

In 2014, there were 545 business deaths in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon. The business death rate was 8.8%, similar to NI overall of 8.3%. The death rate in Northern Ireland was also the lowest in the UK, and lower than the UK rate of 9.6%.

The net change in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon was a decline of 50 businesses (495 births and 545 deaths). From 2005-2008 there was a positive net change each year in the number of businesses, from 2009-2014 there has been a negative change each year.

In 2014 in NI overall, the largest net increases were seen in the Production, Professional, scientific and technical and ICT sectors. The largest net decrease was in the Construction sector.

	Count of Births									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Armagh	215	245	235	200	175	165	160	155	170	185
Banbridge	160	160	160	150	110	105	85	105	140	130
Craigavon	245	225	240	265	180	200	155	145	210	180
<b>Total</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>495</b>
	Count of Deaths									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Armagh	140	145	160	160	175	205	190	205	190	200
Banbridge	95	95	90	110	145	160	130	130	125	145
Craigavon	165	170	165	175	225	205	225	245	215	200
Total	400	410	415	445	545	570	545	580	530	545
<b>Net change</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>-80</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-145</b>	<b>-175</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>-50</b>

Table 23. Business birth, deaths and net change, Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon legacy councils, 2005 – 2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.

Business birth rates in the three legacy council areas have followed the trend for NI overall, with lower business birth rates following the economic downturn of 2008 and 2009, and increasing rates in 2013 and 2014.

Business deaths rates in the three legacy council areas have also followed the NI trend with levels gradually increasing over the 9 years.

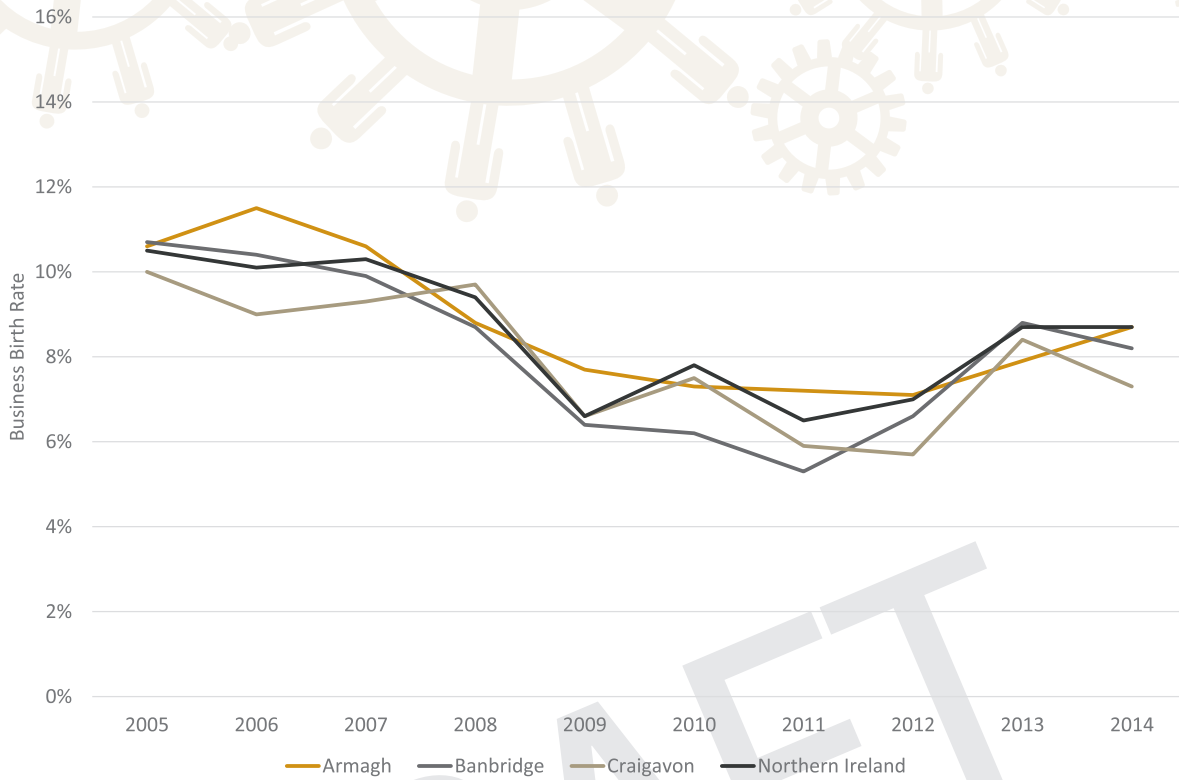


Figure 24. Business birth rates, Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon legacy councils and NI 2005 - 2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.

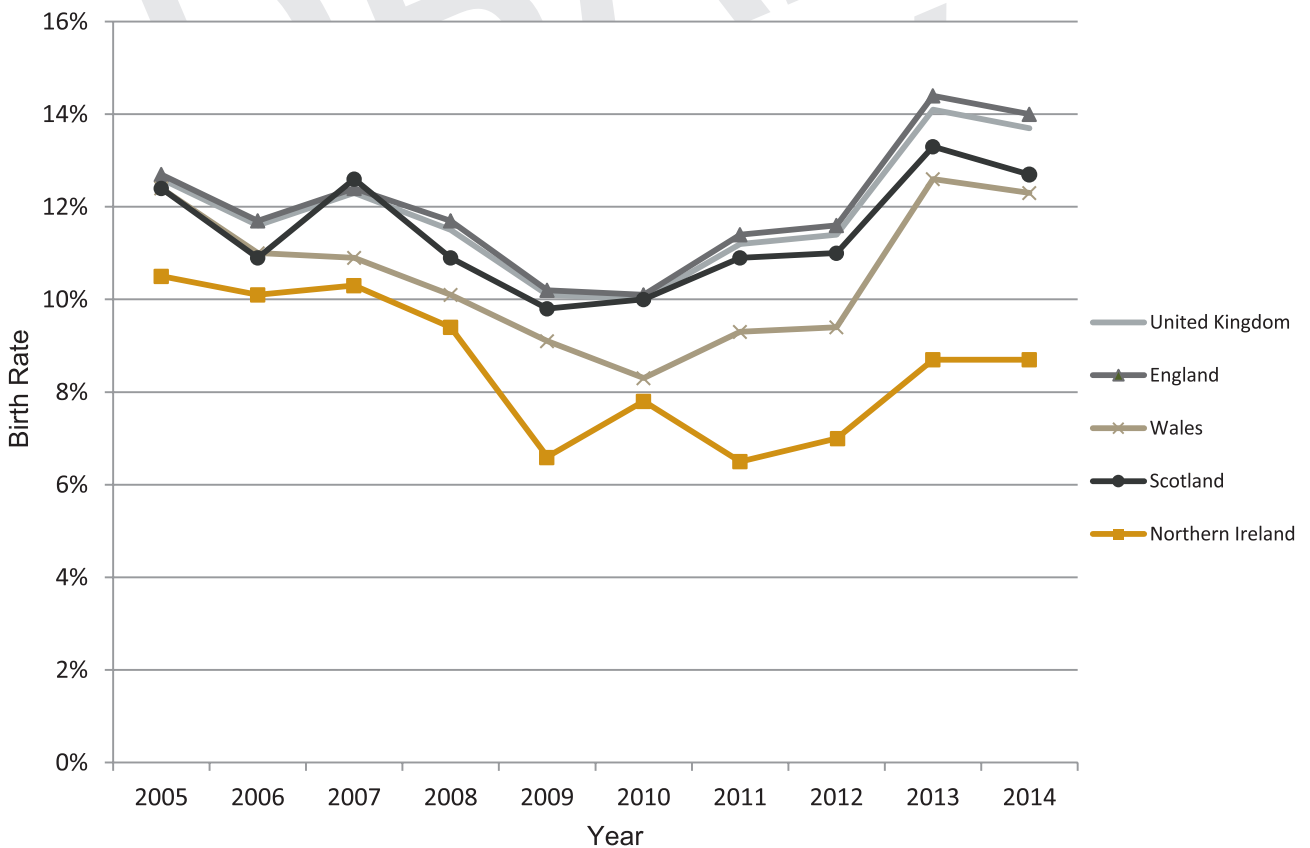


Figure 25. Business birth rates, UK regions 2005-2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.

Business deaths rates in the three legacy council areas have also followed the NI trend with levels gradually increasing over the 9 years.

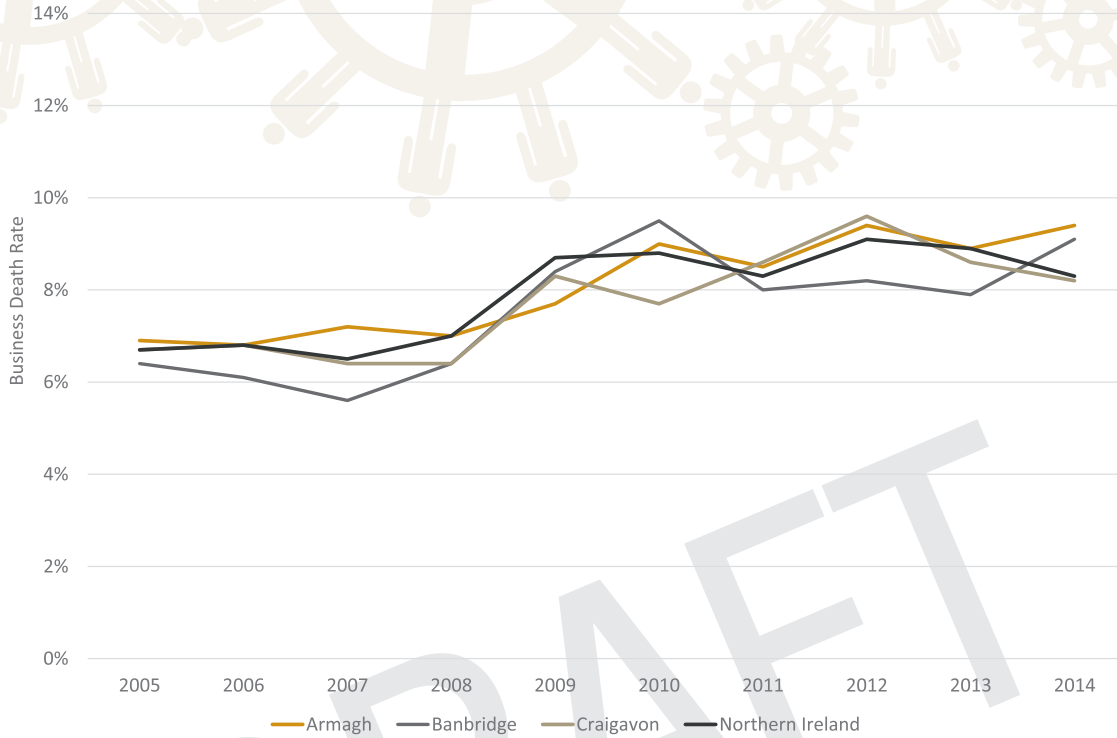


Figure 26. Business death rates, Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon legacy councils and NI 2005-2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.

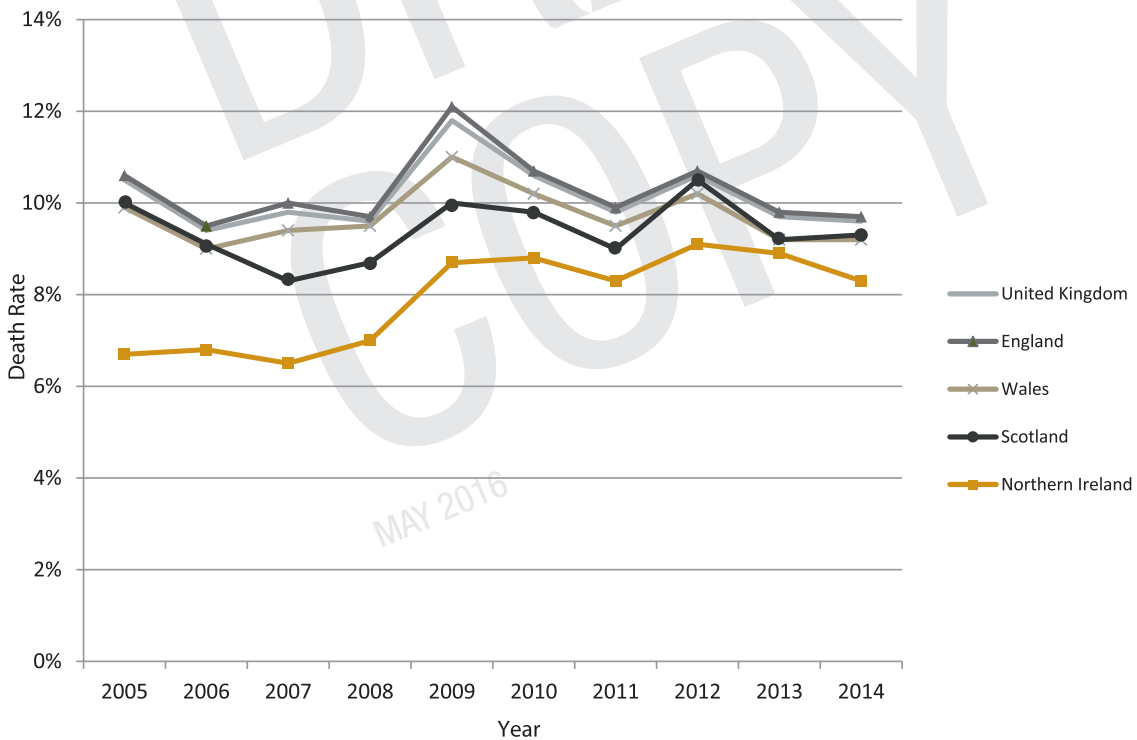


Figure 27. Business death rates, UK regions 2005-2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.



	Count of business births									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Antrim	145	130	180	180	95	110	100	105	120	115
Ards	185	170	255	210	135	155	135	125	170	145
Armagh	215	245	235	200	175	165	160	155	170	185
Ballymena	195	160	200	155	135	145	130	110	130	135
Ballymoney	85	115	100	85	55	65	55	60	60	75
Banbridge	160	160	160	150	110	105	85	105	140	130
Belfast	890	870	950	1,180	750	850	695	745	1,040	945
Carrickfergus	75	95	90	90	60	75	55	60	65	90
Castlereagh	130	130	165	165	115	125	90	115	130	125
Coleraine	165	150	165	145	100	150	90	90	145	140
Cookstown	155	170	165	135	100	95	115	100	115	110
Craigavon	245	225	240	265	180	200	155	145	210	180
Derry	265	260	280	255	215	235	175	200	240	250
Down	220	215	265	190	160	180	110	135	175	170
Dungannon	230	210	225	200	165	160	140	175	160	215
Fermanagh	260	275	265	205	185	215	175	175	195	180
Larne	90	90	75	85	50	75	65	60	70	65
Limavady	130	130	120	110	70	100	75	70	85	70
Lisburn	320	300	325	320	215	275	250	235	295	300
Magherafelt	180	195	190	170	105	145	115	115	130	145
Moyle	65	55	50	50	25	45	30	25	45	30
Newry and Mourne	435	500	465	355	275	330	270	305	345	350
Newtownabbey	195	175	190	220	140	140	130	150	160	135
North Down	255	200	255	235	145	220	155	160	200	205
Omagh	210	235	235	180	115	150	115	135	145	175
Strabane	135	120	115	120	70	80	75	80	115	140
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>5,635</b>	<b>5,580</b>	<b>5,960</b>	<b>5,655</b>	<b>3,945</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>3,745</b>	<b>3,935</b>	<b>4,855</b>	<b>4,805</b>

Table 24. Count of births of new businesses, 2005 - 2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.



	Business birth rate									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Antrim	10%	8%	11%	11%	6%	7%	6%	7%	8%	8%
Ards	8%	8%	11%	9%	6%	7%	6%	6%	8%	7%
Armagh	11%	12%	11%	9%	8%	7%	7%	7%	8%	9%
Ballymena	10%	8%	10%	7%	7%	7%	6%	6%	7%	7%
Ballymoney	9%	12%	10%	8%	5%	6%	5%	6%	6%	8%
Banbridge	11%	10%	10%	9%	6%	6%	5%	7%	9%	8%
Belfast	10%	10%	10%	12%	8%	9%	7%	8%	11%	10%
Carrickfergus	10%	12%	11%	11%	7%	9%	7%	8%	9%	12%
Castlereagh	9%	9%	11%	11%	7%	8%	6%	8%	9%	9%
Coleraine	9%	8%	9%	8%	5%	8%	5%	5%	9%	8%
Cookstown	12%	12%	11%	9%	6%	6%	8%	7%	8%	7%
Craigavon	10%	9%	9%	10%	7%	8%	6%	6%	8%	7%
Derry	11%	10%	10%	9%	8%	9%	7%	8%	10%	10%
Down	10%	10%	11%	8%	7%	8%	5%	6%	8%	8%
Dungannon	11%	10%	10%	8%	7%	7%	6%	7%	7%	9%
Fermanagh	12%	12%	11%	8%	7%	8%	7%	7%	8%	8%
Larne	11%	11%	9%	10%	6%	9%	7%	7%	8%	8%
Limavady	13%	13%	11%	10%	6%	9%	7%	7%	9%	7%
Lisburn	10%	9%	9%	9%	6%	8%	7%	7%	9%	9%
Magherafelt	10%	11%	10%	9%	5%	7%	6%	6%	7%	8%
Moyle	13%	10%	9%	9%	5%	8%	6%	5%	9%	6%
Newry and Mourne	12%	13%	12%	9%	7%	8%	7%	8%	9%	9%
Newtownabbey	11%	9%	10%	11%	7%	7%	7%	8%	9%	7%
North Down	12%	9%	11%	10%	6%	10%	7%	7%	9%	10%
Omagh	11%	12%	11%	8%	5%	7%	6%	7%	7%	9%
Strabane	12%	10%	9%	9%	5%	6%	6%	7%	10%	11%
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>9%</b>

Table 25. Birth rate of new businesses, 2005 - 2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.

	Count of business deaths									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Antrim	95	105	115	115	145	120	130	140	145	110
Ards	160	150	160	175	205	220	200	220	220	175
Armagh	140	145	160	160	175	205	190	205	190	200
Ballymena	110	125	135	130	155	150	130	165	170	140
Ballymoney	65	60	60	60	85	80	75	80	90	75
Banbridge	95	95	90	110	145	160	130	130	125	145
Belfast	660	625	620	750	860	950	830	855	840	825
Carrickfergus	65	80	75	80	75	85	65	75	80	70
Castlereagh	95	100	105	90	140	160	140	130	120	105
Coleraine	125	135	110	135	145	145	150	170	145	155
Cookstown	85	85	75	100	125	140	100	115	140	120
Craigavon	165	170	165	175	225	205	225	245	215	200
Derry	160	195	195	225	270	260	225	255	220	200
Down	145	140	150	160	215	230	195	180	185	150
Dungannon	125	160	130	115	175	160	180	205	185	190
Fermanagh	130	160	155	175	220	210	210	215	225	210
Larne	45	60	55	55	75	65	75	85	75	65
Limavady	60	70	85	75	105	120	95	100	95	80
Lisburn	185	205	225	240	330	290	290	300	290	280
Magherafelt	100	110	110	135	160	150	160	170	155	140
Moyle	30	45	30	35	55	50	40	40	50	50
Newry and Mourne	240	250	270	280	370	375	340	365	350	335
Newtownabbey	155	120	120	145	175	170	150	175	160	150
North Down	155	175	170	215	215	230	200	225	225	190
Omagh	120	130	125	160	210	155	165	175	170	145
Strabane	65	80	70	85	115	105	90	105	115	100
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>3,575</b>	<b>3,775</b>	<b>3,760</b>	<b>4,180</b>	<b>5,170</b>	<b>5,190</b>	<b>4,780</b>	<b>5,125</b>	<b>4,980</b>	<b>4,605</b>

Table 26. Count of deaths of businesses, 2005 - 2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.

	Business death rate									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Antrim	6%	7%	7%	7%	8%	7%	8%	9%	9%	7%
Ards	7%	7%	7%	7%	9%	10%	9%	10%	10%	9%
Armagh	7%	7%	7%	7%	8%	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%
Ballymena	6%	6%	7%	6%	8%	7%	6%	8%	9%	7%
Ballymoney	7%	6%	6%	6%	8%	8%	7%	8%	10%	8%
Banbridge	6%	6%	6%	6%	8%	10%	8%	8%	8%	9%
Belfast	8%	7%	7%	8%	9%	10%	9%	9%	9%	9%
Carrickfergus	9%	10%	9%	10%	9%	11%	8%	10%	11%	9%
Castlereagh	7%	7%	7%	6%	9%	10%	10%	9%	8%	7%
Coleraine	7%	7%	6%	7%	8%	8%	8%	10%	9%	9%
Cookstown	6%	6%	5%	6%	8%	9%	7%	8%	9%	8%
Craigavon	7%	7%	6%	6%	8%	8%	9%	10%	9%	8%
Derry	6%	8%	7%	8%	10%	10%	9%	10%	9%	8%
Down	7%	6%	6%	7%	9%	10%	9%	8%	9%	7%
Dungannon	6%	7%	6%	5%	7%	7%	8%	9%	8%	8%
Fermanagh	6%	7%	6%	7%	9%	8%	8%	9%	9%	9%
Larne	6%	7%	7%	6%	9%	8%	8%	10%	9%	8%
Limavady	6%	7%	8%	7%	10%	11%	9%	10%	10%	9%
Lisburn	6%	6%	6%	7%	9%	8%	8%	9%	8%	8%
Magherafelt	6%	6%	6%	7%	8%	8%	8%	9%	9%	8%
Moyle	6%	8%	6%	6%	10%	9%	8%	8%	10%	10%
Newry and Mourne	7%	7%	7%	7%	9%	9%	9%	10%	9%	9%
Newtownabbey	8%	7%	6%	7%	9%	9%	8%	9%	9%	8%
North Down	7%	8%	7%	9%	9%	10%	9%	10%	11%	9%
Omagh	6%	7%	6%	7%	10%	8%	8%	9%	9%	8%
Strabane	6%	7%	6%	6%	9%	8%	7%	9%	10%	8%
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>8%</b>

Table 27. Death rate of businesses, 2005 - 2014. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.

The 5-year survival rate for businesses born in 2009 and still active in 2014 was 40.0% in Armagh, 45.5% in Banbridge and 44.4% in Craigavon (legacy councils). The rate for NI was 39.7% and the UK 41.7%.

By broad industry, in NI overall the highest 5-year survival rates include Education (66.7%) Finance & insurance (60.0%) and Health (56.5%). Construction (34.5%) and Business administration and support services (21.1%) had the lowest rates of businesses surviving for 5 years.

Armagh	Survival rate				
	Births 2009	Births 2010	Births 2011	Births 2012	Births 2013
1-year survival	85.7%	87.9%	90.6%	93.5%	85.3%
2-year survival	65.7%	72.7%	71.9%	74.2%	..
3-year survival	54.3%	54.5%	56.3%	..	..
4-year survival	48.6%	45.5%	..	..	..
5-year survival	40.0%	..	..	..	..
Banbridge	Survival rate				
	Births 2009	Births 2010	Births 2011	Births 2012	Births 2013
1-year survival	90.9%	90.5%	88.2%	95.2%	92.9%
2-year survival	72.7%	71.4%	76.5%	76.2%	..
3-year survival	59.1%	52.4%	70.6%	..	..
4-year survival	54.5%	47.6%	..	..	..
5-year survival	45.5%	..	..	..	..
Craigavon	Survival rate				
	Births 2009	Births 2010	Births 2011	Births 2012	Births 2013
1-year survival	88.9%	85.0%	90.3%	93.1%	88.1%
2-year survival	69.4%	75.0%	77.4%	65.5%	..
3-year survival	58.3%	52.5%	64.5%	..	..
4-year survival	50.0%	45.0%	..	..	..
5-year survival	44.4%	..	..	..	..
NI	Survival rate				
	Births 2009	Births 2010	Births 2011	Births 2012	Births 2013
1-year survival	85.3%	86.9%	90.1%	90.3%	86.4%
2-year survival	67.0%	72.0%	73.6%	68.9%	..
3-year survival	55.3%	55.6%	59.3%	..	..
4-year survival	46.5%	46.6%	..	..	..
5-year survival	39.7%	..	..	..	..

Table 28. Survival rates of businesses born between 2009 and 2013. Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business Demography 2014 via NISRA, VAT and PAYE Registered Businesses in NI 2015.

## BUSINESS DEMOGRAPHY DEFINITIONS

The business demography figures are produced using information from the Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR).

In these tables, the Enterprise definition of a business is used: a business is defined as an enterprise and is assigned to a geographical location within the UK based on its registered (or main) UK address. This means that the Northern Ireland figures will not include businesses operating in Northern Ireland which have their main (or registered) UK address elsewhere in the UK.

### Active

The starting point for demography is the concept of a population of active businesses in a calendar year ( $t$ ). These are defined as businesses that had either turnover or employment at any time during the calendar year. Births and deaths are then identified by comparing active populations for different years. Birth and death rates are calculated by dividing the births and deaths by the active population for the same year.

Note that the active population in a calendar year will be greater than the number of businesses at any given point in that same year. This is because the active population takes into account businesses that were active at any point during the calendar year.

### Births

A birth is identified as a business that was present in year  $t$ , but did not exist in year  $t-1$  or  $t-2$ . Births are identified by making comparison of annual active population files and identifying those present in the latest file, but not the two previous ones.

### Deaths

A death is defined as a business that was on the active file in year  $t$ , but was no longer present in the active file in  $t+1$  and  $t+2$ . In order to provide an early estimate of deaths, an adjustment has been made to the latest two years deaths to allow for reactivations. The figures for these years are provisional and subject to revision.

### Survival

A business is deemed to have survived if having been a birth in year  $t$  or having survived to year  $t$ ; it is active in terms of employment and/or turnover in any part of  $t+1$ .

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## BROADBAND

The 'Connected Nations 2015 - Northern Ireland' report produced by OFCOM, describes how businesses rely on telephone and internet services to sell goods and services, connect to customers, deal with suppliers and manage their workforce. Beyond this, many digital businesses rely on broadband services for the actual delivery of their products and services. Reliable and high quality broadband and mobile connections are becoming ever more important to commerce and to the wider economy.

Evidence suggests that those consumers with faster connections are more likely to rate their broadband experience good. In general, 10Mbit/s appears to be the tipping point beyond which most consumers rate their broadband experience as 'good'. This continues to support OFCOM's view that a minimum of 10Mbit/s is required by the typical household. In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon 16% of premises could not receive download speed of  $\geq 10$ Mbps.

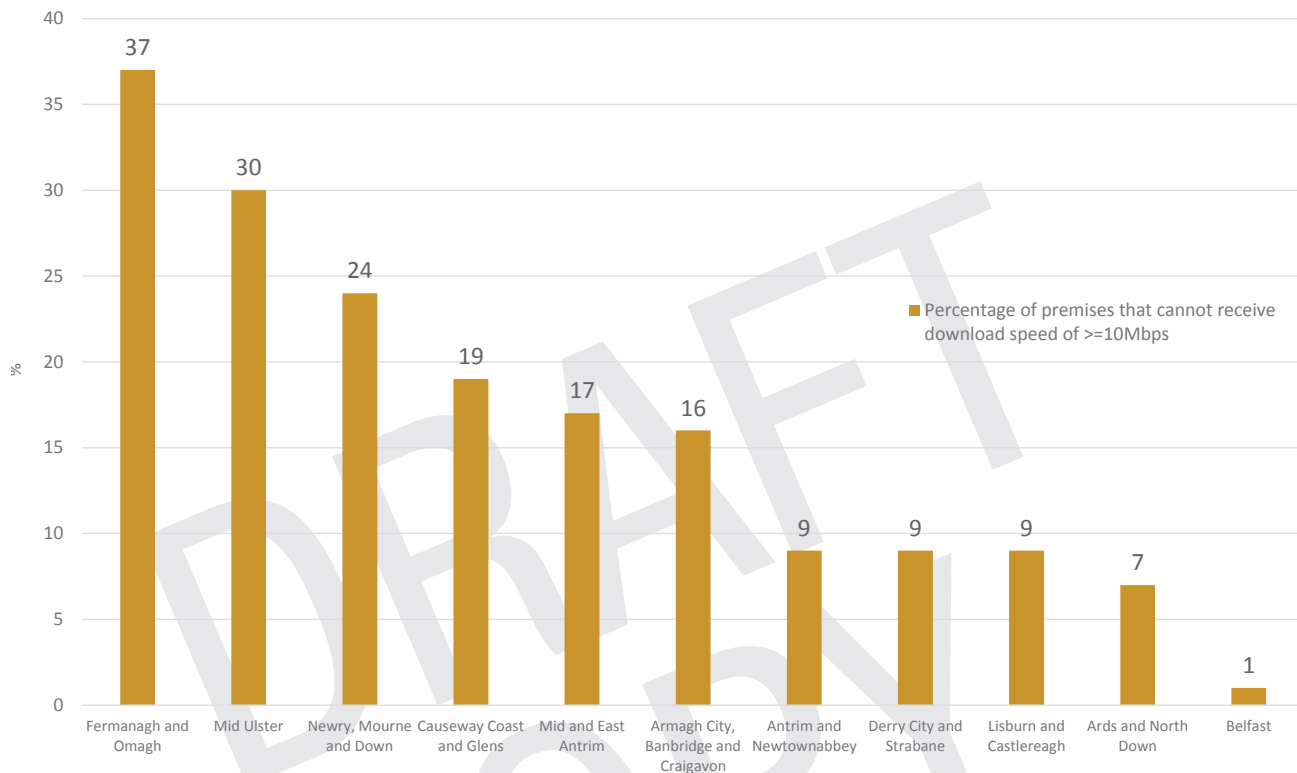


Figure 28. Percentage of premises that cannot receive download speed of  $\geq 10$ Mbps. Source: Connected Nations 2015 - Northern Ireland, OFCOM.

OFCOM, operators and governments have been aware of and reporting on the differential between speeds in urban and rural areas for some time. Even where superfast speeds are available in rural areas they tend to be slower than in urban areas due to the dispersion of premises and the distance of premises from cabinets with a Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) solution. The graph on page 27 outlines this speed differential for both SFBB and non-SFBB connections, and for urban and rural areas.

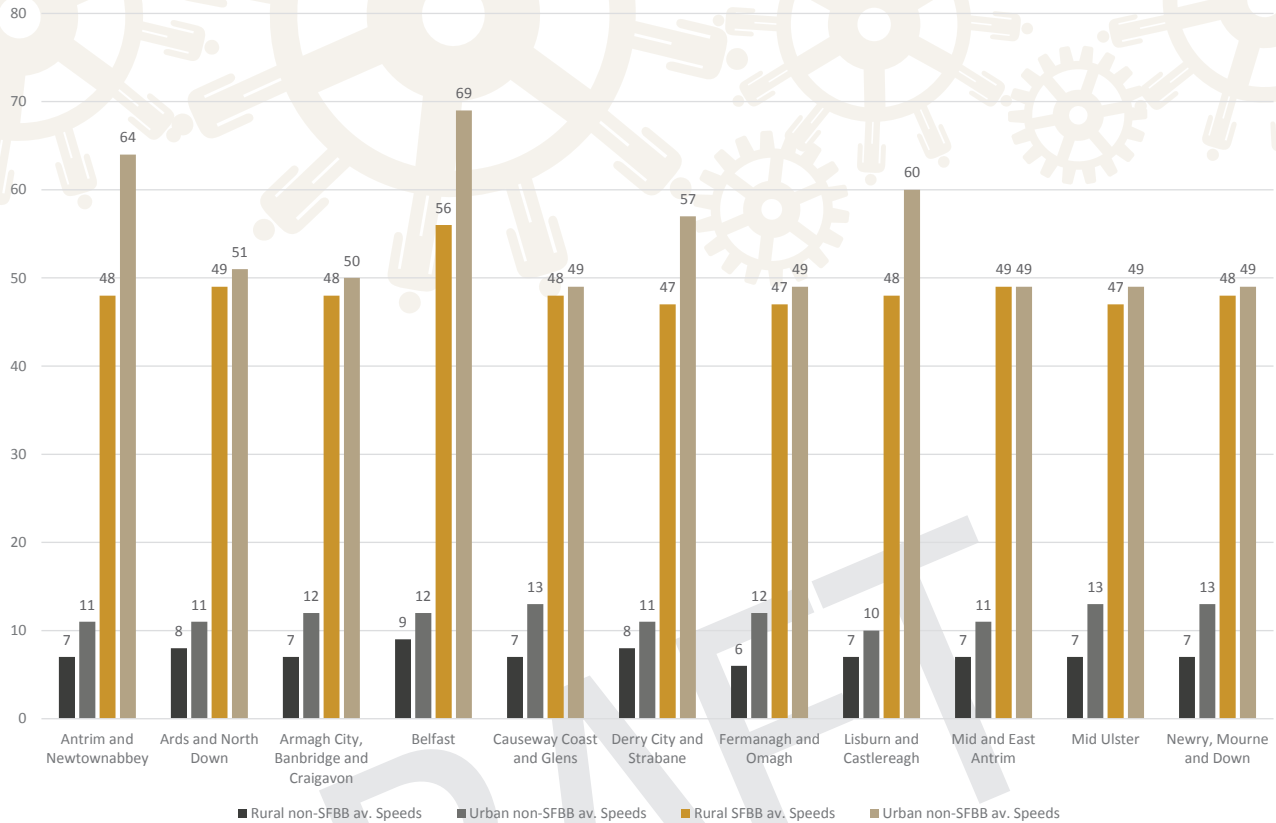


Figure 29. Superfast speeds and non-superfast speeds by urban and rural settlement. Source: Connected Nations 2015 - Northern Ireland, OFCOM.

BT have installed “Fibre To The Cabinet” across Northern Ireland and these cabinets can often be seen at ‘cross roads’. The theory is that citizens (businesses and the public) then get a broadband connection from the cabinets. However, when a property is more than 1Km from a cabinet, as is the case in many rural areas broadband is not possible. The council is taking forward four pilot projects on rural broadband provision – the four areas selected are Blackwatertown, Clady/Milltown, Donaghcloney and Ednego/Kilmacrew. This work will help to inform the practicalities and costs associated with effective broadband provision for all our citizens.

**Project Kelvin**

Project Kelvin is an extensive submarine and terrestrial cable deployment that directly connects Northern Ireland to North America. The €29.5m project is a collaborative initiative between the Department for the Economy and the Republic of Ireland’s Department of Energy, Communications and Natural Resources (DCENR) and funded under the Interreg IV Programme.

The cable, brought ashore at Portrush, connects to Hibernia Networks’ terrestrial fiber optic ring consisting of 13 towns and cities, including Armagh, Ballymena, Belfast, Coleraine, Londonderry, Omagh, Portadown, Strabane, Letterkenny, Castleblayney, Dundalk, Drogheda and Monaghan.



### QUALIFICATIONS OF SCHOOL LEAVERS

The Department of Education collects data annually on the highest qualification and destination of Northern Ireland grammar and secondary school leavers.

In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, of those who left school in 2013/14:

- 76% gained 5 or more GCSEs at grade C and above, the second lowest LGD level (NI 79%).
- 63% gained 5 or more GCSEs at grade C and above including GCSE English and Maths, similar level to the NI average of 63%.
- 49% achieved two or more A-levels, the lowest level of the 11 council areas (NI 56%).

These results include equivalent qualifications and are based on the residential postcode of each individual pupil.

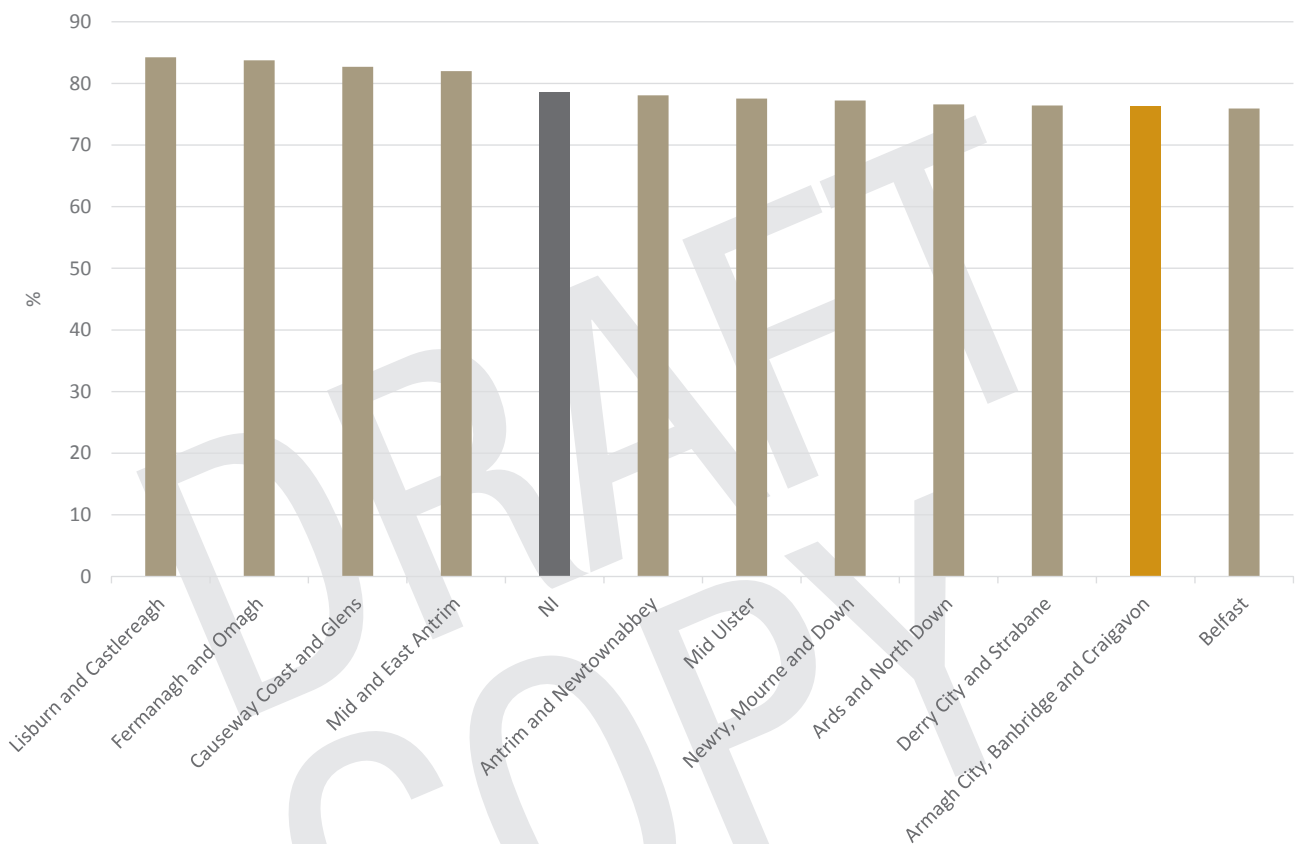


Figure30. School Leavers achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade C and above, 2013/14. Source Department of Education, via NINIS NISRA.

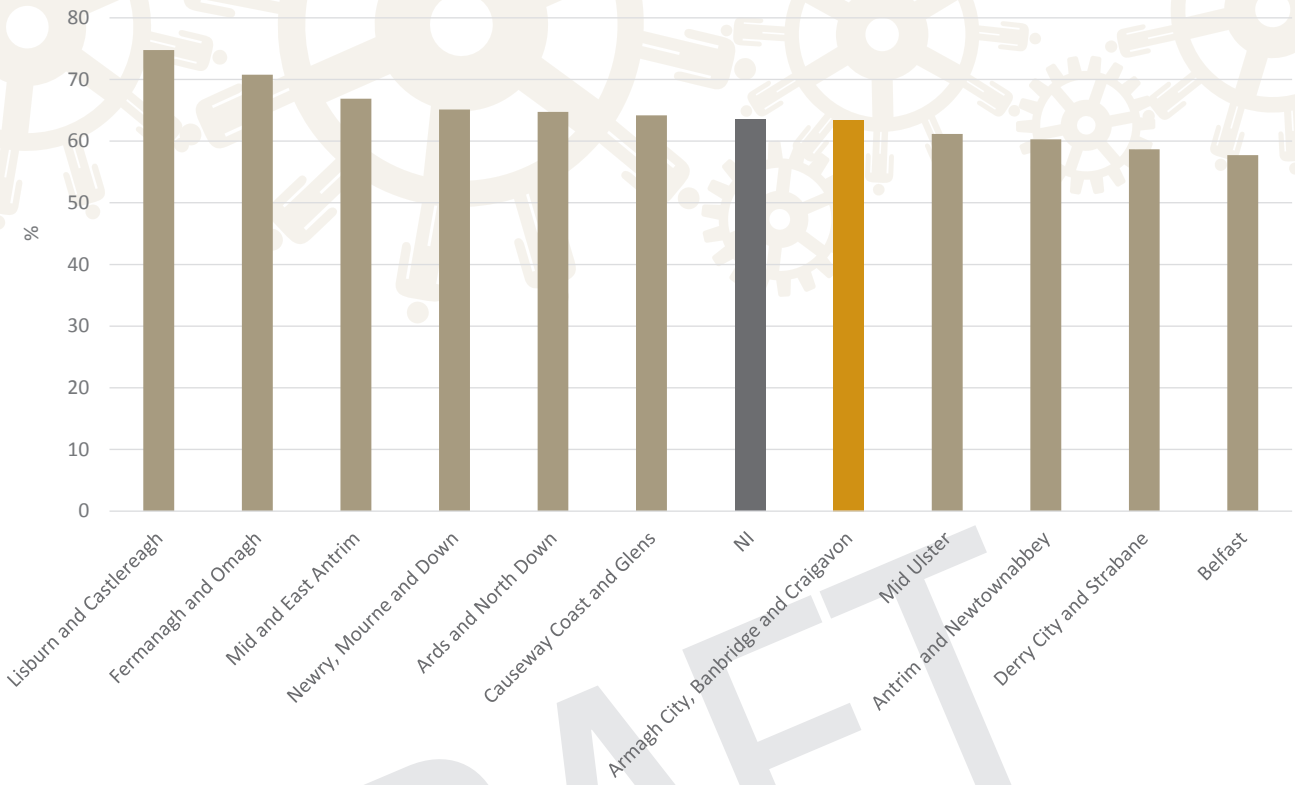


Figure 31. School Leavers achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade C and above including English and Maths, 2013/14. Source: Department of Education, via NINIS NISRA.

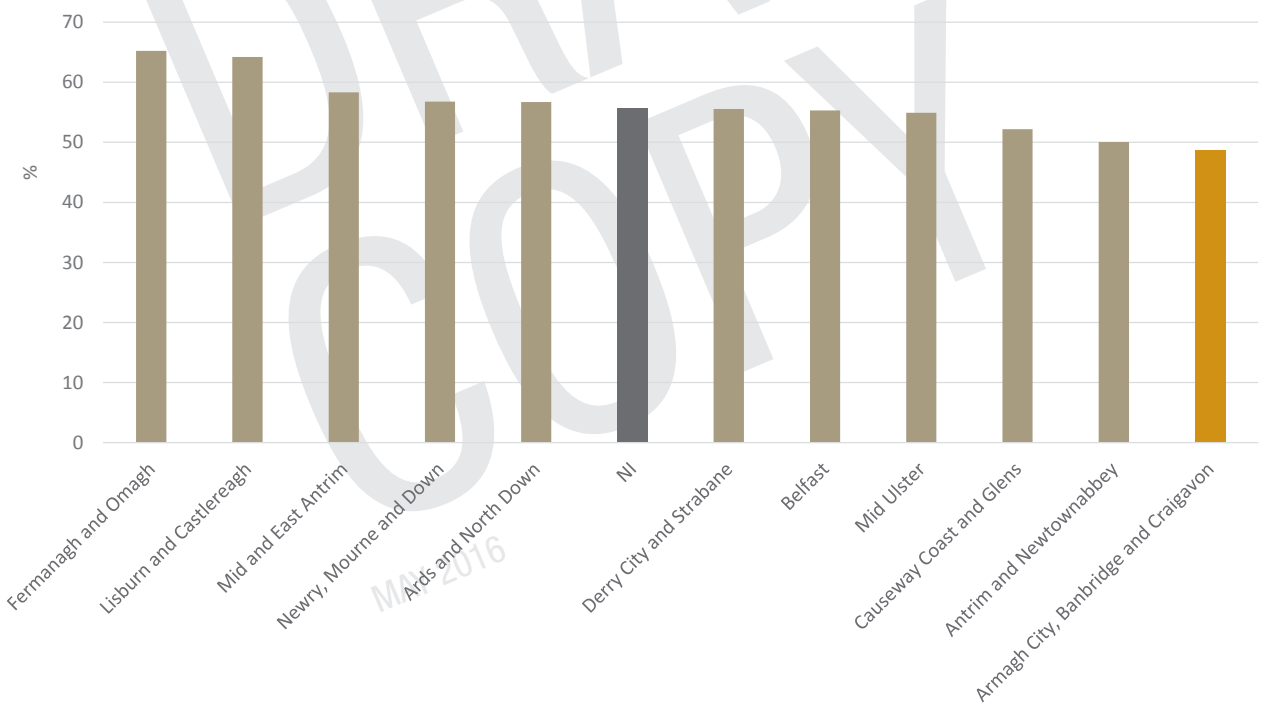


Figure 32. School Leavers two or more A-levels, 2013/14. Source: Department of Education, via NINIS NISRA.

Looking at school leavers who achieved two or more A-levels or equivalent, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon had the lowest percentage of all the new council areas for the most recent 5 years (2009/10 to 2013/14). Looking at 2013/14 data, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon had lower proportions than for NI overall by gender, religion of pupil and free school meal entitlement. For school type, grammar schools had a higher proportion of school leavers achieving two or more A-levels or equivalent, while non-grammar schools had lower than NI levels.

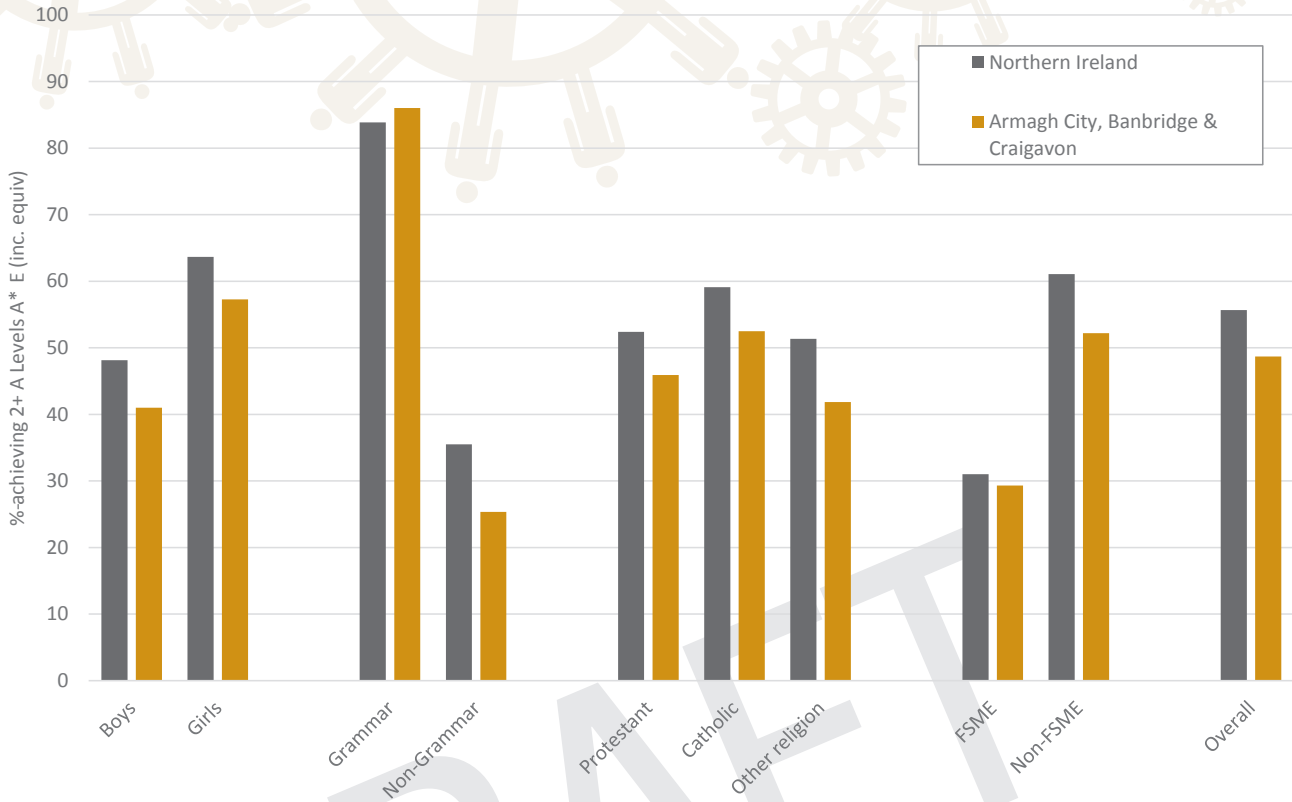


Figure 33. School Leavers achieving two or more A-levels, 2013/14. Source: Department of Education, via NINIS NISRA.

### DESTINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS

In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, 40% of pupils leaving school in 2013/14 entered Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), similar to NI overall (42%); while 44% of pupils leaving school continued on to Institutions of Further Education, a higher proportion than NI overall (35%). Over 97% entered education, employment or training. The main destination of the school leaver is reported by the pupil and recorded by the school.

	Higher Education (%)	Further Education (%)	Employment (%)	Training (%)	Unemployed/Unknown (%)
Antrim and Newtownabbey	38	34	8	10	10
Ards and North Down	41	36	8	10	4
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	40	44	4	9	3
Belfast	39	28	10	15	8
Causeway Coast and Glens	40	45	5	6	5
Derry City and Strabane	44	34	5	12	5
Fermanagh and Omagh	51	31	6	8	4
Lisburn and Castlereagh	41	41	7	7	4
Mid and East Antrim	43	34	7	8	7
Mid Ulster	44	33	6	11	7
Newry, Mourne and Down	43	35	8	11	3
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>

Table 29. Destination of School leavers 2013/14. Source: Department of Education, via NINIS NISRA.

## ENROLMENTS IN FURTHER EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION

There were 17,922 students from Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon enrolled at a Further Education Institution in 2014/15. Of these, 20% were full time and 80% were part time students, while 50% were female and 50% were male. Further Education is post-secondary education that is distinct from the education offered in universities (Higher Education).

	Total Enrolments	Female		Male		Full-time		Part-time	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Antrim and Newtownabbey	8,738	4,510	52	4,228	48	1,587	18	7,151	82
Ards and North Down	13,180	6,098	46	7,082	54	2,098	16	11,082	84
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	17,922	9,043	50	8,879	50	3,513	20	14,409	80
Belfast	20,786	10,995	53	9,791	47	3,221	15	17,565	85
Causeway Coast and Glens	9,033	4,331	48	4,702	52	2,010	22	7,023	78
Derry and Strabane	10,643	5,223	49	5,420	51	3,089	29	7,554	71
Fermanagh and Omagh	9,937	4,550	46	5,387	54	1,663	17	8,274	83
Lisburn and Castlereagh	10,406	5,016	48	5,390	52	1,697	16	8,709	84
Mid and East Antrim	7,796	3,746	48	4,050	52	1,513	19	6,283	81
Mid Ulster	11,070	5,054	46	6,016	54	2,001	18	9,069	82
Newry, Mourne and Down	15,755	7,620	48	8,135	52	2,967	19	12,788	81
Unassigned	4,871	2,690	55	2,181	45	1,158	24	3,713	76
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>140,137</b>	<b>68,876</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>71,261</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>26,517</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>113,620</b>	<b>81</b>

Table 30. Further Education Regulated Enrolments 2014/15. Source: Department for Employment and Learning, via NINIS NISRA.

There were 6,660 students from Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, enrolled at a Higher Education Institution in 2013/14. Of these, 76% were full time and 24% were part time students, while 56% were female and 44% were male.

	Total Enrolments	Female		Male		Full-time		Part-time	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Antrim and Newtownabbey	4,600	2,540	55	2,060	45	3,195	69	1,405	31
Ards and North Down	5,245	2,955	56	2,290	44	3,605	69	1,640	31
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	6,660	3,715	56	2,945	44	5,060	76	1,600	24
Belfast	11,730	6,580	56	5,150	44	7,225	62	4,510	38
Causeway Coast and Glens	4,725	2,700	57	2,025	43	3,620	77	1,105	23
Derry City and Strabane	5,755	3,290	57	2,465	43	4,440	77	1,315	23
Fermanagh and Omagh	4,175	2,465	59	1,710	41	3,290	79	885	21
Lisburn and Castlereagh	5,395	2,980	55	2,415	45	3,710	69	1,680	31
Mid and East Antrim	4,440	2,485	56	1,955	44	3,175	72	1,265	28
Mid Ulster	4,980	2,920	59	2,055	41	3,870	78	1,110	22
Newry, Mourne and Down	6,405	3,710	58	2,690	42	4,910	77	1,490	23
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>64,570</b>	<b>36,645</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>27,925</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>46,245</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>18,325</b>	<b>28</b>

Table 31. Higher Education Enrolments 2013/14. Source: Department for Employment and Learning, via NINIS NISRA. Note - The information refers to NI domiciled students enrolled at higher education institutions in the UK.

SKILLS

Success through Skills 2011, the Skills Strategy for Northern Ireland, provides an overarching framework for the development of skills in Northern Ireland. In the strategy, ‘qualifications’ are used as the measure of skills as they can be seen to be both valuable to individuals (in terms of providing mobility in the labour market and enhancing self-esteem), employers (for providing information when recruiting workers) and for measuring the skill levels of the workforce.

The strategy describes how compared with the UK average and most other regions of the UK, Northern Ireland has significantly more working age people with low level skills and fewer with high level skills.

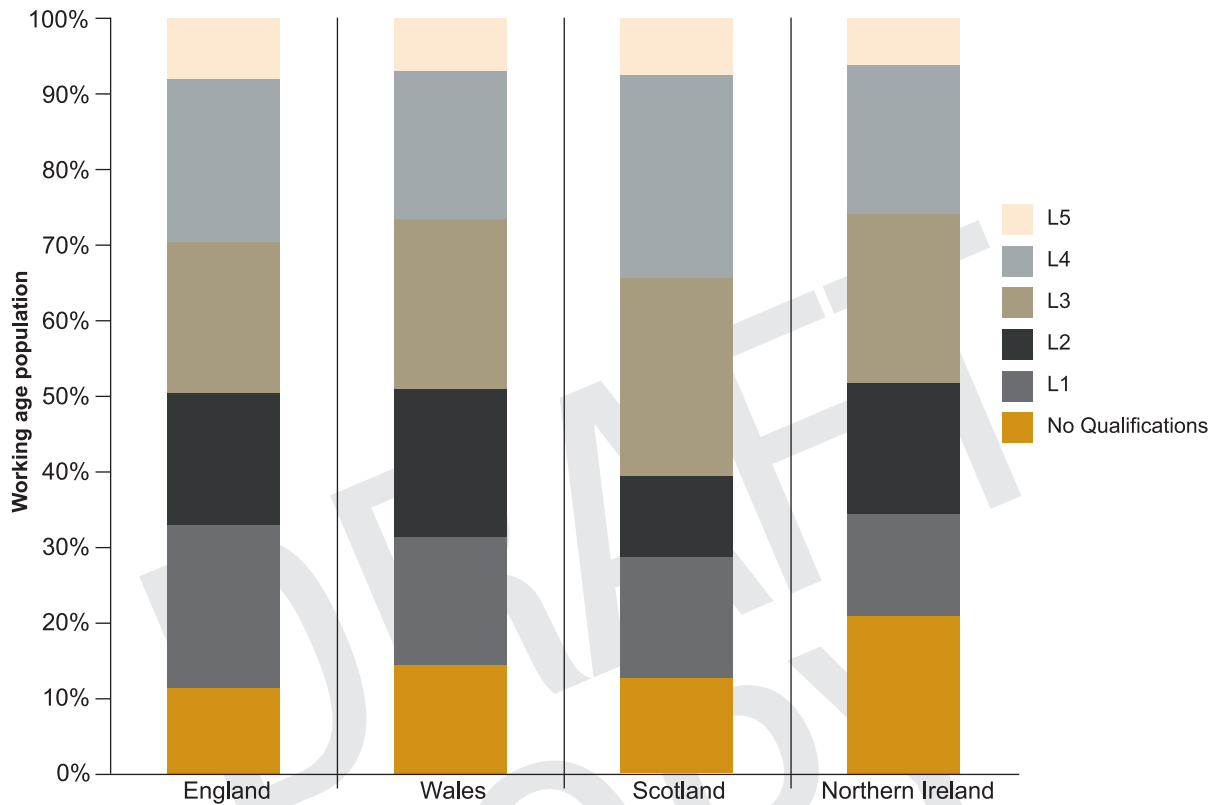


Figure 34. Qualifications of the working age population by UK region (Quarter 1, 2009). Source: Labour Force Survey, Success through Skills 2011.

The Labour Force Survey showed that in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon 27% of the working age population were qualified to NVQ level 4 and above (equivalent to certificate of higher education and above), 57% had qualifications below NVQ level 4, while 17% had no qualifications. These proportions were similar to those seen in NI as a whole.

	Achieved NVQ level 4 and above * (16 - 64)	Achieved below NVQ level 4 (16 - 64)	No qualifications (16 - 64)
Antrim and Newtownabbey	27%	57%	16%
Ards and North Down	34%	51%	15%
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	27%	57%	17%
Belfast	34%	46%	19%
Causeway Coast and Glens	22%	58%	20%
Derry City and Strabane	22%	56%	22%
Fermanagh and Omagh	25%	56%	19%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	42%	48%	10%
Mid and East Antrim	24%	65%	10%
Mid Ulster	26%	52%	22%
Newry, Mourne and Down	35%	48%	17%
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>17%</b>

Table 32. Qualifications of working age (16-64) population, 2014. Source: Labour Force Survey, NISRA.

The 2011 Census showed a similar picture of skill levels, with almost a quarter (24%) of those aged 16-64 having level 4 or above and 22% having no qualifications.

	Aged 16 to 64							
	Total aged 16-64	No qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Apprenticeship	Level 3	Level 4 and above	Other qualifications
Antrim and Newtownabbey	89,085	16,002	12,634	16,102	3,956	13,474	23,576	3,341
Ards and North Down	99,253	15,593	13,957	18,188	4,507	14,787	28,992	3,229
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	127,860	27,874	17,048	22,709	5,303	17,582	31,004	6,340
Belfast	221,428	49,916	28,162	32,645	6,678	33,685	62,334	8,008
Causeway Coast and Glens	90,424	21,302	12,131	15,999	3,815	13,179	20,608	3,390
Derry City and Strabane	96,244	26,600	12,776	15,926	3,310	13,295	21,117	3,220
Fermanagh and Omagh	72,414	17,254	9,388	12,511	2,787	9,315	17,537	3,622
Lisburn and Castlereagh	86,156	13,157	11,171	14,883	3,587	12,339	28,137	2,882
Mid and East Antrim	86,202	17,190	11,928	15,459	4,510	12,605	21,091	3,419
Mid Ulster	89,247	21,269	11,337	15,085	3,871	12,160	20,158	5,367
Newry, Mourne and Down	109,507	22,740	13,874	19,040	5,926	15,754	27,172	5,001
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1,167,820</b>	<b>248,897</b>	<b>154,406</b>	<b>198,547</b>	<b>48,250</b>	<b>168,175</b>	<b>301,726</b>	<b>47,819</b>

Table 33. Highest Level of Qualification, number of usual residents aged 16-64. Source: Census 2011 CT0104NI, NISRA.

	Aged 16 to 64						
	No qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Apprenticeship	Level 3	Level 4 and above	Other qualifications
Antrim and Newtownabbey	18%	14%	18%	4%	15%	26%	4%
Ards and North Down	16%	14%	18%	5%	15%	29%	3%
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	22%	13%	18%	4%	14%	24%	5%
Belfast	23%	13%	15%	3%	15%	28%	4%
Causeway Coast and Glens	24%	13%	18%	4%	15%	23%	4%
Derry City and Strabane	28%	13%	17%	3%	14%	22%	3%
Fermanagh and Omagh	24%	13%	17%	4%	13%	24%	5%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	15%	13%	17%	4%	14%	33%	3%
Mid and East Antrim	20%	14%	18%	5%	15%	24%	4%
Mid Ulster	24%	13%	17%	4%	14%	23%	6%
Newry, Mourne and Down	21%	13%	17%	5%	14%	25%	5%
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>4%</b>

Table 34. Highest Level of Qualification, percentage of usual residents aged 16-64. Source: Census 2011 CT0104NI, NIS

### CENSUS 2011 QUALIFICATIONS

1. No qualifications (No academic or professional qualifications).
2. Level 1: 1-4 O Levels/CSE/GCSEs (any grades), Entry Level, Foundation Diploma, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ, Basic/Essential Skills.
3. Level 2: 5+ O Level (Passes)/CSEs (Grade 1)/GCSEs (Grades A\*-C), School Certificate, 1 A Level/2-3 AS Levels/VCEs, Intermediate/Higher Diploma, Intermediate Diploma, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma, RSA Diploma.
4. Level 3: 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma, NVQ Level 3; Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma.
5. Level 4+: Degree (for example BA, BSc), Higher Degree (for example MA, PhD, PGCE), NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher level, Foundation degree, Professional qualifications (for example teaching, nursing, accountancy).
6. Other: Vocational/Work-related Qualifications, Qualifications gained outside the UK (Not stated/level unknown).

### Northern Ireland Skills Barometer

The NI Skills Barometer provides a detailed understanding of the skill requirements for the Northern Ireland economy up to 2025 with the aim of ensuring that any skills gaps are identified and addressed. The research analyses where the skills gaps are currently, where they are emerging and where they are likely to emerge over the longer term. The headline findings, assuming a high growth trajectory is achieved, are:

- A skills gap will emerge – at the macro level the demand for skills in Northern Ireland will outstrip supply but the nature of the skills gap varies depending on the level of skills required:
  - o Marginal undersupply at higher level skills – overall the supply at NQF Level 6 (i.e. degree and equivalent) will fall marginally short of demand and the supply and demand of NQF L7 (Masters and equivalent) and NQF L8 (PhD and equivalent) will be broadly in balance. The more fundamental issue is the mix of subject areas supplied which is currently out of balance.



- o Shortage most acute in mid-tier skills – the largest supply gaps are likely to emerge in the mid-tier skills levels i.e. NQF L3 (A-Level equivalent) and NQF L4-5 (Foundation degree/ HNC/ HND equivalent).
- o Over-supply of low and no skills – the demand for formal qualifications across all areas of the economy will increasingly impact the employment prospects of people with low or no skills.

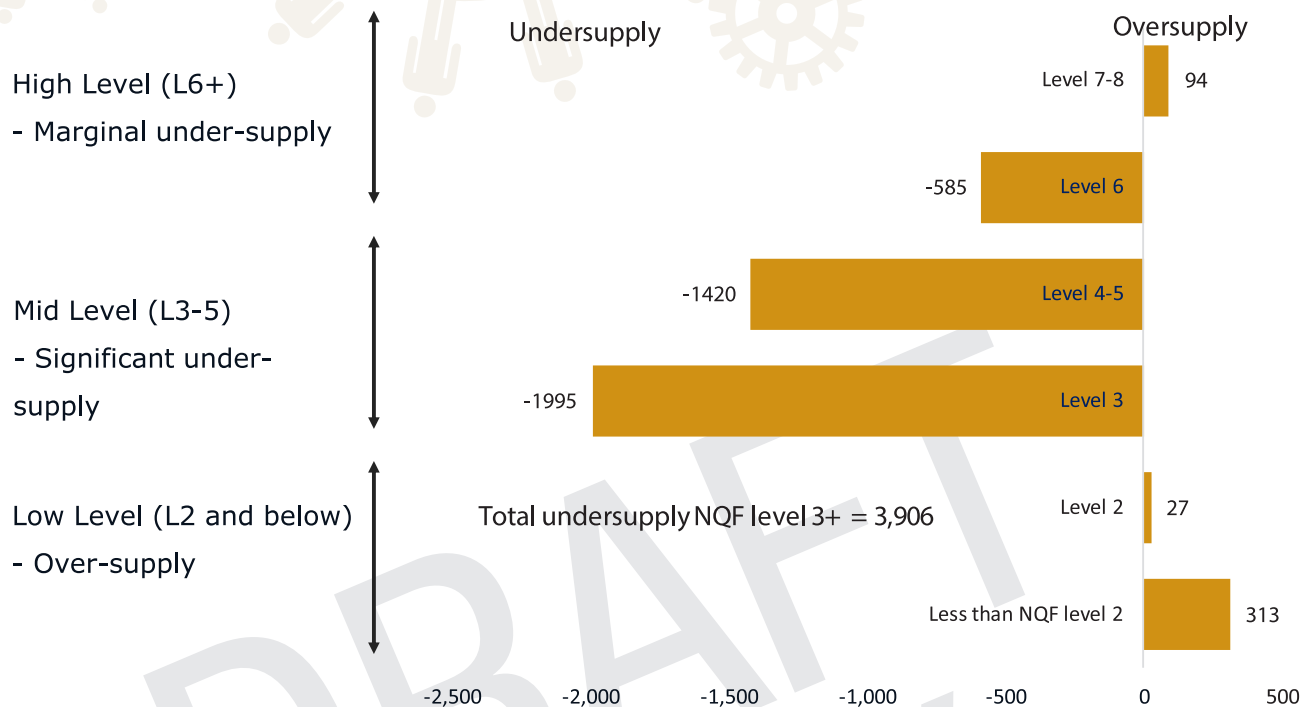


Figure 35. Annual Average Labour Market Supply Gap 2015-2025. Source: UUEPC, NI Skills Barometer 2015.

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills shortages – at both higher level (NQF L6 and above) and mid-level (NQF L4-5) skills, the largest supply gaps are forecast in the STEM related subject areas. A Supply gap refers to a circumstance where demand is greater than supply. One potential reason relates to the technical nature of the sectors which require these skills. For example, qualifications in engineering or computer science are required to follow a career in those occupations and they are not easily substitutable with other subjects/ qualification. In contrast, engineering or computer science qualifications can be easily applied in a wide range of other sectors and occupations. This exacerbates the shortage in technical related subject areas such as STEM.
- Impact of austerity – lower levels of government spending and a reduction in public sector recruitment will have a significant impact on the demand for skilled employment. The public sector is “qualifications hungry” and have historically taken a large number of qualifiers/ graduates from both Further Education and Higher Education institutions.
- Replacement/ expansion – over the 10 year forecast period of this analysis, replacement demand (recruitment required to replace people leaving the sector e.g. through retirement or to work in a different sector) is much greater than expansion demand (recruitment required because the sector is growing). The ratio of replacement to expansion demand will vary across sectors with, for example, high levels of expansion in the ICT sector compared to high levels of replacement demand in the retail sector.
- Wider employability skills are essential – consultations with employer groups stressed the importance of employability/ transversal skills. These skills are not specific to subject areas, qualification levels or industry sectors. They are a requirement for all employers and cover areas such as: good communication, team working, professional attitude, problem solving, initiative and objective thinking. This creates both a pedagogical challenge to education institutions but also requires employers to step up and offer students work placement opportunities.

