**Businesses**

In 2019 there were 8,715 VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in the borough, accounting for 11.5% of all such businesses in Northern Ireland, the fourth highest of the eleven councils.

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| **District Council Area** | **Number** | **% of NI** |
| **Antrim and Newtonabbey** | 4,175 | 5.5% |
| **Ards and North Down** | 4,755 | 6.3% |
| **Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon** | 8,715 | 11.5% |
| **Belfast** | 10,705 | 14.2% |
| **Causeway Coast and Glens** | 6,075 | 8.0% |
| **Derry City and Strabane** | 5,260 | 7.0% |
| **Fermanagh and Omagh** | 8,200 | 10.9% |
| **Lisburn and Castlereagh** | 4,855 | 6.4% |
| **Mid and East Antrim** | 4,950 | 6.6% |
| **Mid Ulster** | 9,050 | 12.0% |
| **Newry, Mourne and Down** | 8,745 | 11.6% |
| **Northern Ireland** | 75,490 | 100.0% |

*Table 1: VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Northern Ireland by Council in 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA. Please note figures have been rounded to the nearest five and therefore may not sum to totals.*

*Figure 1: VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Northern Ireland by Council in 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA.*

The number of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in the borough have been increasing year-on-year since 2014. During this time there has been an increase of 905 such businesses in the borough. This is an increase of 11.6%, similar to increases shown in Northern Ireland overall for the same period, 11.5%. The proportion of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in Northern Ireland located in the borough has remained steady over the last seven years.

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|  | **Number** | **% of NI** |
| **2013** | 7,870 | 11.6% |
| **2014** | 7,810 | 11.5% |
| **2015** | 7,865 | 11.6% |
| **2016** | 8,100 | 11.6% |
| **2017** | 8,275 | 11.6% |
| **2018** | 8,555 | 11.6% |
| **2019** | 8,715 | 11.5% |

*Table 2: VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough between 2013 and 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA. Please note figures have been rounded to the nearest five.*

*Figure 2: VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough between 2013 and 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA.*

Agriculture, forestry and fishing make up the largest proportion of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in 2019 in the borough, 2,415 accounting for 27.7%. This is followed by construction (14.0%) and retail (8.7%). Together these three broad industry groups account for half (50.4%) of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in the borough. The proportion of agriculture, forestry and fishing in the borough (27.7%) is higher than the proportion in Northern Ireland overall (24.5%). The proportion of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in the professional, scientific and technical industry group is lower than Northern Ireland overall, 6.1% in the borough compared to 8.0% in Northern Ireland.

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| **Broad Industry Group** | **Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon** | **%** | **Northern Ireland** | **%** |
| **Agriculture, forestry and fishing** | 2,415 | 27.7% | 18,520 | 24.5% |
| **Production** | 625 | 7.2% | 5,235 | 6.9% |
| **Construction** | 1,220 | 14.0% | 10,515 | 13.9% |
| **Motor trades** | 340 | 3.9% | 2,650 | 3.5% |
| **Wholesale** | 445 | 5.1% | 3,255 | 4.3% |
| **Retail** | 755 | 8.7% | 6,065 | 8.0% |
| **Transport and storage (inc. postal)** | 410 | 4.7% | 2,475 | 3.3% |
| **Accommodation and food services** | 375 | 4.3% | 4,145 | 5.5% |
| **Information and communication** | 145 | 1.7% | 2,040 | 2.7% |
| **Finance and insurance** | 115 | 1.3% | 1,250 | 1.7% |
| **Property** | 240 | 2.8% | 2,390 | 3.2% |
| **Professional, scientific and technical** | 535 | 6.1% | 6,025 | 8.0% |
| **Business administration and support services** | 295 | 3.4% | 2,745 | 3.6% |
| **Public administration and defence** | 0 | 0.0% | 50 | 0.1% |
| **Education** | 55 | 0.6% | 675 | 0.9% |
| **Health** | 245 | 2.8% | 2,810 | 3.7% |
| **Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services** | 495 | 5.7% | 4,640 | 6.1% |
| **Total** | 8,715 | 100.0% | 75,490 | 100.0% |

*Table 3: Broad industry group of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough and Northern Ireland in 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA. Please note figures have been rounded to the nearest five and therefore may not sum to totals.*

*Figure 3: Broad industry group of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA.*

The majority of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in the borough in 2019 employ fewer than 50 people, 98.2% of such businesses. This is similar to the Northern Ireland business profile of which 97.8% are businesses with less than 50 people employed.

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| **Employee Size Band** | **Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon** | **%** | **Northern Ireland** | **%** |
| **01** | 3,120 | 35.8% | 24,505 | 32.5% |
| **1-9** | 4,770 | 54.7% | 42,770 | 56.7% |
| **10-19** | 410 | 4.7% | 4,015 | 5.3% |
| **20-49** | 255 | 2.9% | 2,515 | 3.3% |
| **50-99** | 85 | 1.0% | 855 | 1.1% |
| **100-199** | 40 | 0.5% | 425 | 0.6% |
| **200-249** | 5 | 0.1% | 90 | 0.1% |
| **250+** | 30 | 0.3% | 310 | 0.4% |
| **Total** | 8,715 | 100.0% | 75,490 | 100.0% |

*Table 4: Employee size band of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough and Northern Ireland in 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA. Please note figures have been rounded to the nearest five and therefore may not sum to totals. 1This sizeband includes holding companies and those companies that are not yet trading, for example, if a factory is under construction.*

*Figure 4: Employee size band of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough and Northern Ireland in 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA. Please note the zero sizeband includes holding companies and those companies that are not yet trading, for example, if a factory is under construction.*

The turnover profile for VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in 2019 is also broadly similar to that of Northern Ireland. 82.7% of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses in the borough have a turnover of less than £500,000 compared to 81.8% for Northern Ireland overall. Around one in ten businesses in both the borough and Northern Ireland have a turnover of £1,000,000 or more.

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| **Turnover Size Band (£ thousand)** | **Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon** | **%** | **Northern Ireland** | **%** |
| **0-49** | 2,300 | 26.4% | 19,585 | 25.9% |
| **50-99** | 1,550 | 17.8% | 13,615 | 18.0% |
| **100-249** | 2,280 | 26.2% | 19,520 | 25.9% |
| **250-499** | 1,075 | 12.3% | 9,000 | 11.9% |
| **500-999** | 650 | 7.5% | 5,780 | 7.7% |
| **1,000-4,999** | 640 | 7.3% | 6,015 | 8.0% |
| **5,000+** | 215 | 2.5% | 1,975 | 2.6% |
| **Total** | 8,715 | 100.0% | 75,490 | 100.0% |

*Table 5: Turnover size band of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough and Northern Ireland in 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA. Please note figures have been rounded to the nearest five and therefore may not sum to totals.*

*Figure 5: Turnover size band of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses operating in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough and Northern Ireland in 2019. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, NISRA.*

Further information on businesses can be found via the following link:

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/business-statistics/inter-departmental-business-register>