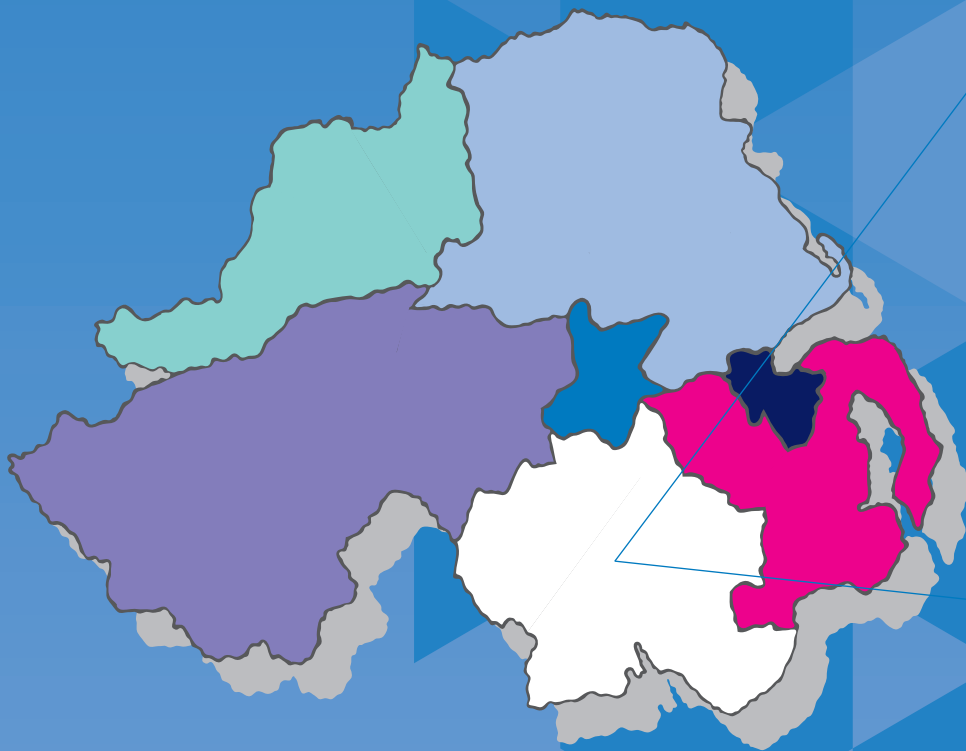




Labour Market Profile



Southern
Workforce
Development
Forum



KEY FIGURES

- **Table 1** shows that the working age employment rate in the Southern WDF was 64.5%, 0.6 percentage points lower than Northern Ireland as a whole.
- The working age economic activity rate (**Table 1**) in the Southern WDF was 70.3%, 0.4 percentage points higher than Northern Ireland as a whole.
- **Table 1** shows that the working age economic inactivity rate in the Southern WDF was 29.7%, 0.4 percentage points lower than Northern Ireland as a whole.
- **Table 2** shows that the claimant count rate for 2009 in the Southern WDF was 8.3%, 1.5 percentage points higher than Northern Ireland as a whole.

Table 1: Economic activity, inactivity and employment of the working age population for the Southern WDF, 2009

	Southern WDF		Northern Ireland
	Number	%	%
Employment	124,000	64.5	65.1
Economic Activity	135,000	70.3	69.9
Economic Inactivity	57,000	29.7	30.1

Source: Labour Force Survey Local Area Database 2009, DETI

Table 2: Claimant count as a proportion of the resident working age population for the Southern WDF, 2009

	Southern WDF		Northern Ireland
	Number	%	%
Claimant Count	11,000	8.3	6.8

Source: Claimant Count, DETI

OVERVIEW OF THE WORKFORCE IN THE SOUTHERN WDF

This report provides a Labour Market Profile for the Southern WDF in Northern Ireland. Similar profiles have been developed for the five remaining WDFs as well as an overall report for Northern Ireland. Southern WDF comprises Newry and Mourne District Council, Armagh City & District Council, Craigavon Borough Council and Banbridge District Council. The content is based on official information sources.

POPULATION

- In 2008 the population in the Southern WDF was 293,271, with 49.5% being males (145,312) and 50.5% being females (147,959).
- Between 1998 and 2008 the population of the Southern WDF increased by 36,114 (14.0%).
- In 2008 the working age population in the Southern WDF was 180,999.
- The working age population has increased by 28,068 (18.4%) between 1998 and 2008.
- The number of young people in the Southern WDF (aged 16-24) increased by 8,404 between 1998 and 2008. This is an increase of 27.6%.
- The number of 25-49 year olds in the Southern WDF increased by 11,761 between 1998 and 2008, an increase of 13.0%.
- The number of people aged 50-59/64 increased by 7,903 between 1998 and 2008, up by 24.9%.

WORKFORCE EMPLOYMENT

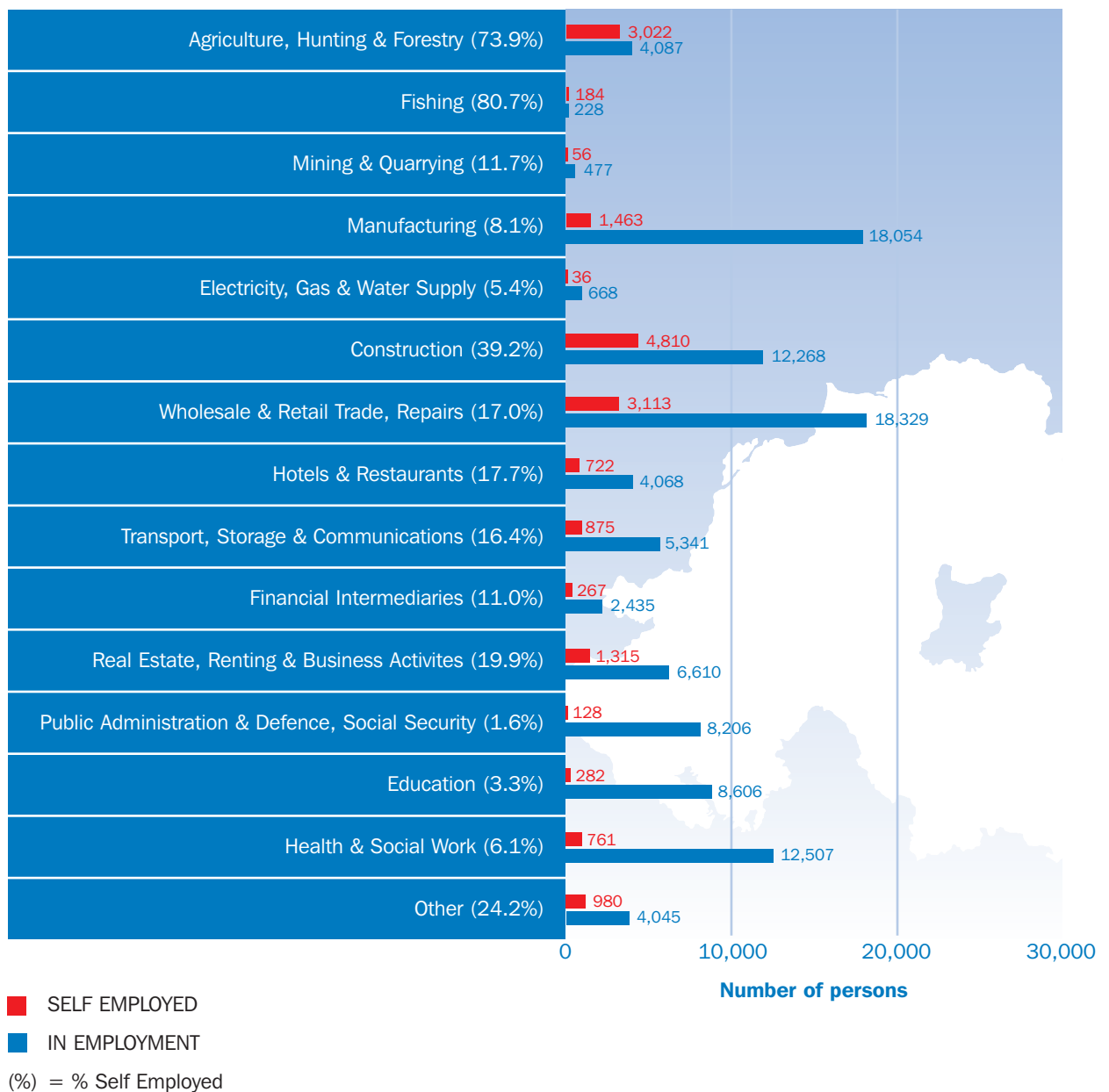
There were 102,897 employee jobs in the Southern WDF in 2007. This represented an increase of 6,230 (6.4%) since 2005.

- Females made up 53.0% of all employees in the Southern WDF in 2007. The number of female jobs increased by 5.3% between 2005 and 2007. Male employment in the Southern WDF increased by 7.8% in the same period.
- Almost two thirds (65.3%) of jobs were full-time in 2007. Full-time jobs increased by 7.5% between 2005 and 2007, while part-time jobs increased by 4.5%.

SELF EMPLOYED

- **Figure 1** shows that in 2001, 80.7% of those persons aged between 16 and 74 in Fishing in the Southern WDF were self-employed.
- 73.9% of persons in Agriculture, Hunting & Forestry were self-employed as were 39.2% of persons in Construction in the Southern WDF.
- **Figure 1** also shows that 3.3% of persons in Education were self-employed as were 1.6% of persons in Public Administration & Defence, Social Security.

Figure 1: All persons aged 16-74 in employment the week before the Census 2001 for the Southern WDF



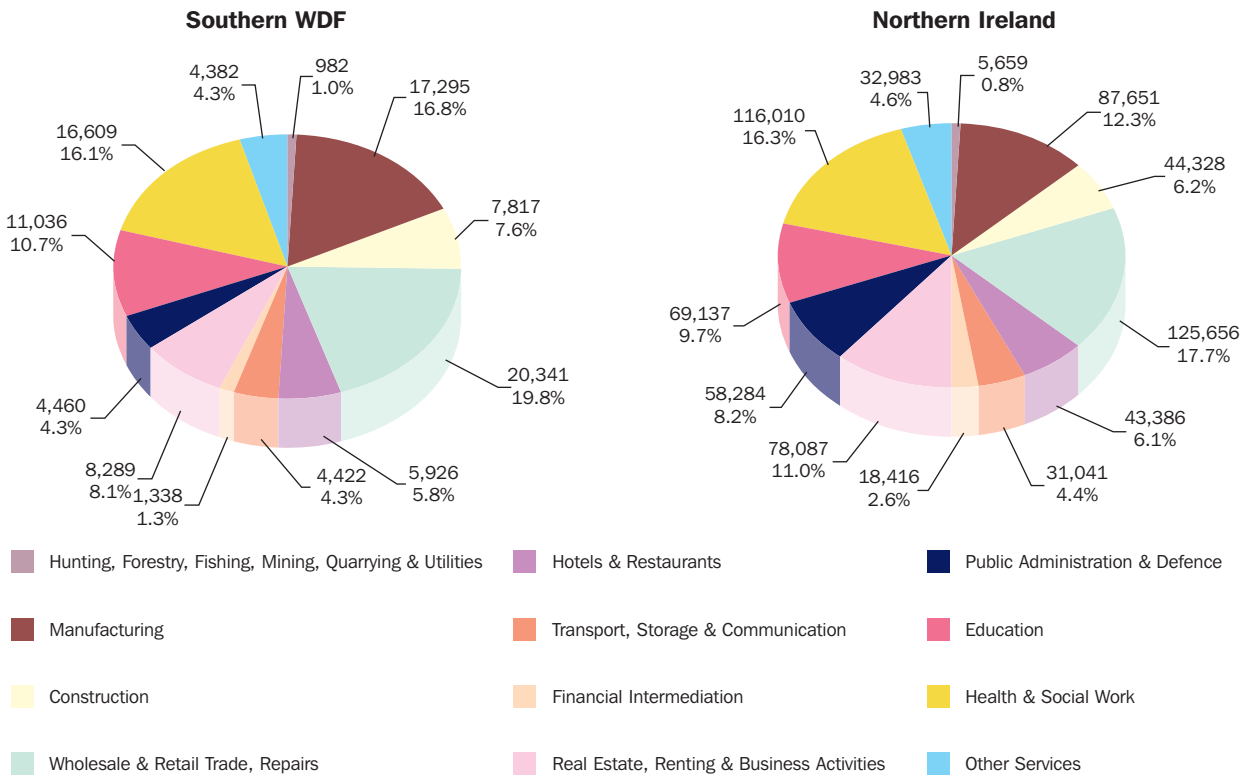
Source: Census 2001

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE

- **Figure 2** shows that almost one fifth of jobs were in Wholesale & Retail Trade, Repairs (19.8%). This was followed by 16.8% of jobs in Manufacturing.
- In 2007, Financial Intermediation accounted for only 1,338 jobs (**Figure 2**) in the Southern WDF (1.3%).

Figure 2: Employee jobs by industrial sector for the Southern WDF and Northern Ireland, 2007



Source: *Census of Employment 2007, DETI*

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

- **Table 3** shows that in the Southern WDF Hotels & Restaurants increased by 16.4% (835 jobs) between 2005 and 2007.
- **Table 3** shows that Construction increased by 11.3% whilst Wholesale & Retail Trade, Repairs have increased by 9.3%.
- Between 2005 and 2007 Public Administration & Defence decreased by 3.3% which equates to a loss of 151 jobs in the Southern WDF (**Table 3**).

Table 3: Change in Employee Jobs by industrial sector for the Southern WDF, September 2005 to September 2007

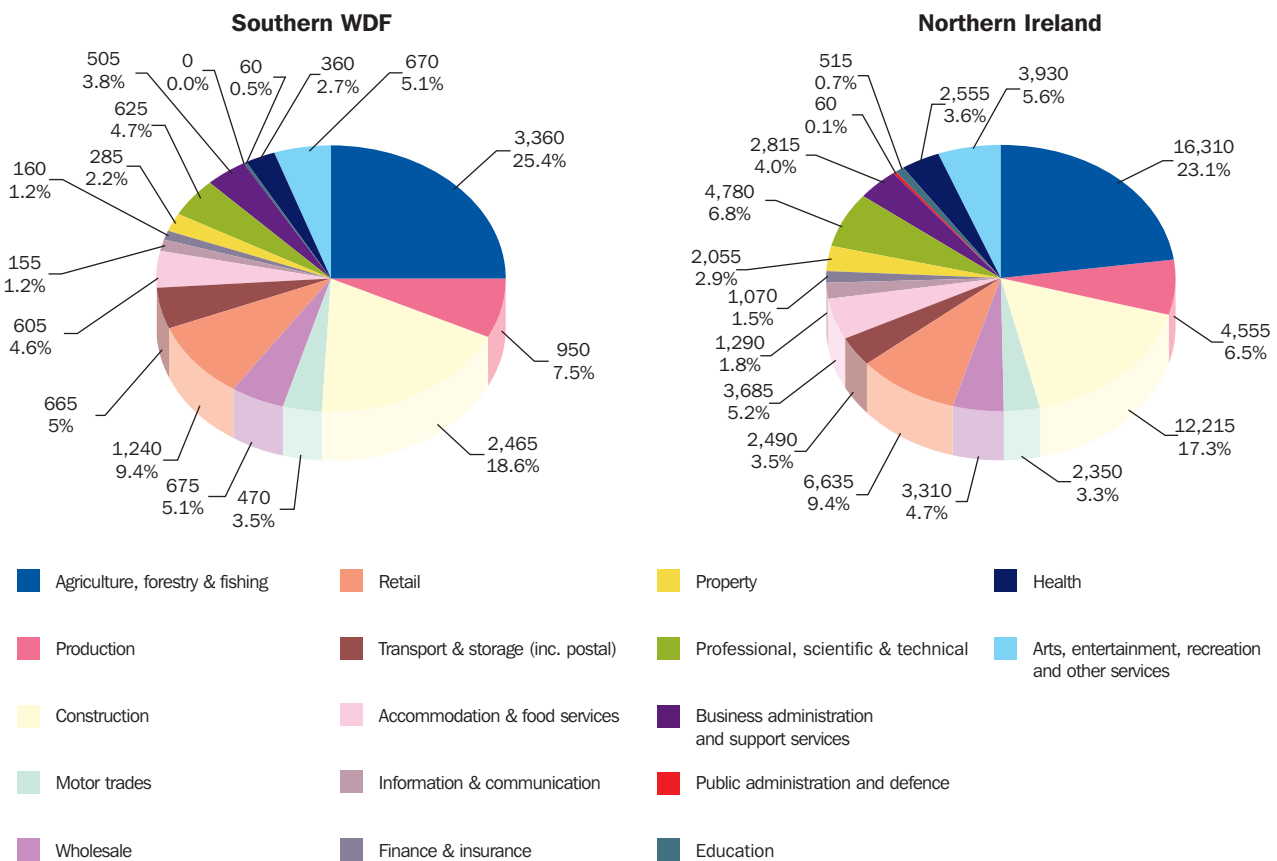
	Absolute change in the Southern WDF	% Change in the Southern WDF	% Change in Northern Ireland
Hunting, Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Quarrying & Utilities	+90	+10.1	+4.8
Manufacturing	+981	+6.0	-0.1
Construction	+792	+11.3	+15.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade, Repairs	+1,734	+9.3	+5.7
Hotels & Restaurants	+835	+16.4	+3.3
Transport, Storage & Communication	+360	+8.9	+7.7
Financial Intermediation	+72	+5.7	+2.7
Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities	+510	+6.6	+14.5
Public Administration & Defence	-151	-3.3	-2.8
Education	+86	+0.8	-4.8
Health & Social Work	+676	+4.2	+4.7
Other Services	+245	+5.9	+1.7

Source: Census of Employment 2007, DETI

VAT REGISTERED ENTERPRISES

- **Figure 3** shows that in 2009 there were a total of 13,250 VAT registered businesses in the Southern WDF. Of these almost a quarter were in Agriculture (25.4%) while just under a fifth were in Construction (18.6%).
- Between 2007 and 2008 the number of VAT registered businesses increased by 20% within the Southern WDF. This was slightly lower than for Northern Ireland as a whole (21.5%).

Figure 3: Number of VAT registered businesses by industrial sector for the Southern WDF and Northern Ireland, 2007



Source: *Inter-departmental Business Register, DETI*

Notes:

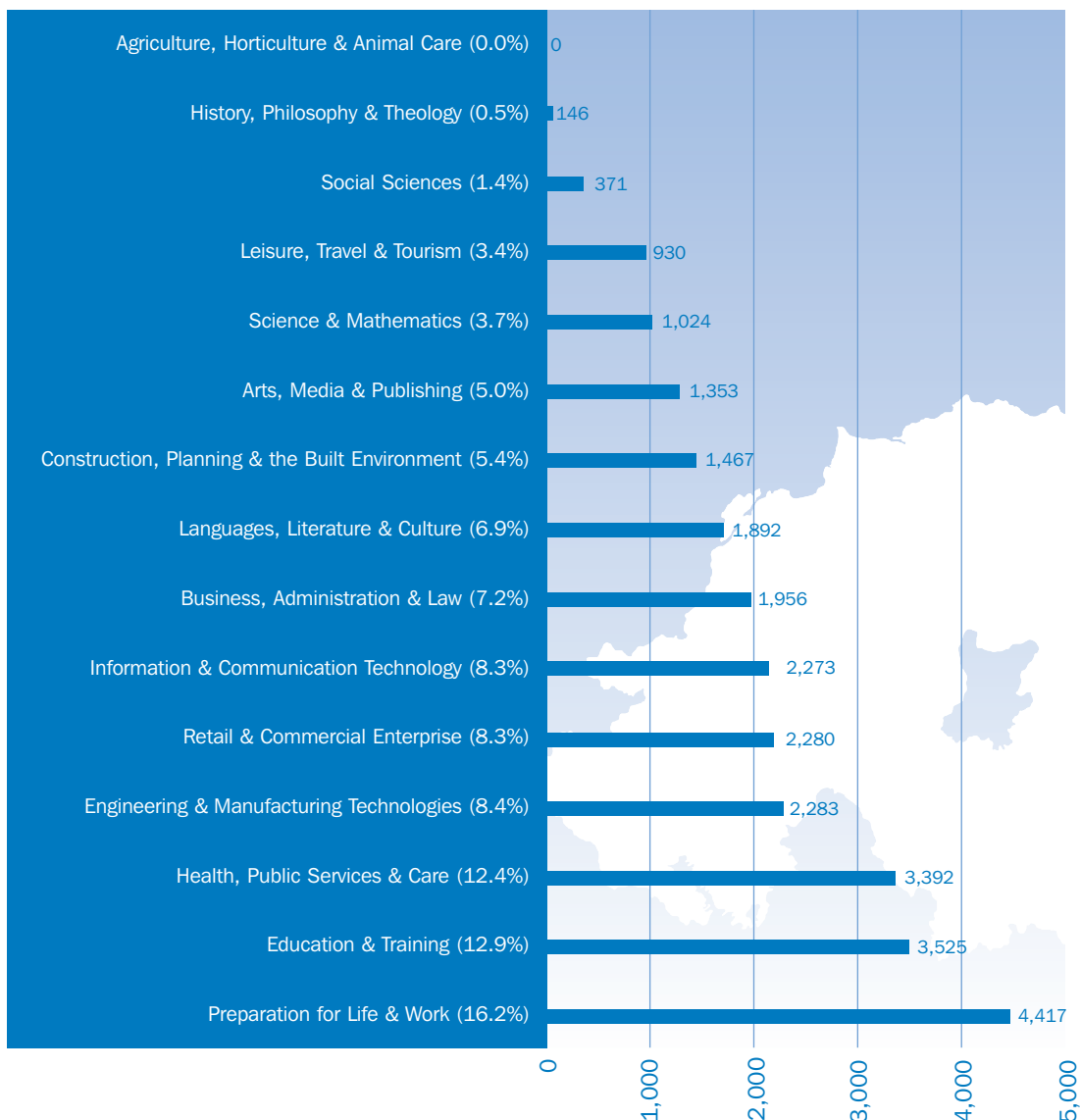
1. Figures may not sum to total and percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
2. On the Inter-departmental Business Register (IDBR), the enterprise is the statistical unit that most closely relates to a business.

Definition: "The enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units that has an organisational unit producing goods or services, which benefits from a certain degree of autonomy in decision-making, especially for the allocation of its current resources. An enterprise carries out one or more activities at one or more locations. An enterprise may be a sole legal unit."

FURTHER EDUCATION

- **Figure 4** shows that 16.2% of enrolments in 2008/09 at the Southern Regional College were in Preparation for Life & Work courses and 12.9% of enrolments were in Education & Training courses.
- Only 1.4% of enrolments were in Social Science courses while 0.5% of enrolments were in History, Philosophy & Theology. There were no enrolments in Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care courses (**Figure 4**).

Figure 4: Enrolments in Southern Regional College by subject area 2008/09



(%) = % enrolments by subject area

Total enrolments by subject area

Source: FESR

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

QUALIFICATIONS

- **Table 4** shows that in 2001, 44.1% of the Southern WDF working age population had no qualifications. This compares to 41.6% of the Northern Ireland working age population who also had no qualifications.
- In 2001, 42.4% of the Southern WDF working age population had qualification Levels 1, 2 or 3 (A-level or less). This compares to 42.6% of the Northern Ireland working age population who had the same level of qualifications (**Table 4**).
- **Table 4** shows that in 2001, 13.5% of the Southern WDF working age population had qualification Levels 4 and 5 (First degree and higher). This compares to 15.8% of the Northern Ireland working age population who had the same level of qualifications.

Table 4: Qualification levels of the working age population in the Southern WDF

		All persons	No qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Southern WDF	No	182,911	80,612	31,575	30,453	15,553	17,623	7,095
	%	100.0	44.1	17.3	16.6	8.5	9.6	3.9
Northern Ireland	%	100.0	41.6	17.2	16.4	9.0	10.9	4.9

Source: Census 2001

Notes:

1. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
2. Qualification NVQ Levels

No Qualifications: No qualifications

Level 1 : GCSE (grades D-G), CSE (grades 2-5), 1-4 CSEs (grade 1), 1-4 GCSEs (grades A-C), 1-4 'O' level passes, NVQ Level 1, GNVQ Foundation or equivalents

Level 2 : 5+ CSEs (grade 1), 5+ GCSEs (grades A-C), 5+ 'O' level passes, Senior Certificate, 1 'A' level, 1-3 AS levels, Advanced Senior Certificate, NVQ Level 2, GNVQ Intermediate or equivalents

Level 3 : 2+ 'A' levels, 4+ AS levels, NVQ Level 3, GNVQ Advanced or equivalents

Level 4 : First Degree, NVQ Level 4, HNC, HND or equivalents

Level 5 : Higher Degree, NVQ Level 5 or equivalents

MIGRANT WORKERS

There are migrants from a large number of countries living and working within the Southern WDF. These migrants come from a variety of different countries - Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine, Latvia, Bulgaria, India, France, Australia, Portugal, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Spain, South Africa, Philippines, Italy, Germany, Russia, Romania, Moldova, China, Hungary, Brazil, America, Nigeria and Serbia and Montenegro.

- The net external migration to the Southern WDF between Mid 2006 and Mid 2007 was 3,171¹.
- In 2001 there were 1,433 individuals who recorded their country of birth as being from another EU country and 2,237 recorded their country of birth as being born elsewhere (not another EU country and not Northern Ireland). These two groups equate to 1.4% of the Southern WDF¹.
- Between April 2004 and March 2009 there were 12,650 NINO registrations from migrants in the Southern WDF².
- In Northern Ireland there were 36,705 Worker Registration Scheme Registrations (WRSR) between May 2004 and March 2009. In the Southern WDF there were 8,575 WRSR and this equated to 23.4% of the Northern Ireland total³.

¹ NIHE Equality Unit

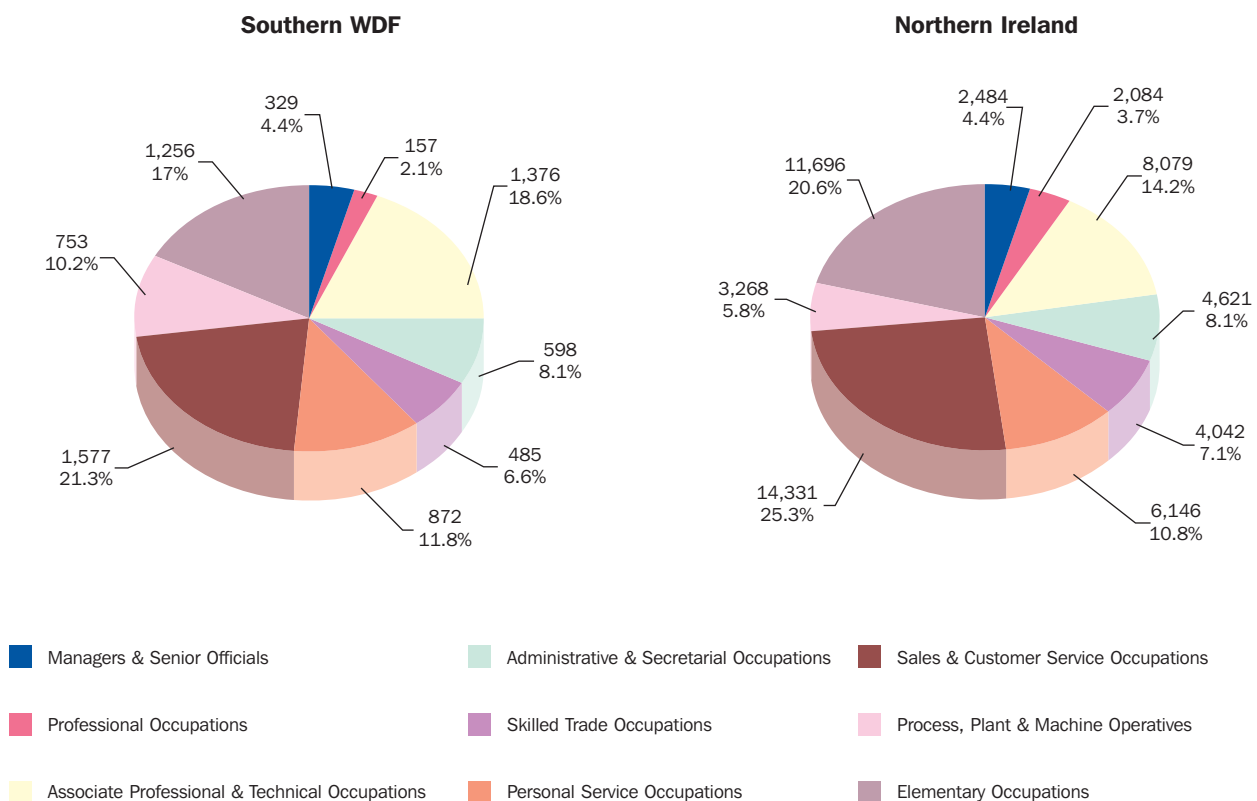
² Department for Work and Pensions

³ Home Office – Local Government

VACANCIES

- **Figure 5** shows that just over a quarter of all notified vacancies in 2009 in the Southern WDF were in Sales and Customer Service Occupations (21.3%). This was followed by 18.6% in Associate Professional & Technical Occupations.
- In 2009, the smallest number of vacancies were in Professional Occupations accounting for 2.1% of all vacancies (**Figure 5**).

Figure 5: Notified vacancies for the Southern WDF and Northern Ireland, 2009



Source: Client Management System, Department for Employment and Learning

Notes:

1. Northern Ireland vacancy figures are taken from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) and include vacancies both notified and added to during 2009. Vacancies notified are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres/Jobs & Benefits offices (JBOs) of the Department.
2. Vacancies may be subsequently cancelled or withdrawn and such amendments are not incorporated in the figures.
3. Vacancy statistics are currently under review within the Department.
4. Occupations are taken from the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) 2000.
5. Vacancies are mapped to WDF on the basis of postcode.
6. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

REDUNDANCIES

- **Table 5** shows that in 2009 there were 572 confirmed redundancies in the Southern WDF. This equates to 12.5% of the total number of redundancies in Northern Ireland in 2009.
- Over the period 2008 to 2009, the number of confirmed redundancies in the Southern WDF has decreased by 8% (**Table 5**).

Table 5: Confirmed Redundancies for the Southern Regional WDF, 2004 to 2009

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Southern WDF	87	233	249	123	623	572
Northern Ireland	2,978	2,525	3,143	1,912	2,782	4,592
Redundancies in the Southern WDF as a % of Northern Ireland total	2.9	9.2	7.9	6.4	22.4	12.5

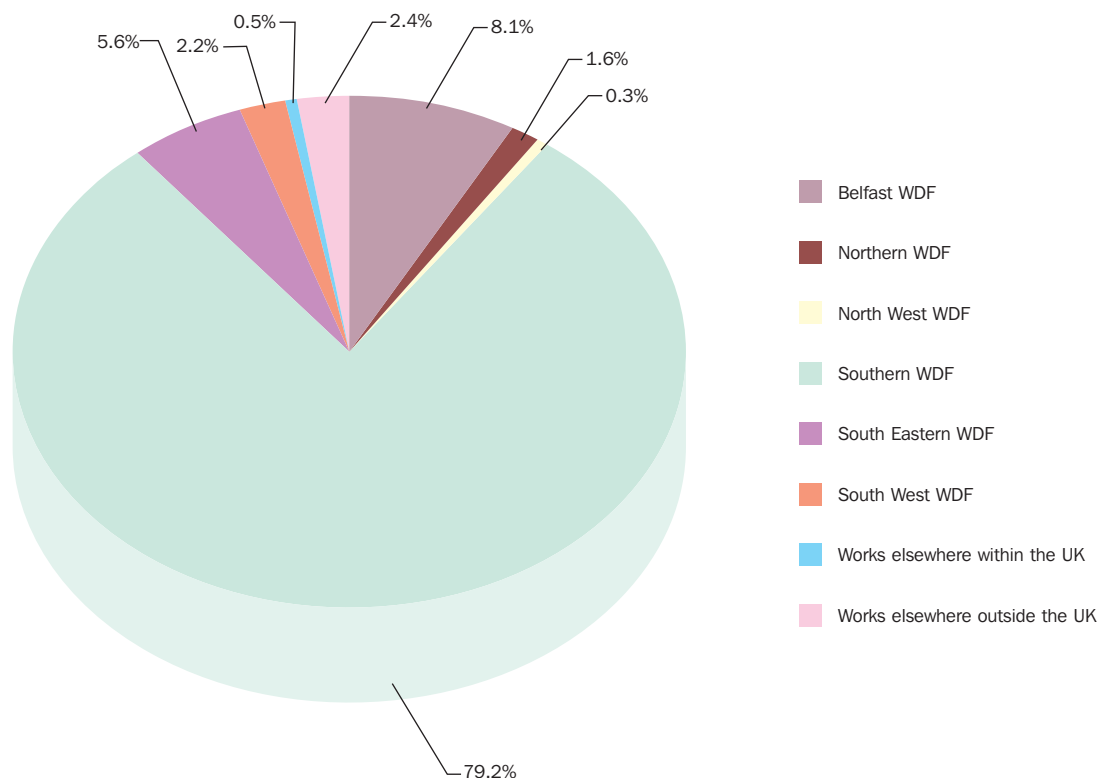
Source: *Redundancies, DETI*

Note: Under the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (Amended 8 October 2006) companies are only legally required to notify the Department of impending redundancies of 20 or more employees, hence these figures underestimate the total number of losses. The above figures represent the number of people confirmed to the Department as subsequently being made redundant.

TRAVEL TO WORK

- **Figure 6** shows that in 2001, 97.1% of the persons living in the Southern WDF who were in employment worked in Northern Ireland. 0.5% worked elsewhere within the UK and 2.4% worked elsewhere outside the UK, (2.1% in Republic of Ireland, 0.3% Other).
- In 2001, 29.0% of persons living in the Southern WDF who were in employment worked in Craigavon, whilst the figures for Newry and Mourne, Armagh and Banbridge were 24.6%, 15.9% and 9.8% respectively.
- **Figure 6** shows that 79.2% of persons living in the Southern WDF work within this WDF, whilst 17.9% of persons living in the Southern WDF work in other WDFs, 0.5% worked elsewhere within the UK and 2.4% worked elsewhere outside the UK, (2.1% in Republic of Ireland, 0.3% Other).

Figure 6: Travel to work patterns of residents from the Southern WDF



Source: Census 2001

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

TOMORROW'S ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

In 2010 DEL published reports for all of the Workforce Development Forum areas on future skill needs based on work carried out by Oxford Economics⁴. The forecasts are based on two scenarios about the NI (and hence WDF) economy: a **baseline scenario**, which details the central estimates assuming no step change to the economy; and an **aspirational scenario**, based on NI achieving the productivity targets laid out in the Executive's Programme for Government⁵.

Like all forecasts, the data shown below represent the central estimates at the time the analysis was carried out (Summer 2009) and will be subject to a margin of uncertainty.

The results for the Southern WDF area are contained in **Table 6**.

Table 6: Sectoral Employment Forecasts to 2020

	WDF Change (000s)			
	1998-2008	2008-2010	2010-2020 baseline	2010-2020 aspirational
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	-2.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.2
Mining & quarrying	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Manufacturing	-2.6	-1.8	-2.0	-1.5
Utilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	5.3	-2.4	2.1	2.6
Retail & distribution	8.7	-0.3	2.4	2.9
Hotels & restaurants	2.0	-0.3	1.2	1.8
Transport & communications	1.2	-0.4	0.8	1.3
Financial services	0.2	-0.1	0.3	0.5
Business services	6.3	-0.9	3.9	5.5
Public administration & defence	-0.6	-0.1	0.1	0.1
Land forces	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Education	2.0	0.2	1.2	1.2
Health & social work	5.0	0.5	2.7	2.7
Other personal services	1.5	-0.1	0.8	1.1
Government training schemes	-1.5	0.0	0.1	0.1
Total employment (job-based)	25.4	-5.8	13.4	18.6
Total employment (jobs per annum)	2.5	-2.9	1.3	1.9
Total employment (people-based)	21.6	-5.6	10.5	15.1

Source: Oxford Economics

Note: People-based excludes Government training schemes

KEY POINTS:

- **The Downturn:** The Southern economy's recent period of strong growth is forecast to have come to an abrupt end during the recession. Oxford Economics's central outlook for the Southern WDF economy is for **5,800 job losses between 2008 and 2010** (mid-year figures, job not people based), equivalent to 5% of total jobs. Losses are forecast across a number of sectors, although almost three quarters are expected to occur in construction and manufacturing alone.

⁴ Oxford Economics (2010) Workforce Future Skill Needs Analysis: Southern Workforce Development Forum Report www.delni.gov.uk/southern_workforce_analysis_final_report_feb_2010.pdf. These reports are based in Oxford Economics's NI Policy Simulation model and forecasts were produced in the summer of 2009. It should be noted that all forecasts are workplace-based, not residence based – it thus takes no account of commuting patterns

⁵ Available at www.pfgbudgetni.gov.uk/finalpfg.pdf

- **Baseline Scenario:** Looking beyond the recession, the central prediction is for **net job growth of 1,300 per annum** (pa), which is considerably below growth registered in the previous decade. However, the rate of job creation in the Southern economy over the last 10 years was exceptionally high – a return to these levels is not anticipated in the short to medium term.
- **Future sectoral growth in the Southern economy is predicted to be driven by business services and health** (provided health spending is ‘ring-fenced’ from the pending squeeze in public finances). Relative to the NI average employment structure, the Southern workplace economy is less heavily represented in, amongst other sectors, business services and to a lesser degree, health. Note the expansion in construction and retail partly reflect ‘bounce back’ after losses during recession. However, it is estimated that it will be after 2020 before construction employment returns to its peak of the housing boom years on the baseline scenario.
- **Aspirational Scenario** – This suggests that the Southern WDF area could grow by around 1,800 jobs per annum (around 15,000 over the period to 2020). Given the nature of the scenario and the sectoral pattern of employment uplift, a high proportion of the additional scenario jobs (hi-tech manufacturing and ‘potential’ service exporting sectors) will be ‘urban-friendly’.

USEFUL SOURCES OF LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION

Expert Group on Future Skills Needs – Republic of Ireland

www.skillsireland.ie

DETI – Northern Ireland District Council Briefing, Redundancies, Census of Employment, Labour Force Survey, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index.htm

UK Labour Market Trends

www.statistics.gov.uk/about/platforms/lmt

Office for National Statistics

www.statistics.gov.uk/default.asp

Careers Service Northern Ireland

www.careersserviceni.com

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- Some of the information in the Labour Market Profile is taken from sample surveys and so results are subject to sampling error. The nature of sampling variability is that the smaller the group whose size is being estimated the (proportionately) less precise that estimate is.
- Figures for people in employment include those aged 16 and over, who have completed at least one hours paid work in the reference week (either employed or self-employed).
- Figures for employee jobs do not include those who are self-employed.

people:skills:jobs:



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