



Labour Market Profile

South West Workforce Development Forum

KEY FIGURES

- **Table 1** shows the working age employment rate in the South West WDF was 62.6%, 3.2 percentage points lower than Northern Ireland as a whole.
- The working age economic activity rate (**Table 1**) in the South West WDF was 66.7%, 4.2 percentage points lower than Northern Ireland as a whole.
- **Table 1** shows the working age economic inactivity rate in the South West WDF was 33.3%, 4.2 percentage points higher than Northern Ireland as a whole.
- **Table 2** shows the claimant count rate for 2011 in the South West WDF was 4.6%, 0.5 percentage points lower than Northern Ireland as a whole (5.1%).

Table 1. Economic activity, inactivity and employment of the working age population for the South West WDF, 2010

	South West WDF		Northern Ireland
	Number	%	%
Employment	86,000	62.6	65.8
Economic Activity	92,000	66.7	70.9
Economic Inactivity	46,000	33.3	29.1

Source: Labour Force Survey Local Area Database 2010, DFP

Work Age=16-64

As the LFS is a sample survey, all data is subject to sampling error

Table 2. Claimant count as a proportion of the resident working age population for the South West WDF, 2011

	South West WDF		Northern Ireland
	Number	%	%
Claimant Count	6,311	4.6	5.1

Source: Claimant Count, DFP

OVERVIEW OF THE WORKFORCE IN THE SOUTH WEST WDF

This report provides a labour market profile for the South West WDF in Northern Ireland. Similar profiles have been developed for the five remaining WDFs as well as an overall report for Northern Ireland. South West WDF comprises Fermanagh District Council, Omagh District Council, Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council and Cookstown District Council. The content is based on official information sources.

POPULATION

- The population of the South West WDF in 2010 was 210,345, with 50.2% being males (105,608) and 49.8% being females (104,737).
- Between 2000 and 2010 the population of the South West WDF increased by 25,712 (13.9%).
- The working age population in the South West WDF was 130,807 in 2010.
- The working age population increased by 20,417 (18.5%) between 2000 and 2010.
- The number of young people in the South West WDF (aged 16-24) increased by 2,883 between 2000 and 2010. This is an increase of 12.3%.
- The number of 25-49 year olds in the South West WDF increased by 11,047 between 2000 and 2010. This is an increase of 17.3%.
- The number of people aged 50-59/64 increased by 6,487 between 2000 and 2010. This is an increase of 27.9%.

WORKFORCE EMPLOYMENT

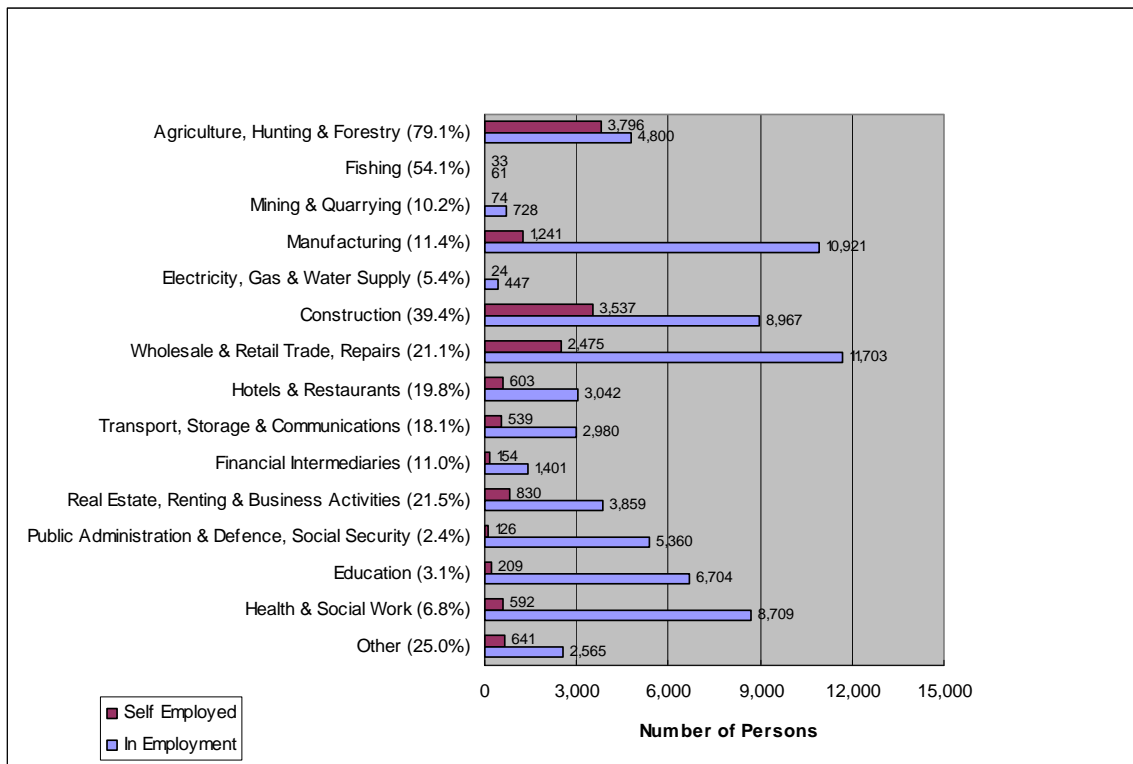
There were 73,307 employee jobs in the South West WDF in 2009. This represented a decrease of 2,996 (4.1%) since 2007.

- Females made up 52.2% of all employees in the South West WDF in 2009. The number of female jobs increased by 0.7% between 2007 and 2009. Male employment in the South West WDF decreased by 8.8% in the same period.
- Nearly two thirds (65.4%) of jobs were full-time in 2009. Full-time jobs decreased by 8.6% between 2007 and 2009 and part-time jobs increased by 5.9%.

SELF EMPLOYED

- **Figure 1** shows that in 2001, 79.1% of those persons aged between 16 and 74 in Agriculture, Hunting & Forestry in the South West WDF were self-employed.
- 54.1% of persons in Fishing in the South West WDF were self-employed, as were 39.4% of persons in Construction (**Figure 1**).
- **Figure 1** shows that 3.1% of persons aged between 16 and 74 in Education in the South West WDF were self-employed as were 2.4% 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 South West WDF



(%) = % Self Employed

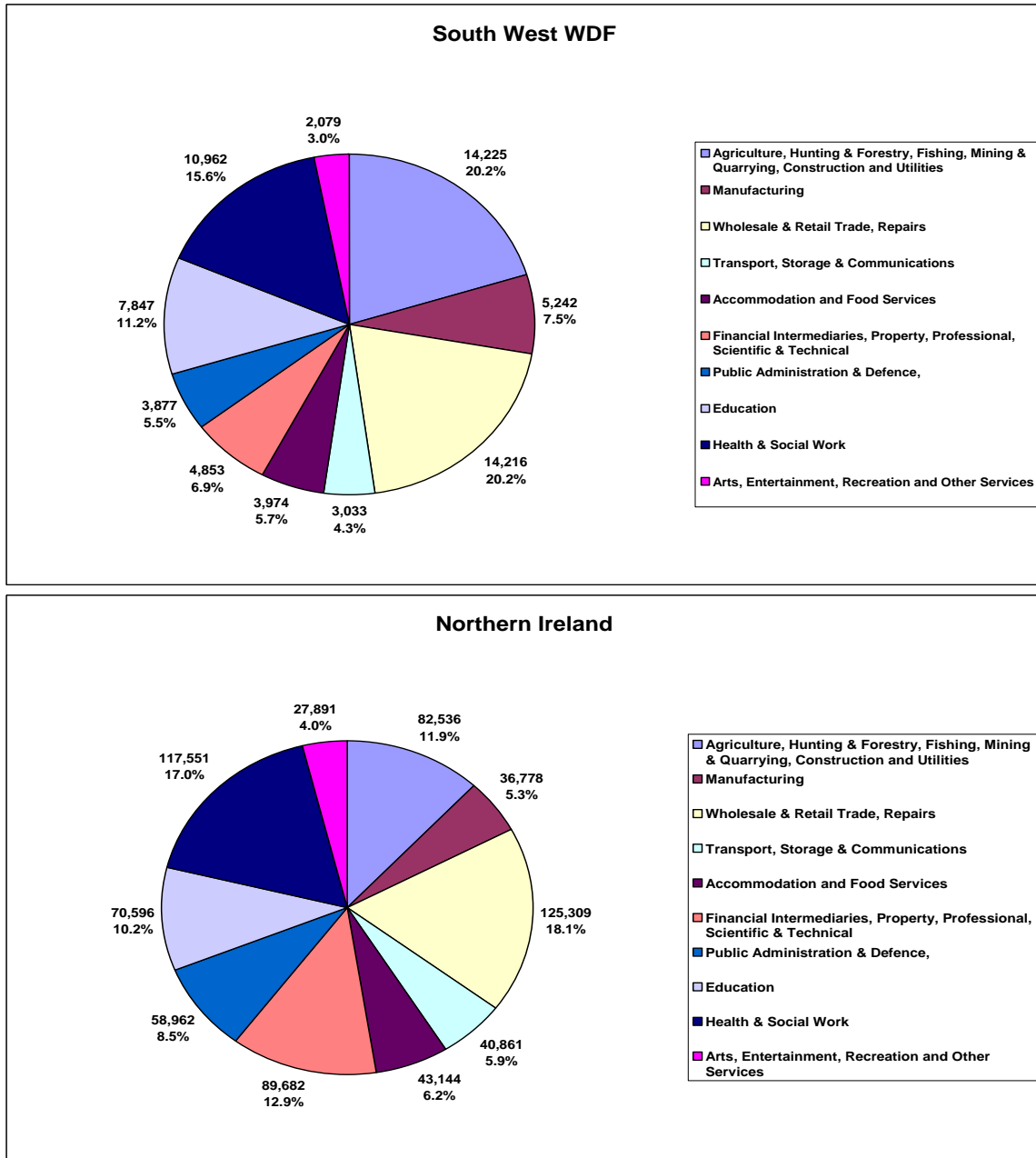
Source: Census 2001

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

INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE

- **Figure 2** shows that one fifth of jobs in the South West WDF were in Agriculture, Hunting & Forestry, Fishing, Mining & Quarrying, Construction and Utilities (20.2%), the same as for Wholesale & Retail Trade, Repairs. This was followed by 15.6% of jobs in Health & Social Work.
- In 2009, Arts, Entertainment, Recreations and Other Services accounted for only 2,079 jobs (**Figure 2**) in the South West WDF (3%).

Figure 2. Employee jobs by industrial sector for the South West WDF and Northern Ireland, 2009



Source: Census of Employment 2009, DFP

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

Table 3 shows:

- In the South West WDF there was a decline in Employee Jobs of -4.3% (2,996), higher than Northern Ireland as a whole (-2.5%).
- That Manufacturing decreased by 31.6% (1,659 jobs) between 2007 and 2009, followed by Financial Intermediaries, Property, Professional, Scientific & Technical which decreased by 18.2%.
- Between 2007 and 2009 Public Administration & Defence increased by 8% which equates to a gain of 312 jobs in the South West WDF.
- Arts, Entertainment, Recreation and Other Services increased by 107 jobs (5.1%) between 2007 and 2009.

Table 3. Change in Employee Jobs by industrial sector for the South West WDF, September 2007 to September 2009

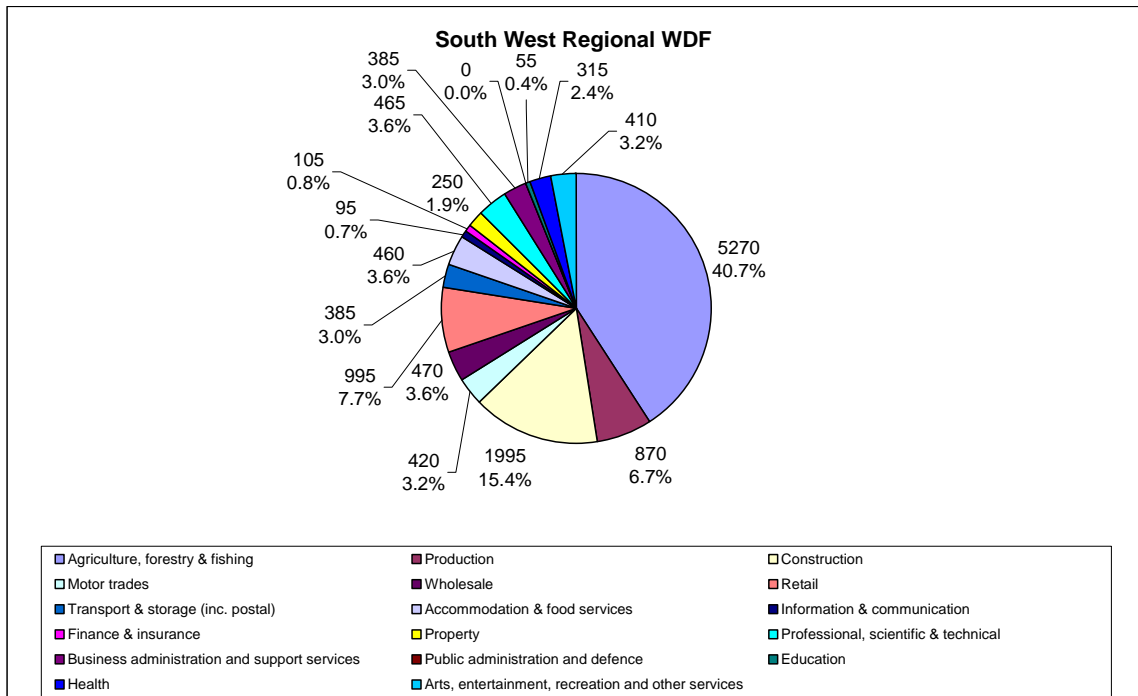
	Absolute change in the South West WDF	% Change in the South West WDF	% Change in Northern Ireland
Agriculture, Hunting & Forestry, Fishing, Mining & Quarrying, Construction and Utilities	-1,721	-12.1	-13.8
Manufacturing	-1,659	-31.6	-23.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade, Repairs	+584	+4.1	-0.1
Transport, Storage & Communications	-66	-2.2	-3.0
Accommodation and Food Services	-68	-1.7	-0.6
Financial Intermediaries, Property, Professional, Scientific & Technical	-882	-18.2	-1.7
Public Administration & Defence	+312	+8.0	+1.2
Education	+79	+1.0	+2.0
Health & Social Work	+319	+2.9	+2.6
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation and Other Services	+107	+5.1	+2.0

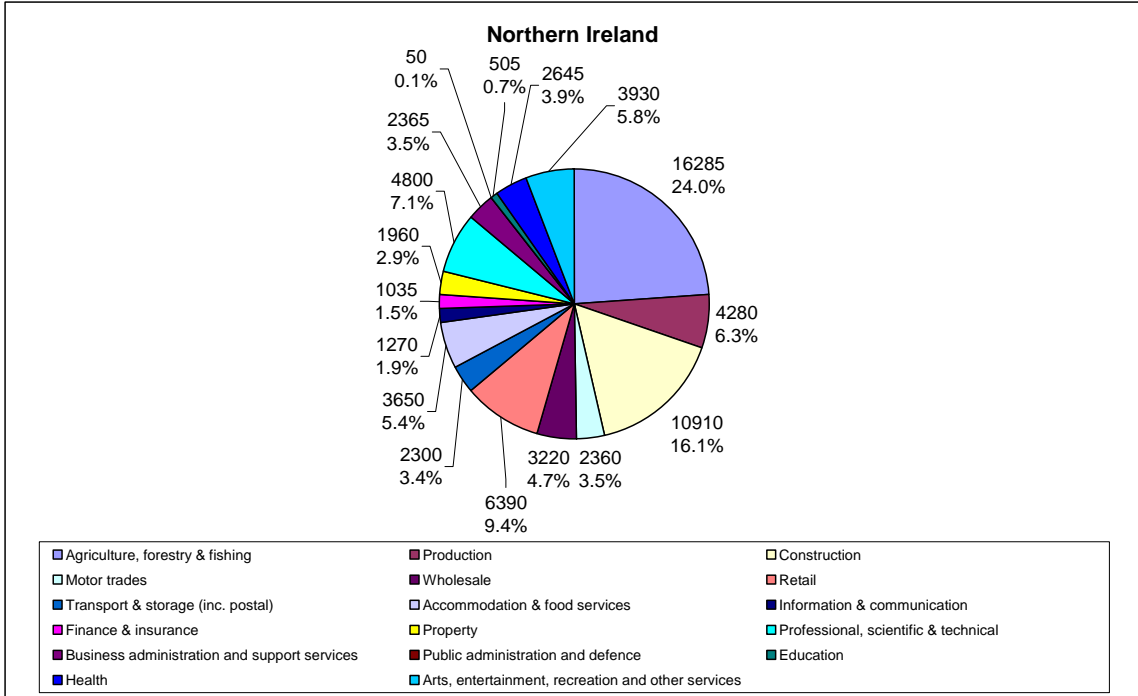
Source: Census of Employment 2009, DETI

VAT REGISTERED ENTERPRISES

- **Figure 3** shows that in 2011 there were a total of 12,945 VAT registered businesses in the South West WDF. Of these 40.7% were in Agriculture followed by 15.4% in Construction.
- Between 2010 and 2011, the number of VAT registered businesses decreased by 0.03% in the South West WDF. This was much lower than for Northern Ireland as a whole (0.8%).

Figure 3. Number of VAT registered businesses by industrial sector for the South West WDF and Northern Ireland, 2011





Source: UK Business: Activity, Size and Location 2011

Notes:

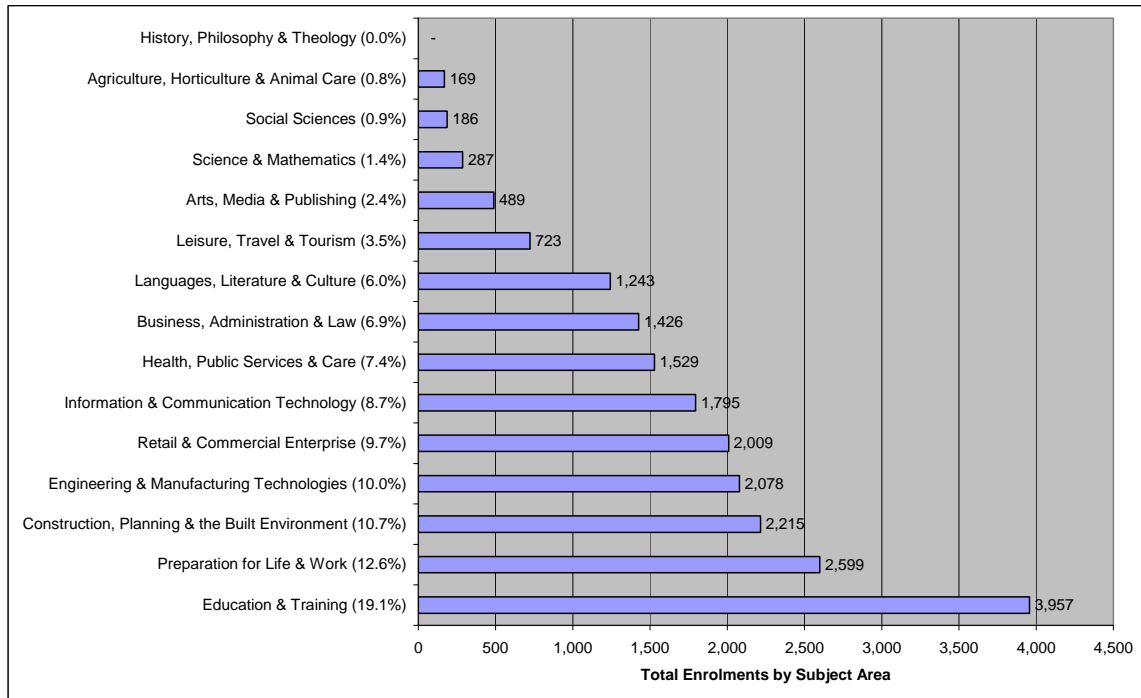
1. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 5 and thus may not add to totals
2. Analysis now includes VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses instead of just VAT registered businesses as in the past.
3. For further information please visit: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/bus-register/uk-business/2011/index.html>

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 19.1 % of enrolments in 2010/11 at South West College were in Education and Training courses. This was followed by 12.6% of enrolments in Preparation for Life & Work courses.
- 0.9% of enrolments were in Social Sciences courses and 0.8% of enrolments were in Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care courses. There were no enrolments on History, Philosophy & Theology courses (**Figure 4**).

Figure 4. Enrolments in South West College by subject area, 2010/2011



(%) = % enrolments by subject area

Source: FESR

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

QUALIFICATIONS

- **Table 4** shows that in 2001, 45.0% of the South West 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, 41.6% of the South West 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** also shows that in 2001, 13.4% of the South West 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 South West WDF

		All persons	No qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
South West WDF	No.	128,199	57,676	22,108	21,588	9,664	12,300	4,863
	%	100.0	45.0	17.2	16.8	7.5	9.6	3.8
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

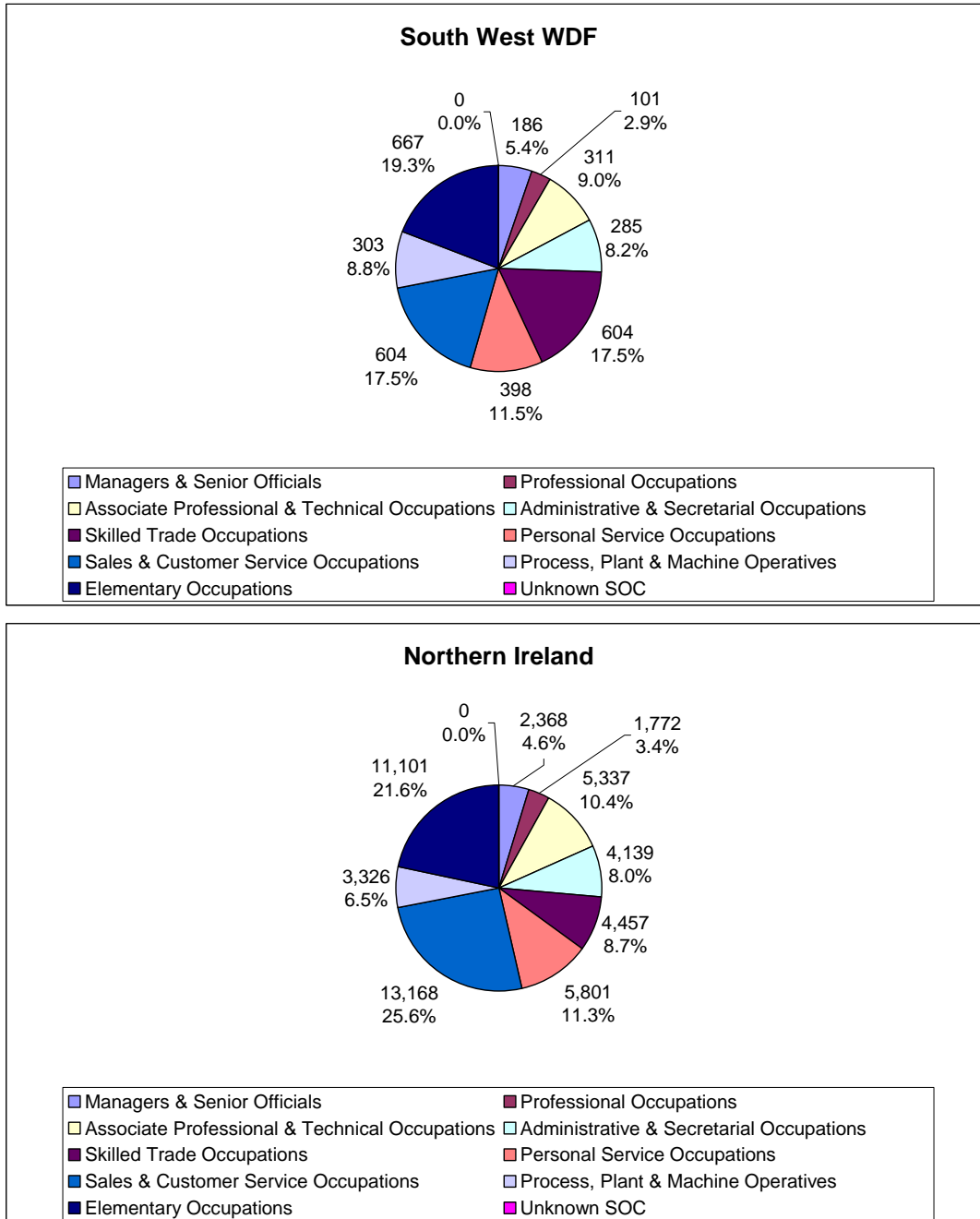
Level 4: First Degree, NVQ Level 4, HNC, HND or equivalents

Level 5: Higher Degree, NVQ Level 5 or equivalents

VACANCIES

- **Figure 5** shows that just under a fifth of all notified vacancies in 2010 in the South West WDF were in Elementary Occupations (19.3%). This was followed by Sales & Customer Service Occupations and Skilled Trade Occupations (17.5%).
- In 2010, the smallest number of vacancies were in Professional Occupations accounting for 2.9% of all vacancies (**Figure 5**).

Figure 5. Notified vacancies for the South West WDF and Northern Ireland, 2010



Source: Client Management System, Department for Employment and Learning

Notes:

- (1) All statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) on 3rd June 2011
- (2) Vacancies notified are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / Jobs and Benefits Offices of the Department for Employment and Learning.
- (3) Workforce Development Forum (WDF) areas are assigned to vacancies based on the postcode of the employers account. When a valid employer's account postcode is not available, the postcode of the vacancy is used. When both employer and vacancy postcode are incorrect/incomplete/outside of Northern Ireland, the WDF of the vacancy is recorded as unknown.
- (4) Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
- (5) Occupations are taken from the Standard Occupational Classification 2000.

REDUNDANCIES

- **Table 5** shows that in 2011 there were 119 confirmed redundancies in the South West WDF. This equates to 6.6% of the total number of redundancies in Northern Ireland in 2011.
- Over the period 2010 to 2011, the number of confirmed redundancies in the South West WDF increased by 35.2% (**Table 5**).

Table 5. Confirmed Redundancies for the South West WDF, 2006 to 2011

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
South West WDF	194	23	192	341	88	119
Northern Ireland	3143	1912	2782	4596	2096	1804
Redundancies in the South West WDF as a % of Northern Ireland total	6.2	1.2	6.9	7.4	4.2	6.6

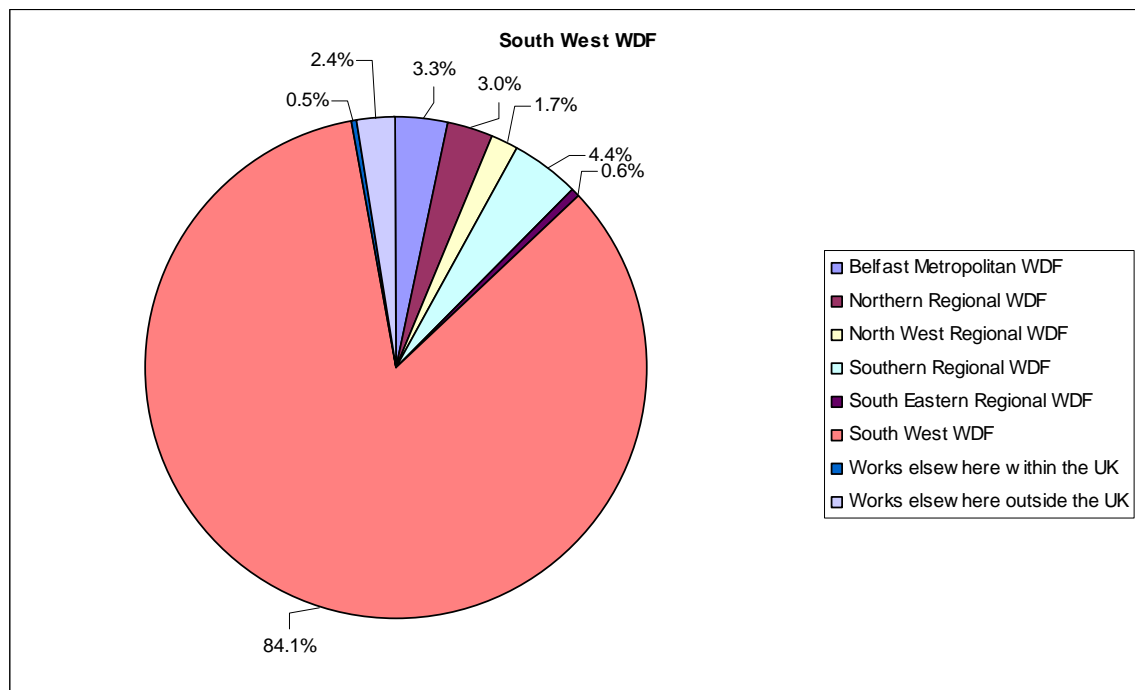
Source: Redundancies, DFP

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 South West WDF who were in employment worked in Northern Ireland. 0.5% worked elsewhere within the UK and 2.4% worked elsewhere outside the UK, (2.3% in Republic of Ireland, 0.1% Other).
- In 2001, 28.0% of persons living in the South West WDF who were in employment worked in Fermanagh, whilst the figures for Omagh, Dungannon & South Tyrone and Cookstown were 22.6%, 21.2% and 12.2% respectively.
- **Figure 6** shows that 84.1% of persons living in the South West WDF work within this WDF, whilst 13.0% of persons living in the South West WDF work in other WDFs, 0.5% worked elsewhere within the UK and 2.4% worked elsewhere outside the UK, (2.3% in Republic of Ireland, 0.1% Other).

Figure 6. Travel to work patterns of residents from the South West 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 Economics¹. 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 Government².

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 South West 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	-2.9	-0.2	-0.1	0.3
Mining & quarrying	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Manufacturing	2.9	-2.0	-0.8	-0.3
Utilities	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	7.0	-2.0	1.4	1.8
Retail & distribution	7.2	-0.3	0.8	1.2
Hotels & restaurants	1.0	-0.2	0.6	1.0
Transport & communications	1.0	-0.3	0.4	0.7
Financial services	0.9	-0.2	0.1	0.3
Business services	3.2	-0.3	1.7	2.5
Public administration & defence	-0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Land forces	-0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Education	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.6
Health & social work	0.9	0.2	1.3	1.3
Other personal services	0.8	-0.1	0.4	0.6
Total employment (job-based)	20.6	-5.3	6.2	9.8
Total employment (jobs per annum)	2.1	-2.7	0.6	1.0
Total employment (people-based)	18.8	-5.0	4.9	8.0

Source: Oxford Economics

Note: People-based excludes Government training schemes

¹ Oxford Economics (2010) Workforce Future Skill Needs Analysis: South West Workforce Development Forum Report www.delni.gov.uk/south_west_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

² Available at www.pfgbudgetni.gov.uk/finalpfg.pdf

Key Points:

- **The Downturn:** The South West 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 South West economy is for just over **5,000 net job losses between 2008 and 2010** (mid-year figures), equivalent to 6% of total jobs. Losses are forecast across a number of sectors, but almost four-fifths of net job losses are to occur in manufacturing and construction.
- **Baseline Scenario:** Looking beyond the recession, the central prediction is for **net job growth of 600 per annum** (pa), although employment will not return to its 2008 levels until 2020 or 2021. This is the longest recovery period of any of the WDFs and reflects the sector structure of the economy and sector growth opportunities.
- **Future sectoral growth is predicted to be driven by exporting service sectors** – particularly business services which is forecast to create 1,700 net jobs between 2010 and 2020 on the baseline scenario. The health and social work sector is forecast to create 1,300 net jobs over the same period, although this is dependant upon health spending being 'ring-fenced' from the pending squeeze in public finances. There will also be some 'bounce back' employment growth in construction.
- **Aspirational Scenario** – This suggests that the South West WDF area could grow by 1,000 jobs per annum (around 8,000 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/cgi-bin/gethome

UK Labour Market Trends

www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=550&More=N

Office for National Statistics

www.statistics.gov.uk/default.asp

Careers Service Northern Ireland

<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/careers>

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.