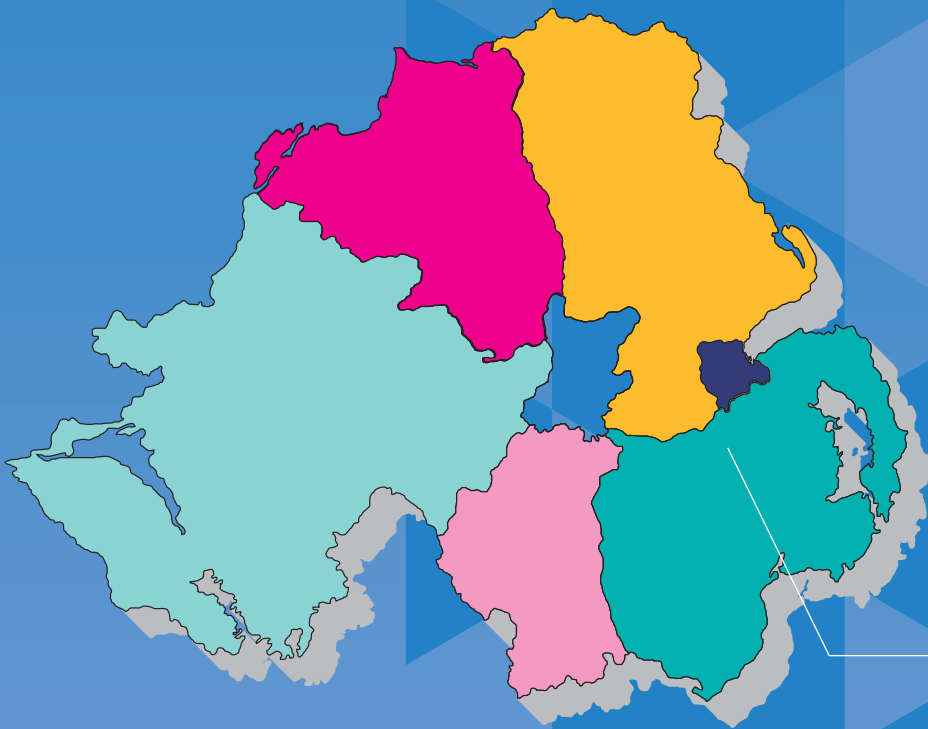




Labour Market Profile



Northern
Ireland

KEY FIGURES

- The highest working age employment rate of 74.2% was in Northern Regional WDF and the lowest working age employment rate of 59.7% was in North West Regional WDF. The working age employment rate for Northern Ireland was 68.7% (Table 1).
- The highest working age economic activity rate of 77.4% was in Northern Regional WDF and the lowest working age economic activity rate of 65.4% was in North West Regional WDF. The working age economic activity rate for Northern Ireland was 72.3% (Table 1).
- The highest working age economic inactivity rate of 34.9% was in North West Regional WDF and the lowest working age economic inactivity rate of 23.5% was in Northern Regional WDF. The working age economic inactivity rate for Northern Ireland was 27.7% (Table 1).
- The highest claimant count rate of 4.3% was in North West Regional WDF and the lowest claimant count rate of 2.0% was in Northern Regional WDF and South Eastern Regional WDF. The claimant count rate for Northern Ireland was 2.5% (Table 1).

Table 1: Economic activity, inactivity and employment as at 2006 and claimant count as a proportion of the resident working age population as at July 2008 by WDF and Northern Ireland level

	Employment	Economic Activity	Economic Inactivity	Claimant count
Belfast Metropolitan WDF	69.4%	73.7%	28.1%	3.7%
South Eastern Regional WDF	70.7%	73.9%	26.1%	2.0%
Northern Regional WDF	74.2%	77.4%	23.5%	2.0%
North West Regional WDF	59.7%	65.4%	34.9%	4.3%
Southern Regional WDF	69.1%	72.6%	27.5%	2.2%
South West WDF	64.5%	66.7%	34.7%	2.2%
NI	725,000 68.7%	763,000 72.3%	293,000 27.7%	27,400 2.5%

Source: Northern Ireland District Council Briefing, DETI

OVERVIEW OF THE WORKFORCE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

This report provides a labour market profile for Northern Ireland and comprises information both for Northern Ireland as a whole and by WDF's where appropriate. The WDF's will be the geographical breakdowns by which statistics are produced in the future. The content is based on official information sources.

POPULATION

- The population of Northern Ireland in 2007 was 1,759,148 with 49% being males (862,000) and 51% being females (897,148).
- Between 1997 and 2007 the population of Northern Ireland has increased by 87,887 (5.3%).
- The working age population in Northern Ireland was 1,089,389 in 2007.
- The working age population has increased by 86,500 (8.6%) between 1997 and 2007.
- The number of young people in Northern Ireland (aged 16-24) increased by 18,748 between 1997 and 2007. This is an increase of 8.7%.
- The number of 25-49 year olds in Northern Ireland increased by 28,495 between 1997 and 2007. This is an increase of 4.9%.
- The number of people aged 50-59/64 increased by 39,257 between 1997 and 2007. This is an increase of 19.1%.

WORKFORCE EMPLOYMENT

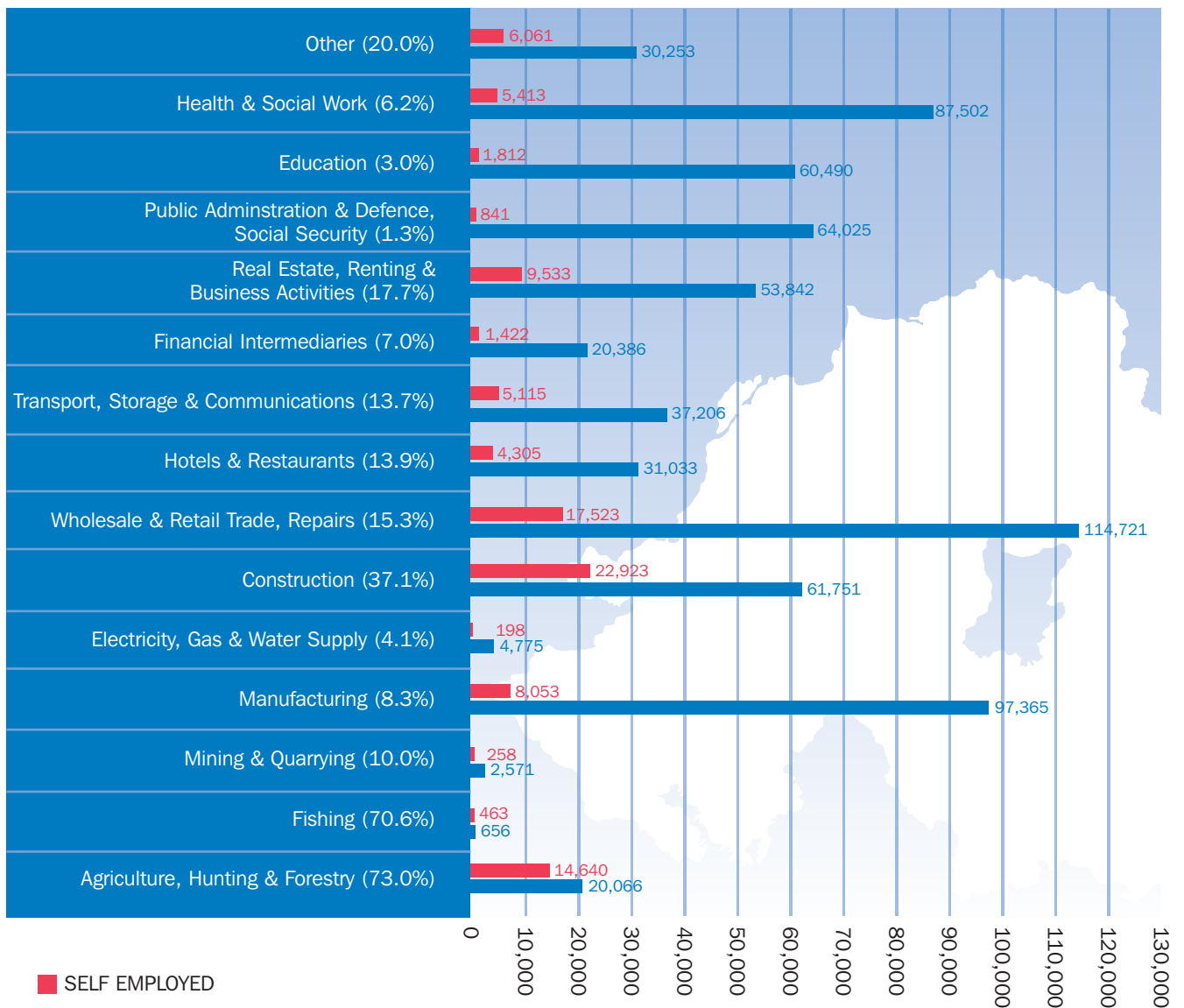
There were 683,054 employee jobs in Northern Ireland in 2005. This represented an increase of 24,209 (3.7%) since 2003.

- Females made up 52.3% of all employees in Northern Ireland in 2005. The number of female jobs increased by 4.0% between 2003 and 2005. Male employment in Northern Ireland increased by 3.3% in the same period.
- Almost two thirds (66.8%) of jobs were full-time in 2005. Full-time jobs increased by 3.5% between 2003 and 2005, but part-time jobs increased by 4.0%

SELF EMPLOYED INFORMATION

- There were significant differences between the percentages of persons aged 16 to 74 who were self employed in the week before the Census 2001 by industry and by WDF (Figure 1).
- In 2001, 73.0% of those persons aged 16 to 74 in the Agriculture, hunting and forestry Industry in Northern Ireland were self-employed (Figure 1).
- 70.6% of persons in the Fishing Industry in Northern Ireland were self-employed (Figure 1).

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



(%) = % Self Employed

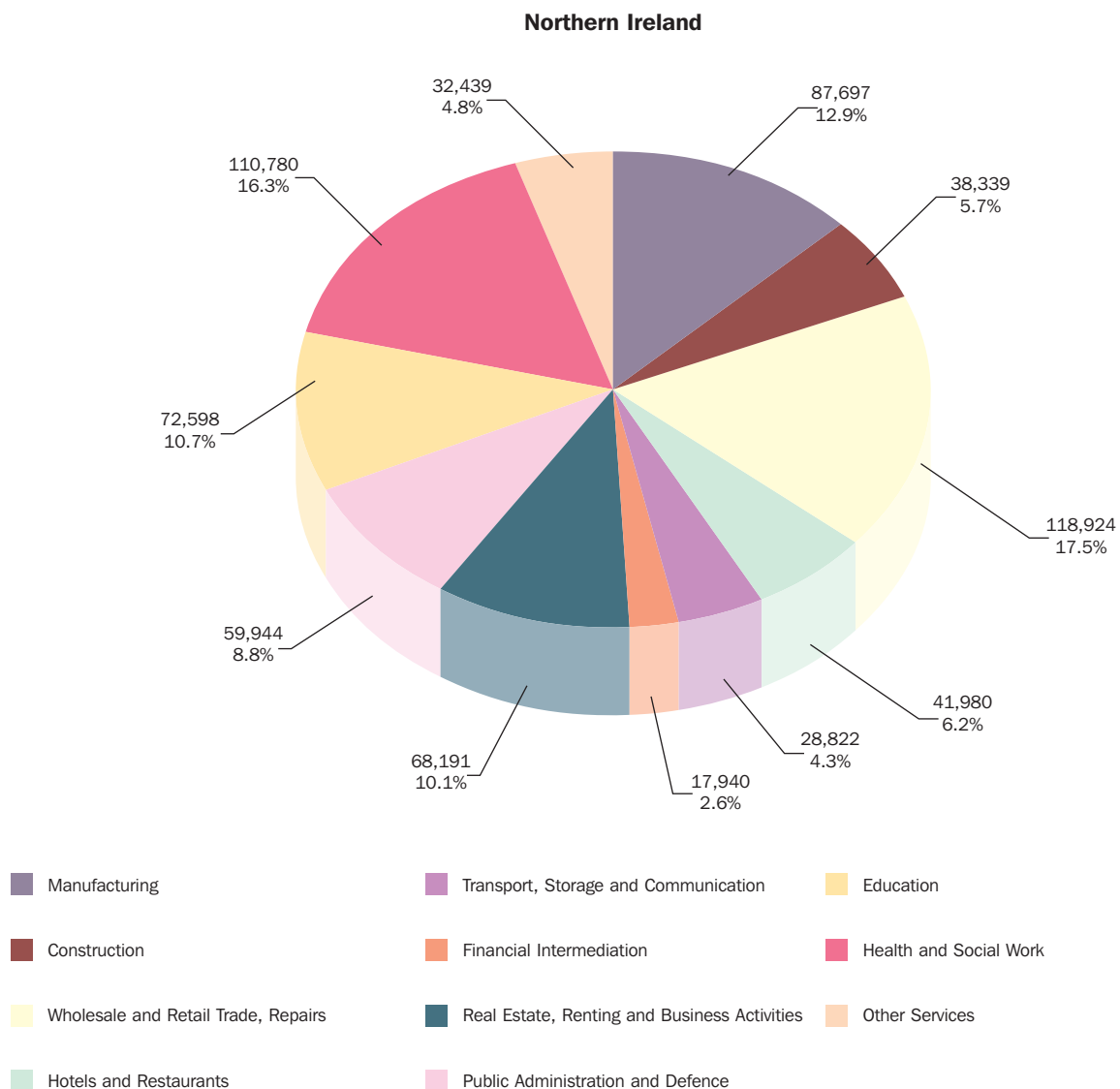
Source: Census 2001

INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE

There are significant differences between the percentages of employee jobs by industry and by WDF.

- 17.5% of jobs (Figure 2) were in Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair Industries, 16.3% in Health and Social Work Industries and 12.9% in Manufacturing Industries.
- Financial Intermediaries Industries account for 17,940 jobs (Figure 2) in Northern Ireland in 2005 (2.6%).

Figure 2: Employee Jobs in 2005 by Section for Northern Ireland



Source: **Census of Employment 2005, DETI**

There are significant differences between the percentage changes in employee jobs by industry and by WDF.

- Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities Industries in Northern Ireland have increased by 17.7% (10,266) between 2003 and 2005 (Table 2).
- Table 2 shows that the Construction Industries increased by 6.5%, Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair Industries increased by 5.9% whilst Health and Social Work Industries have increased by 5.1% in this period.
- Public Administration and Defence, Social Security Industries have decreased by 5.6% which equates to 3,566 jobs in Northern Ireland between 2003 and 2005 (Table 2).
- Table 2 shows that the Manufacturing Industries have decreased by 4,187 jobs which equates to a loss of 4.6% of jobs between 2003 and 2005.

Table 2: Percentage change in employee jobs section and by WDF and Northern Ireland level September 2003 to September 2005

	Belfast Metro-Politan WDF	South Eastern Regional WDF	Northern Regional WDF	North West Regional WDF	Southern Regional WDF	South West WDF	Northern Ireland	
Manufacturing	-13.6%	-7.9%	-0.7%	-20.9%	+1.3%	+8.6%	-4,187	-4.6%
Construction	-0.4%	+5.6%	+5.8%	+4.0%	+9.9%	+15.1%	2,329	+6.5%
Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repairs	+1.8%	+6.2%	+6.8%	+8.0%	+9.6%	+6.7%	6,602	+5.9%
Hotels and Restaurants	+3.4%	+1.3%	+3.1%	+8.6%	+1.2%	+6.4%	1,399	+3.4%
Transport, Storage and Communication	-3.6%	+3.0%	+5.6%	+6.3%	+4.0%	+6.9%	572	+2.0%
Financial Intermediation	+4.2%	-0.3%	+10.3%	+3.0%	+1.1%	+13.3%	816	+4.8%
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	+9.6%	+22.8%	+24.0%	+28.3%	+38.4%	+16.5%	10,266	+17.7%
Public Administration and Defence	-2.8%	-5.4%	-9.2%	-3.8%	-18.8%	-5.3%	-3,566	-5.6%
Education	-0.2%	+8.9%	+12.4%	+2.0%	+1.3%	+2.5%	3,236	+4.7%
Health and Social Work	+3.8%	+9.6%	+6.4%	-0.9%	+12.0%	-2.4%	5,379	+5.1%
Other Services	+3.9%	+3.5%	+5.8%	+4.2%	+8.6%	-0.6%	1,381	+4.4%

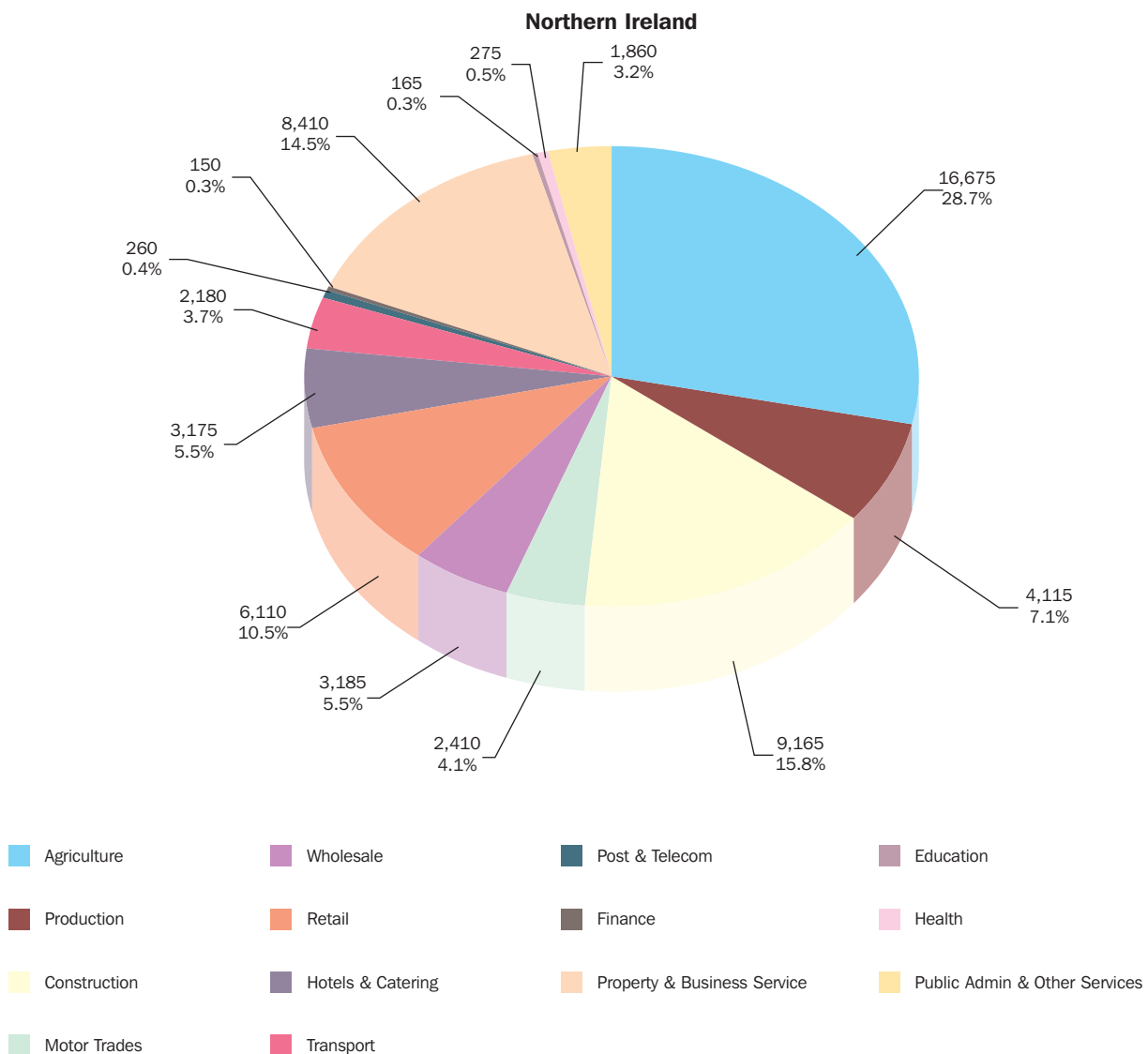
Source: Census of Employment 2005, DETI

VAT REGISTERED ENTERPRISES

There were significant differences between the percentages of VAT Registered Businesses by Industry Group and by WDF in 2007.

- Figure 3 shows that in 2007 there were a total of 58,135 VAT Registered businesses in Northern Ireland. Of these almost a half were in the Agriculture Industry (28.7%) and Construction Industry (15.8%).
- The number of VAT Registered businesses increased by 2.6% between 2006 and 2007 (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Number of VAT registered businesses by Industry Group for Northern Ireland, 2007

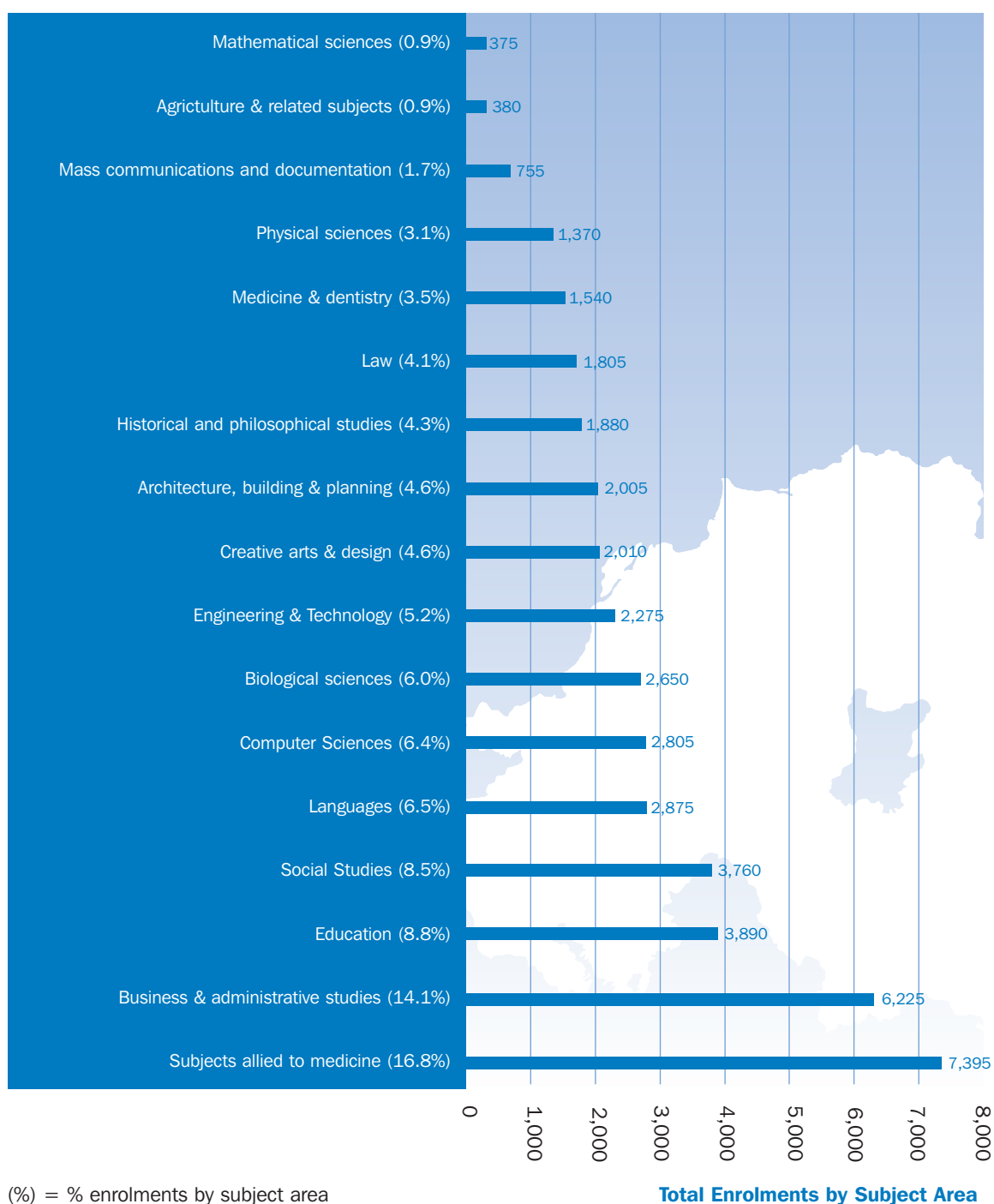


Source: Census of Employment 2005, DETI

HIGHER EDUCATION INFORMATION

- Figure 4 shows that 16.8% of enrolments are in subjects allied to medicine courses whilst 14.1% of enrolments are in business and administrative studies courses.
- Only 3.4% of enrolments are in the mass communications and documentation courses, agriculture and related subjects courses and mathematical sciences courses (Figure 4).

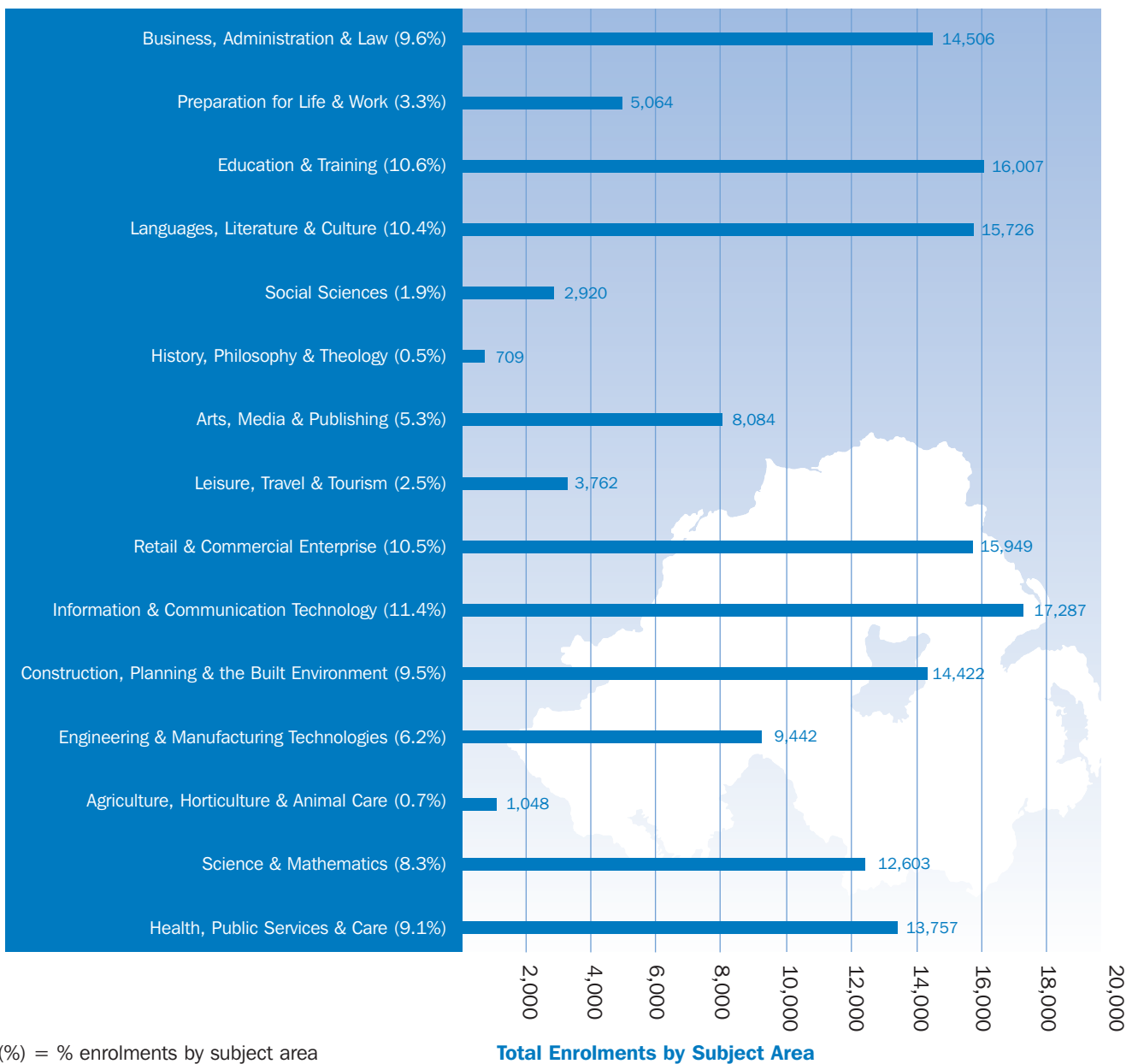
Figure 4: Northern Ireland domiciled enrolments at Northern Ireland HE institutions in Northern Ireland by subject area 2006/2007



FURTHER EDUCATION

- Figure 5 shows that 11.4% of enrolments in 2006/07 were in Information & Communication Technology courses whilst 10.6% of enrolments were in Education & Training courses. Only 1.2% of enrolments were in the Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care courses and History, Philosophy and Theology courses.

Figure 5: Enrolments in Northern Ireland by subject area 2006/07



QUALIFICATIONS

There are significant differences between the percentages of the working age population by qualification level and by WDF.

- 41.6% of the Northern Ireland working age population in 2001 had no qualifications (Table 3).
- Table 3 shows that 42.6% of the Northern Ireland working age population in 2001 had qualification levels 1, 2 or 3 (A-level or less).
- 15.8% of the Northern Ireland working age population in 2001 had qualification levels 4 and 5 (First degree and higher) (Table 3).

Table 3: Qualification levels for working age population by WDF and Northern Ireland level

	All persons	No qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Belfast Metropolitan WDF	100.0%	40.6%	15.2%	13.9%	10.5%	12.7%	7.1%
South Eastern Regional WDF	100.0%	36.4%	18.6%	18.2%	9.3%	12.3%	5.2%
Northern Regional WDF	100.0%	41.5%	17.9%	17.0%	8.8%	10.6%	4.2%
North West Regional WDF	100.0%	46.5%	17.1%	15.4%	8.0%	8.9%	4.0%
Southern Regional WDF	100.0%	44.1%	17.3%	16.6%	8.5%	9.6%	3.9%
South West WDF	100.0%	45.0%	17.2%	16.8%	7.5%	9.6%	3.8%
Northern Ireland	1187079	494277	204478	194265	106548	129741	57770
	100.0%	41.6%	17.2%	16.4%	9.0%	10.9%	4.9%

No Qualif: 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

Source: Census 2001

MIGRANT WORKERS

There are migrants from a large number of countries living and working within Northern Ireland.

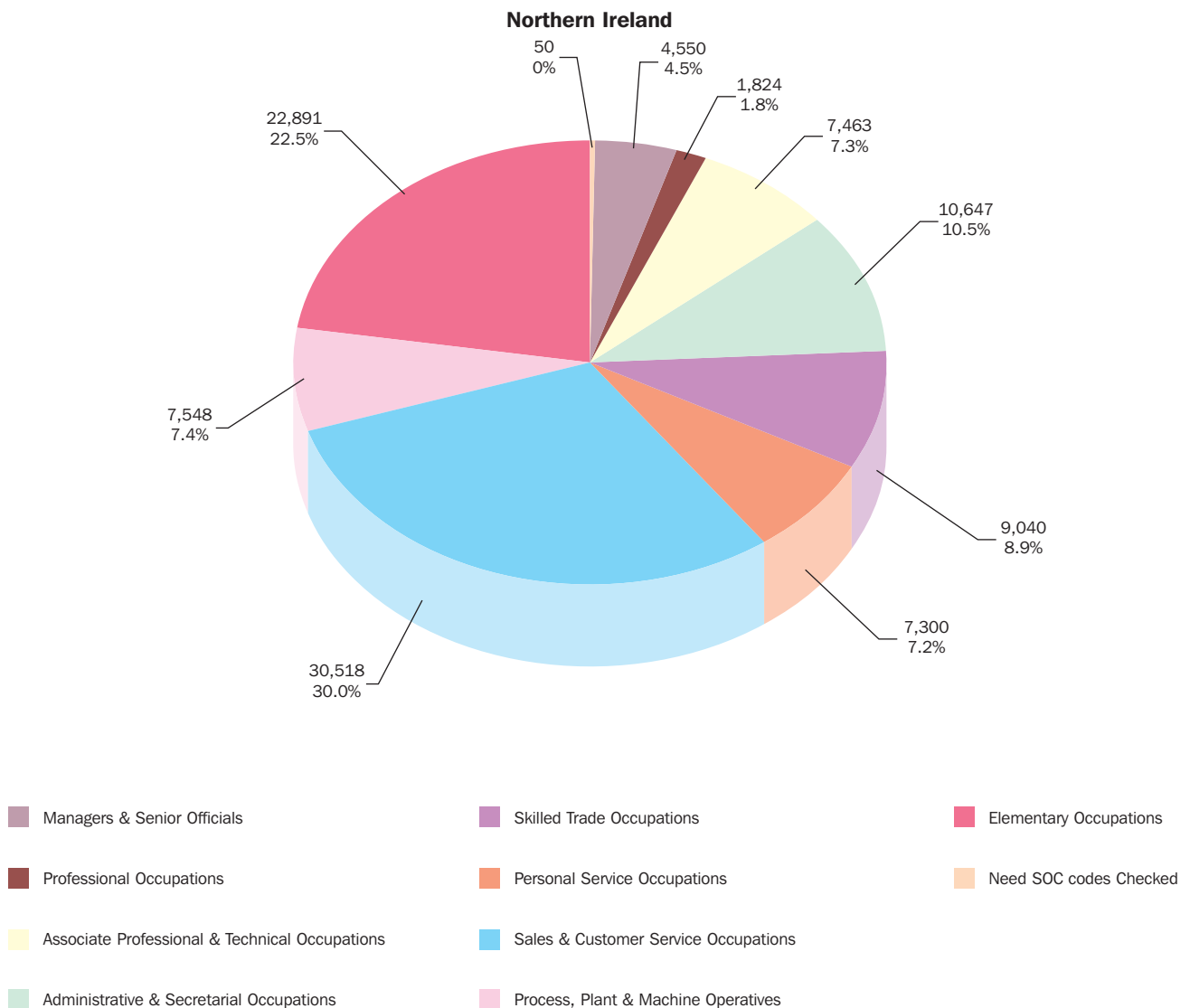
- Between April 2003 and October 2005 there were 22,432 NINO applicants from migrants in Northern Ireland.
- The net external migration to Northern Ireland between Mid 2004 and Mid 2005 was 6,671.
- In 2001 there were 10,355 individuals who recorded their country of birth as being from another EU country and 20,204 recorded their country of birth as being born elsewhere (not another EU country and not Northern Ireland). These two groups equate to 1.8% of the Northern Ireland population.
- In Northern Ireland there were 14,395 Workers Registration Scheme Registrations (WRSR) between May 2004 and March 2006 and this equated to 8 per 1,000 resident population.

VACANCIES

There are significant differences between the percentages of vacancies by Occupation level and by WDF.

- Figure 6 shows that just over a quarter of all notified vacancies in 2007 in Northern Ireland were in Sales and Customer Service Occupations (30.0%), whilst 22.5% were in Elementary Occupations.
- Of the remaining notified vacancies in 2007, 4.5% were Managers and Senior Officials, 1.8% Professional Occupations, 7.3% Associate Professional and Technical Occupations, 10.5% Administrative and Secretarial Occupations, 8.9% Skilled Trade Occupations, 7.2% Personal Service Occupations and 7.4% Process, Plant and Machine Operatives (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Vacancy information for 2007 for Northern Ireland



Source: Census of Employment 2005, DETI

REDUNDANCY INFORMATION

There are significant differences between the number of redundancies by year and by WDF. Table 4 shows that in Northern Ireland in 2007 there were 2,022 confirmed redundancies.

Table 4: Confirmed Redundancies between 2003 to 2007 BY WDF and Northern Ireland level

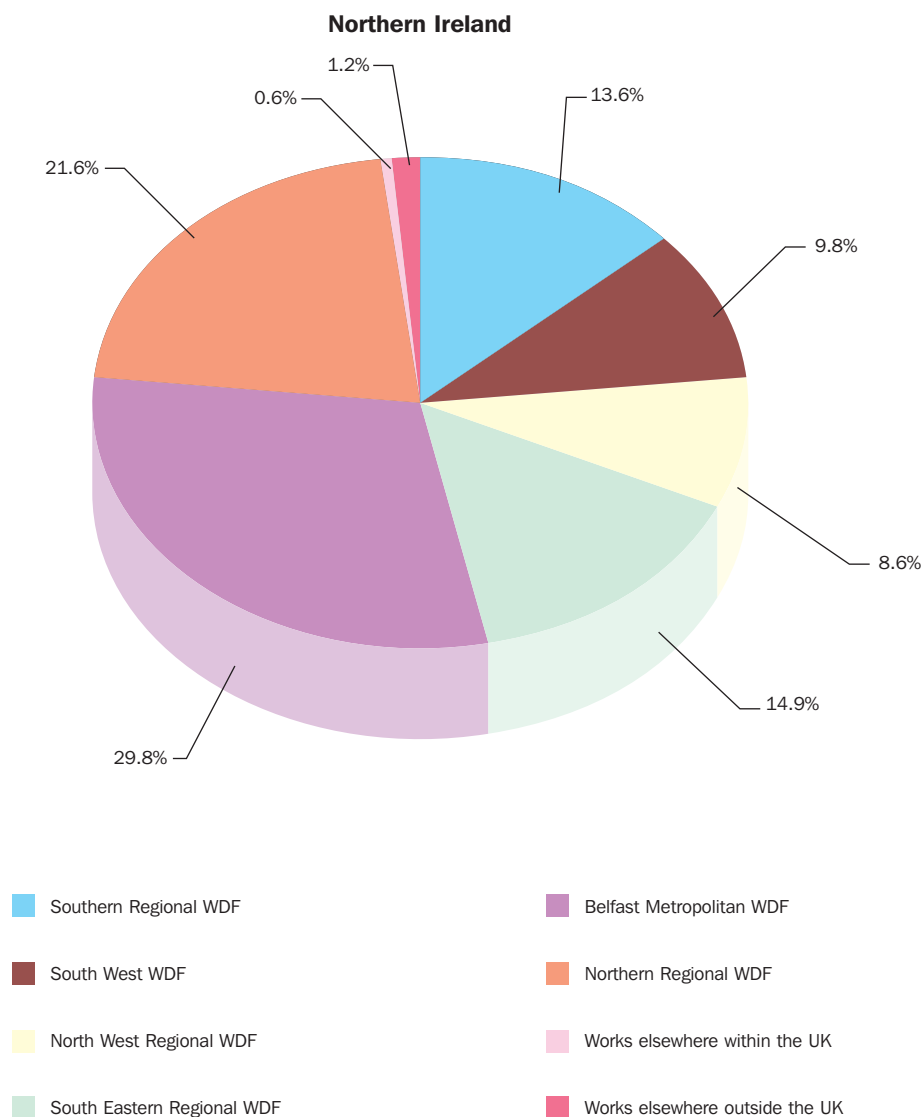
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Belfast Metropolitan WDF	1,186	1,075	771	977	611
South Eastern Regional WDF	1,017	217	428	215	566
Northern Regional WDF	1,259	646	478	961	587
North West Regional WDF	1,227	912	402	558	112
Southern Regional WDF	473	87	233	251	123
South West WDF	414	86	205	193	23
Northern Ireland	5,576	3,023	2,517	3,155	2,022

Source: Redundancies, DETI

TRAVEL TO WORK INFORMATION

- Figure 7 shows that 98.2% of the persons living in Northern Ireland who were in employment in 2001 worked in Northern Ireland. 0.6% worked elsewhere within the UK and 1.2% worked elsewhere outside the UK (1.0% in Republic of Ireland, 0.2% Other).
- 29.8% of persons living in Northern Ireland who were in employment in 2001 worked in Belfast (Figure 7).

Figure 7: Where people living in Northern Ireland go to work



Source: Census of Employment 2005, DETI

ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT DEMAND FOR OCCUPATIONS¹

- Annual development demand for occupations includes both expansion demand (growth) and replacement demand caused by permanent retirements, leavers to another occupation, leavers to unemployment/inactivity and leavers to migration. The following table shows the anticipated development demand of Northern Ireland to 2015. It should be noted that these figures represent best estimates and should be regarded as indicative only.
- Table 5 shows the key occupations that are expected to grow include sales occupations (8,450 jobs per year) and elementary administration and service occupations (8,420 jobs per year). Occupations with lower levels of demand include protective service occupations, health professional occupations, science and technology associate professional occupations, customer service occupations, culture, media and sports occupations and skilled agricultural trades occupations.

Table 5: Northern Ireland level and WDF Annual Development Demand for Occupations to 2015***

Occupations	Belfast Metropolitan WDF	South Eastern Regional WDF	Northern Regional WDF	North West Regional WDF	Southern Regional WDF	South West WDF		Northern Ireland
Corporate Managers	6.9%	8.6%	7.2%	5.8%	6.9%	5.9%	4,800	7.1%
Managers and proprietors in Agriculture and Services	2.9%	3.6%	3.3%	3.3%	3.4%	3.7%	2,200	3.3%
Science and Technology Professionals	2.9%	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	1.5%	1.5%	1,350	2.0%
Health Professionals	1.4%	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.7%	500	0.7%
Teaching and Research Professionals	3.6%	3.2%	3.3%	4.1%	3.4%	3.7%	2,350	3.5%
Business and Public Service Professionals	5.1%	3.9%	3.0%	3.3%	3.0%	3.0%	2,450	3.6%
Science and Technology Associate Professionals	1.4%	1.1%	1.5%	1.7%	1.0%	0.7%	900	1.3%
Health and Social Welfare Associate Professionals	2.5%	2.5%	2.4%	2.5%	2.5%	3.0%	1,700	2.5%
Protective Service Occupations	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100	0.1%
Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	1.8%	1.4%	0.9%	0.8%	1.0%	0.7%	800	1.2%
Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5.1%	5.0%	4.5%	4.1%	4.4%	3.7%	3,050	4.5%
Administrative Occupations	10.5%	11.1%	9.9%	9.1%	8.9%	8.1%	6,700	9.9%
Secretarial and related occupations	4.3%	4.3%	3.9%	3.3%	3.9%	3.7%	2,650	3.9%
Skilled Agriculture Trades	0.4%	1.1%	1.8%	1.6%	2.5%	3.7%	1,100	1.6%
Skilled Metal and Electrical Trades	1.4%	1.8%	2.4%	1.7%	2.0%	2.2%	1,350	2.0%
Skilled Construction and Building Trades	1.8%	3.2%	3.6%	4.1%	4.9%	5.2%	2,450	3.6%
Textiles, Printing and other Skilled Trades	1.8%	2.1%	2.4%	2.5%	3.0%	3.0%	1,600	2.4%
Caring Personal Service Occupations	6.9%	8.9%	7.5%	7.4%	7.9%	8.9%	5,300	7.9%
Leisure and Personal Service Occupations	1.8%	2.1%	2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	2.2%	1,450	2.1%
Sales Occupations	13.4%	12.1%	12.8%	12.4%	11.8%	11.1%	8,450	12.5%
Customer Service Occupations	1.1%	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.7%	450	0.7%
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	2.2%	2.9%	4.5%	5.8%	4.9%	4.4%	2,600	3.9%
Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	2.5%	2.9%	3.9%	3.3%	4.4%	4.4%	2,350	3.5%
Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations	2.2%	2.5%	3.6%	4.1%	4.4%	4.4%	2,300	3.4%
Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	15.6%	11.1%	12.5%	12.4%	10.8%	11.1%	8,420	12.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	67,500	100.0%

* Rounded to nearest 50

** Numbers and percentages may not sum to total due to rounding

Source: Nick Rogers, Economic Development Policy Unit, North Down Borough Council, 2006

Note: It should be noted that these figures represent best estimates and should be regarded as indicative only as they may be affected by changing economic and labour market conditions.

1 Information on Annual Development Demand for Occupations has been supplied by Nick Rogers of the Economic Development Policy Unit of North Down Borough Council. We are very grateful to Nick for allowing us to reproduce his information.

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

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 1 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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