

Northern Ireland Business Register and Employment Survey 2016

Date: 14 December 2017
Geographical Area: Northern Ireland
Theme: Labour Market
Frequency: Annually

Key Points

- The total number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland in September 2016 was 739,615, consisting of 82% in the Services industry, 11% in the Manufacturing industry, 4% in the Construction industry and 3% in the 'Other' industry.
- Employee jobs increased by 10,683 (1.5%) since September 2015. This growth was driven mainly by an increase in employee jobs in the Services industry which was responsible for 78% of the total increase.
- Construction jobs increased by 5% (1,644 jobs) over the year to September 2016.
- There was a larger increase in full-time jobs (7,257) than part-time jobs (3,425). However at 1.5% and 1.3% respectively the rate of increase was similar.
- Between September 2015 and September 2016, there was a 2% decrease in jobs in the public sector (-4,803 jobs) and a 3% rise in jobs in the private sector (15,485 jobs).
- The number of employee jobs in the public sector has fallen below 200,000 for the first time since 2001.
- The proportion of jobs in the public sector was 27% in 2016. This is the lowest proportion reported since public/private employee jobs figures were first published in 1997 when the proportion of public sector jobs was 34%.
- Seven district councils recorded an increase in the number of employee jobs since 2015, excluding agriculture, the largest increase was in Antrim and Newtownabbey (4,251 jobs or 8%) to 60,188 jobs.
- Four district councils recorded a decrease in the number of employee jobs since 2015, the largest decrease was in Belfast (-1,704 jobs or -1%).

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1 Introduction and Context

This bulletin summarises findings from the Northern Ireland Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) 2016. A set of associated tables have been provided and are available [here](#).

BRES is a sample survey and in 2016, approximately 12,000 businesses were sampled, while BRES 2015 was a full census of all businesses in Northern Ireland. Further information on the selection process can be found in note 2 of chapter 9. The effective response rate for BRES 2016 was 89%.

The survey collects information on the number of males and females in full-time and part-time employment by business activity and by District Council Area. A person working more than 30 hours per week is normally regarded as in full-time employment; a person working 30 hours or less per week is normally regarded as in part-time employment. Employee jobs occupied by males are referred to as male jobs; employee jobs occupied by females are referred to as female jobs. In this way, BRES is able to provide employee job estimates for Northern Ireland as a whole, split by male/female and full-time/part-time working pattern and by the four broad industries; Construction, Manufacturing, Services and 'Other'. The 'Other' industry consists of employee jobs in the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying; Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply; and Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities sections (as defined by the UK Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities 2007).

BRES does not include the self-employed in its employee job estimates. In addition, BRES counts the number of jobs rather than the number of persons with a job. As a result, a person holding both a full-time job and a part-time job, or someone with two part-time jobs, will be counted twice.

Agriculture Census

The number of employee jobs in the Agriculture section (within the 'Other' industry) is provided by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) in their [Agricultural Census](#). The estimates from BRES are combined with the estimates from the Agriculture Census to provide an overall estimate of the total number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland. These Northern Ireland employee job estimates are then split by gender and working pattern

and by public and private sector. BRES also provides employee job estimates for each of the District Council Areas. Estimates of agricultural employee jobs from the Agriculture Census are not included in the District Council Area splits.

UK BRES

The Northern Ireland BRES figures are included in the UK BRES figures. The UK BRES report is produced by the Office for National Statistics and can be found [here](#).

Alternative measures of employment

Alternative measures of employment are available for Northern Ireland. Other measures include the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) and the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

1. QES provides short-term employee job estimates for Northern Ireland in order to identify job trends from quarter to quarter and year to year. The QES collects employee data split by gender and working pattern and 2-digit SIC (Standard Industrial Classification 2007). District Council Area breakdowns are not available. The QES sample size is such that estimates of total employee jobs should be accurate within +/- 1% of the BRES total. Employee job figures produced from BRES and QES Quarter 3 are comparable. Benchmarking of QES to BRES 2015 was carried out in December 2016. Further information on QES can be found [here](#).
2. LFS is a household sample survey carried out by interviewing individuals about their personal circumstances and work. In contrast to BRES and QES, LFS counts the number of persons with jobs rather than the number of employee jobs. There are differences in the estimates of employee jobs between BRES and LFS. These differences arise due to a variety of factors, primarily due to employment being measured in different ways. First, as noted above BRES surveys businesses, whereas LFS is a household based survey. Second, LFS includes those who are employed, self-employed, unpaid family workers and those on Government supported training programmes. BRES excludes the self-employed. Further information on LFS can be found [here](#).

2 Executive Summary

The Northern Ireland Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) estimates that at September 2016 the total number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland was 739,615.

Employee jobs were compiled of 82% in the Services industry, 11% in the Manufacturing industry, 4% in the Construction industry and 3% in the 'Other' industry.

Table 1: Employee jobs[#] by broad industry, September 2015 to September 2016

Broad Industry	2015	2016	Change	% Change
Manufacturing	80,013	80,446	433	0.5%
Construction	31,406	33,050	1,644	5.2%
Services	595,731	604,086	8,355	1.4%
Other	21,782	22,033	251	1.2%
Total	728,932	739,615	10,683	1.5%

[#]Figures may not sum due to rounding

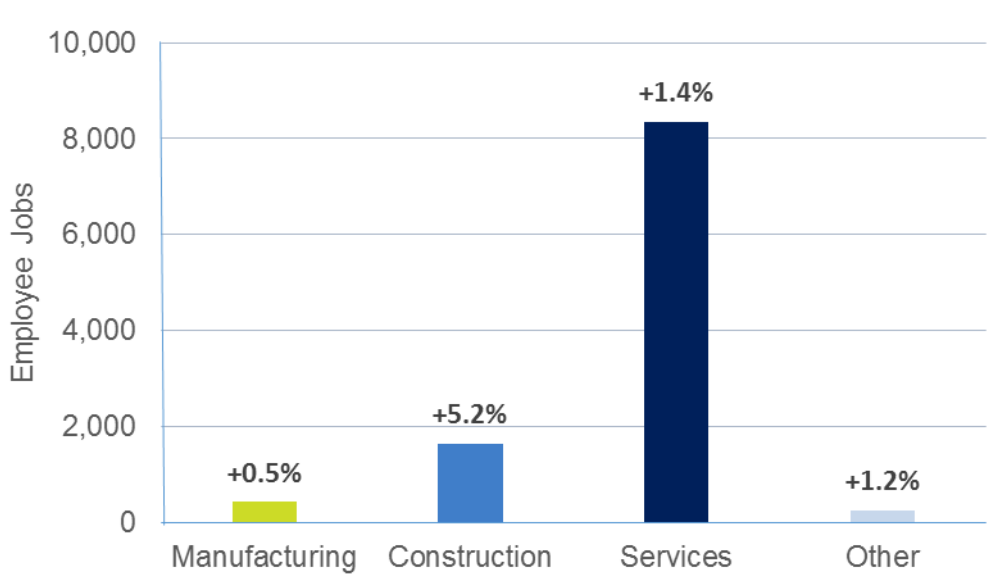
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Change over year

BRES estimates show that over the year to September 2016 employee jobs increased by 10,683 jobs (1.5%). The increase was driven mainly by an increase in employee jobs in the Services industry which accounted for just over three quarters (78%) of the overall growth.

Over the year to September 2016 employee jobs increased in all four broad industries (Construction, Manufacturing, Services and 'Other'). All the changes exceeded the variability expected from a sample survey of this size and are likely to reflect real changes.

Figure 1: Change in employee jobs by broad industry, Sept 2015 to Sept 2016



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The Construction industry saw the largest increase in relative terms, increasing by 5.2% over the year to 2016. Almost 80% of the total growth in construction resulted from growth in Derry City & Strabane, Newry, Mourne & Down and Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon District Councils.

The Services industry grew by 1.4% (8,355 jobs) over the year to September 2016. Almost three quarters (74%) of the growth in services was seen in full-time jobs.

Composition of Employee Jobs

As at September 2016, 65% of employee jobs were full-time and 51% were occupied by females. A full summary of employee jobs by sex and working pattern is given in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Employee jobs# by sex and work pattern, 2016

	Working Pattern			
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	% Total
Male	286,952	73,814	360,766	49%
Female	194,320	184,529	378,849	51%
Total	481,272	258,342	739,615	100%
% Total	65%	35%	100%	

#Figures may not sum due to rounding

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Change over year

BRES estimates show that between September 2015 and September 2016:

- both male and female jobs increased, by 5,052 (1.4%) and 5,631 (1.5%) respectively;
- both full-time and part-time employee jobs increased, by 7,257 (1.5%) and 3,425 (1.3%) respectively, and
- these increases were driven largely by growth in the Services industry (8,355 jobs or 1.4%), which accounted for 78% of the total increase.

Employee Jobs by Public/Private Sector Split

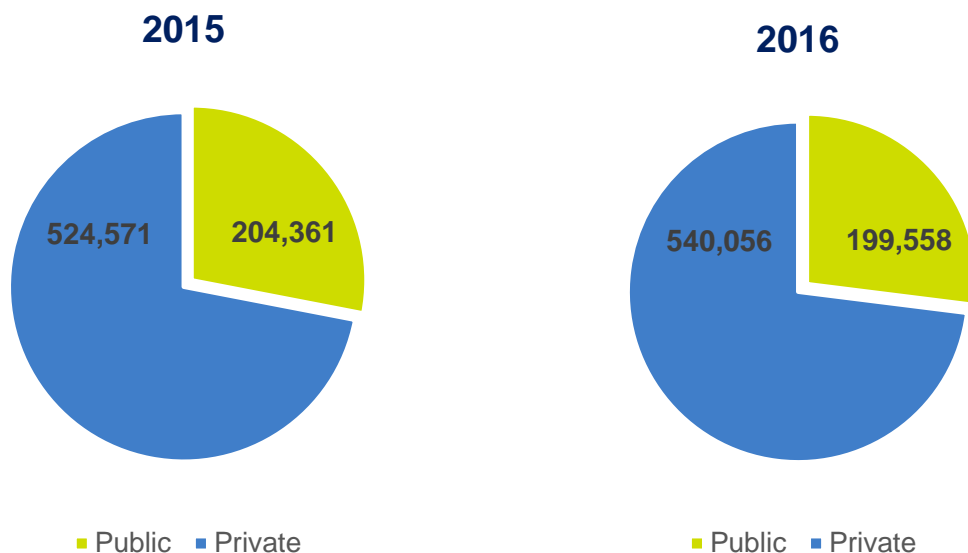
In 2016, 27% of employee jobs were in the public sector and 73% in the private sector. This is the lowest proportion reported for the public sector since public/private sector job splits were first published in 1997. At this point public sector jobs represented 34% of the total.

Change over year

Public sector jobs saw a decrease of 4,803 or 2.4% on the 2015 figure. More than half (54%) of the decrease in public sector jobs was due to a reduction in the number of female part-time employee jobs (-2,583 jobs). Private sector jobs increased by 3.0% (15,485) over the year. A third (33% or 5,111 jobs) of this increase was male full-time employee jobs.

The number of employee jobs in the public sector has fallen below 200,000 for the first time since 2001 as a direct result of the consolidation of public services and the voluntary exist scheme in operation since 2015.

Figure 2: Employee jobs public/private sector split, Sept 2015 to Sept 2016



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Employee Jobs by District Council Area

The table below details employee jobs by DCA¹ for 2015 and 2016 and the change over the year.

*BRES employee job estimates by District Council Area **exclude agriculture figures**, which are only available at Northern Ireland level.*

The majority of jobs in Northern Ireland are in the most populous DCAs, namely Belfast and Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon with 30% and 10% of the total employee jobs respectively. Ards & North Down have the least number of jobs at 5% (37,898) but is the fourth most populous². This may be in part due to the exclusion of Agriculture Census figures in the DCA breakdowns.

Table 3: Employee jobs[#] (excluding agriculture) by District Council Area, 2015 and 2016

District Council Area	2015		2016		% Change Employee Jobs
	Rank	Employee Jobs	Rank	Employee Jobs	
Belfast	1	220,190	1	218,478	-0.8%
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	2	70,101	2	72,866	3.9%
Antrim & Newtownabbey	3	55,937	3	60,188	7.6%
Derry City & Strabane	5	53,630	4	54,986	2.5%
Lisburn & Castlereagh	4	54,092	5	54,734	1.2%
Newry, Mourne & Down	6	52,341	6	54,668	4.4%
Mid Ulster	7	50,156	7	52,372	4.4%
Mid & East Antrim	8	43,498	8	42,839	-1.5%
Fermanagh & Omagh	10	39,426	9	39,837	1.0%
Causeway Coast & Glens	9	39,552	10	39,250	-0.8%
Ards & North Down	11	38,182	11	37,898	-0.7%
Total		717,105		728,116	1.5%

[#]Figures may not sum due to rounding

Note: Employee jobs by DCA **exclude** agriculture

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¹ Employee job location is based on the location of the business.

² Northern Ireland population figures mid-year estimates 2016. Source: [NINIS](#)

Change over year

Belfast remains the District Council Area with the highest number of employee jobs. Belfast saw a slight decrease (-0.8%) in employee jobs over the year to September 2016 while Antrim & Newtownabbey saw an increase of 7.6%.

Commentary

BRES 2016 results continue to show a dominance of the services sector in Northern Ireland both in terms of the number of employee jobs and growth in employee jobs. Also of note is the increase in construction jobs of 5.2% over the year to 2016. This is mirrored by significant growth in aGVA (approximate Gross Value Added) for this sector as reported by the [Annual Business Inquiry, 2016](#). The ABI also reported an increase in the aGVA for the non-financial services sector again in-line with the increase in employee jobs reported by BRES.

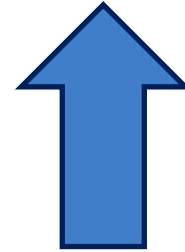
The results also highlight the decrease in public sector jobs and growth in private sector jobs. The 2016 results show public sector jobs level below 200,000 for the first time since 2001 and a public/private ratio of approximately 1:3. This is a direct result of the consolidation of public services and the voluntary exist scheme in operation since 2015. However, at 10,717 jobs per 100,000 of the Northern Ireland population, public sector jobs remain high relative to the UK³.

³ [Public sector employment, UK: March 2016](#)



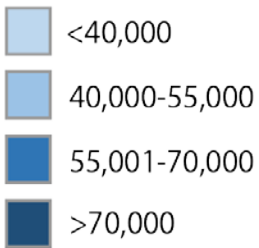
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Services
- Other

739,615
September 2016

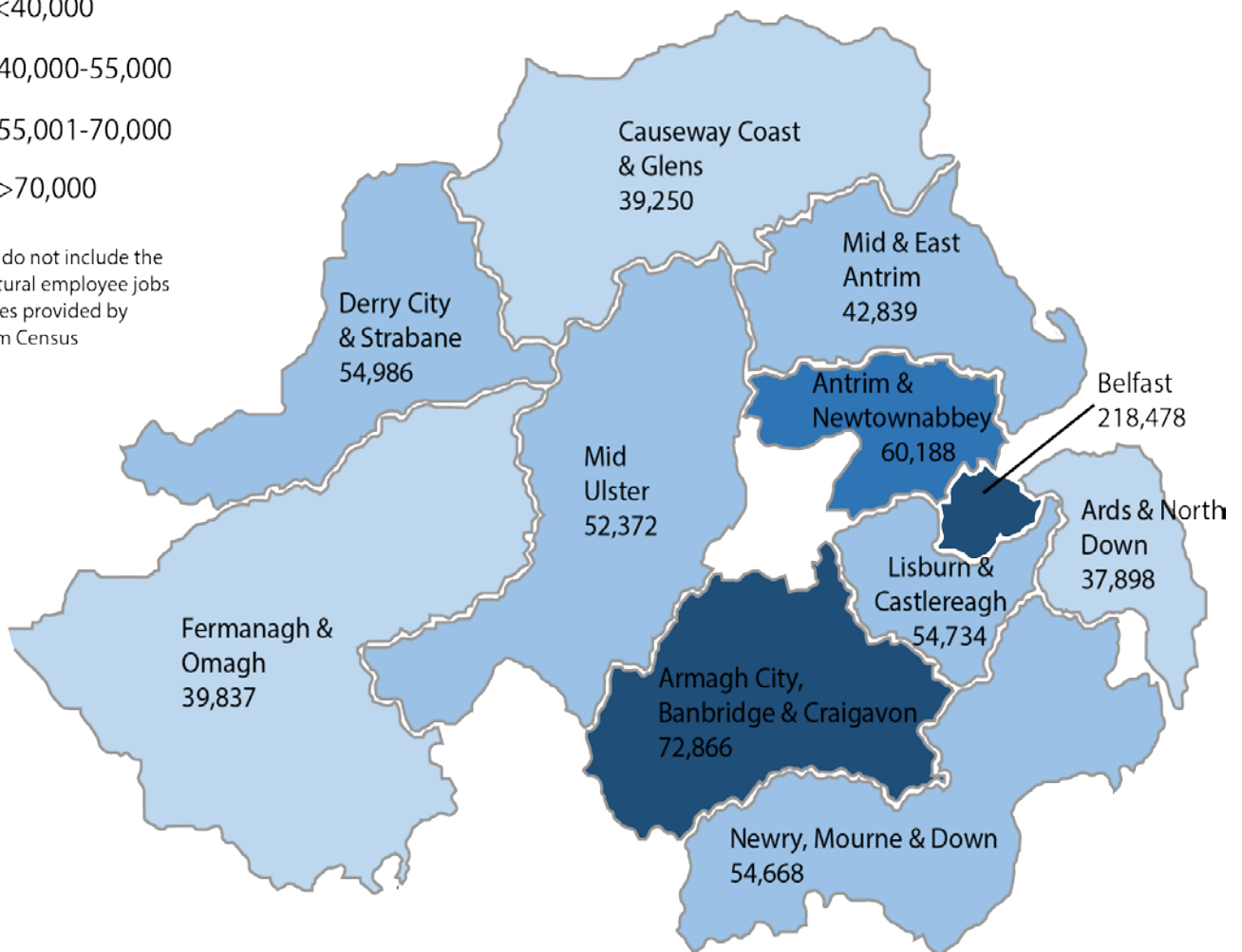


+10,683 from
September 2015

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Figures do not include the Agricultural employee jobs estimates provided by the Farm Census



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3 Total Employment including working proprietors

Employee job: a job occupied by anyone that is aged 16 years or over and that an organisation pays directly from its payroll(s), in return for the employee carrying out a full-time or part-time job or being on a training scheme in Northern Ireland.

Working proprietor: a sole trader; or an owner, partner or director of a business who is not paid via PAYE (Pay As You Earn).

Total employment: the number of employee jobs **added to** the number of working proprietors.

Key findings:

- In September 2016 total employment in Northern Ireland was 769,209.
- This is made up of 739,615 employee jobs and 29,594 working proprietors.
- This represents an increase of 1.3% in total employment from September 2015.
- The number of working proprietors decreased by 971 (-3.2%) from September 2015.

Table 4: Change in total employment[#] in Northern Ireland, Sept 2015 to Sept 2016

	2015	2016	Change	% Change
Employee jobs (including agriculture)	728,932	739,615	10,683	1.5%
Working proprietors	30,565	29,594	-971	-3.2%
Employment total	759,497	769,209	9,712	1.3%

[#]Figures may not sum due to rounding

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4 Employee jobs by Broad Industry

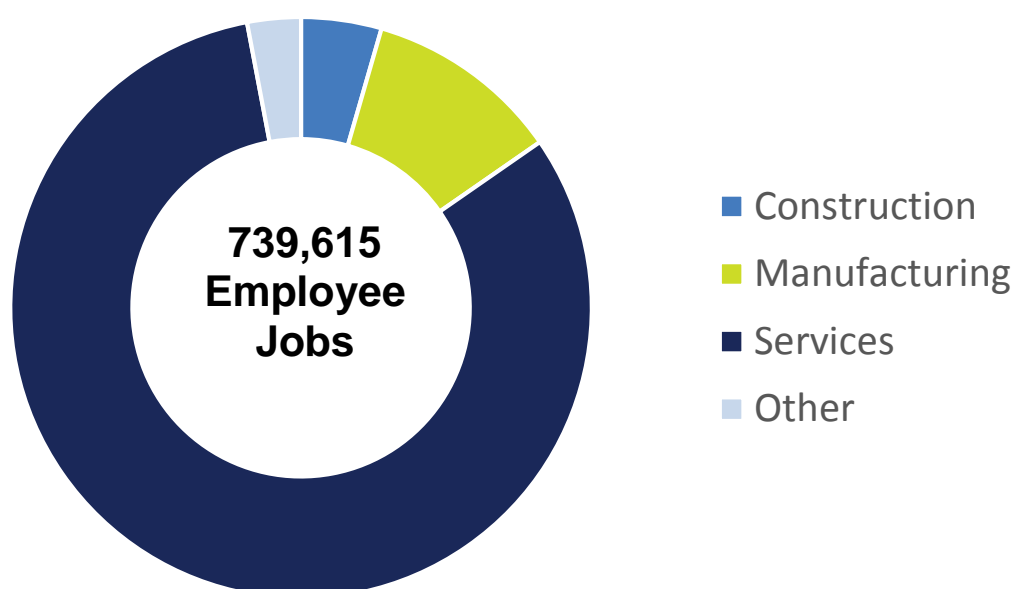
Employee job: a job occupied by anyone that is aged 16 years or over and that an organisation pays directly from its payroll(s), in return for the employee carrying out a full-time or part-time job or being on a training scheme in Northern Ireland.

The figures in this chapter **include** the Agriculture employee job estimates provided by the Agriculture Census. These employee jobs are included within the 'Other' broad industry.

Key findings

- In September 2016, there were 739,615 employee jobs in Northern Ireland, an increase of 10,683 since 2015 (1.5%).
- Increases were experienced across all four sectors, from 5% in Construction to 0.5% in the Manufacturing industry.
- Over three quarters (78%) of the growth was as a result of an increase the Services industry (8,355 jobs).

Figure 3: Proportion of employee jobs by broad industry, Sept 2016



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The 739,615 employee jobs in 2016 were made up of:

- 11% (80,446) of employee jobs in the Manufacturing industry;
- 4% (33,050) of employee jobs in the Construction industry;
- 82% (604,086) of employee jobs in the Services industry, and
- 3% (22,033) of employee jobs in the 'Other' industry.

Change over year

BRES estimates show that between September 2015 and September 2016:

- All four sectors showed increases on 2015 figures, ranging from 0.5% in manufacturing to 5% in construction;
- Manufacturing showed an increase in employee jobs of 0.5% (433);
- Construction showed an increase in employee jobs of 5% (1,644);
- Services showed the largest growth in the number of employee jobs (1% or 8,355);
- 'Other' showed an increase in employee jobs of 1% (251), and
- The proportions of the main sectors remain unchanged over the year.

5 Composition of Employee Jobs

Full-time employment: persons working more than 30 hours per week.

Part-time employment: persons working 30 hours or less per week.

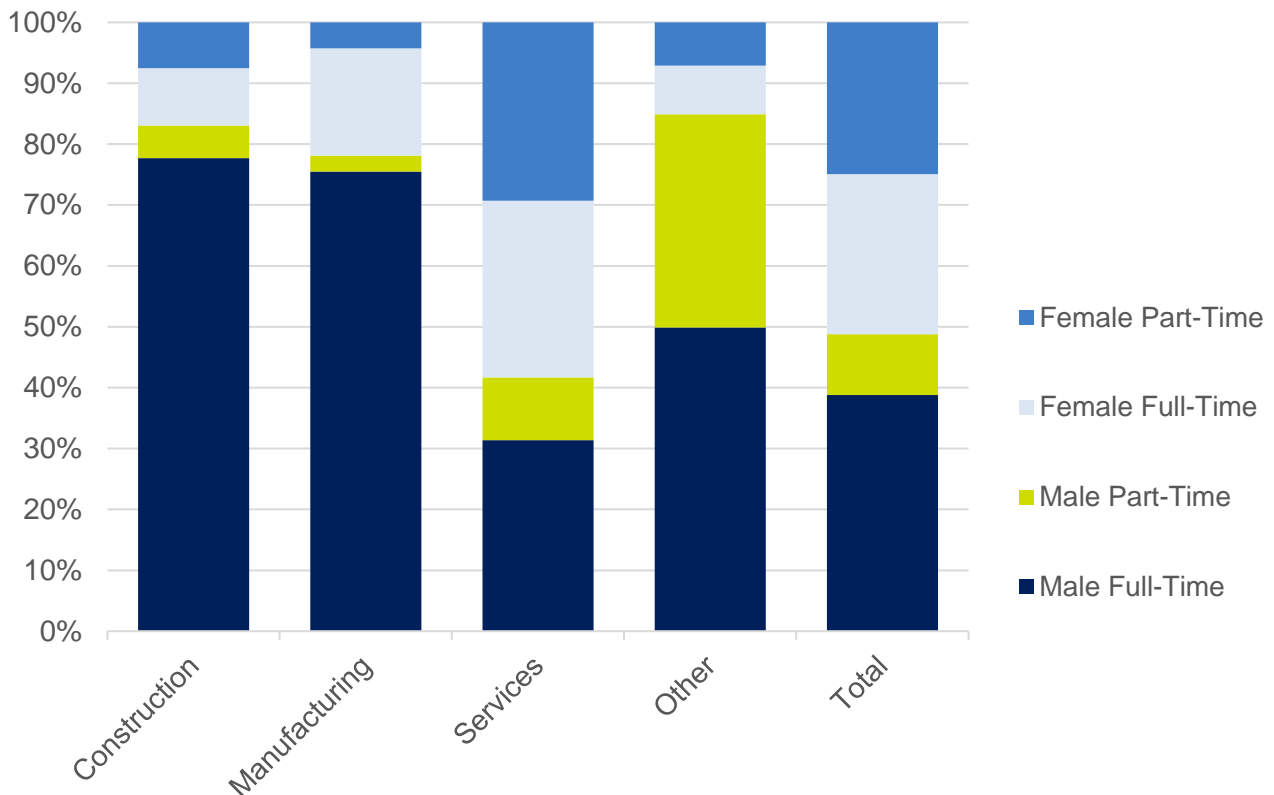
Male jobs: employee jobs occupied by males.

Female jobs: employee jobs occupied by females.

Key findings

- 49% of employee jobs were occupied by males and 51% by females.
- 65% of employee jobs were full-time and 35% of employee jobs were part-time.
- Both male and female jobs increased since 2015, by 5,052 (1.4%) and 5,631 (1.5%) respectively.
- Both full-time and part-time jobs increased since 2015, by 7,257 (1.5%) and 3,425 (1.3%) respectively.

Figure 4: Percentage of employee jobs by sex and work pattern, Sept 2016



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BRES estimates indicate that in September 2016:

- Male jobs accounted for 49% (360,766) and female jobs accounted for 51% (378,849) of employee jobs;
- Full-time jobs made up 65% (481,272) of all employee jobs, and part-time jobs made up 35% (258,342) of all employee jobs;
- Over three quarters of construction (78%) and manufacturing (75%) employee jobs were male full-time jobs. Males also occupy a large proportion (85%) of employee jobs in the 'Other' industry, divided between full-time (50%) and part-time (35%), and
- Females occupy approximately 58% of employee jobs within the 'Services' industry. These jobs are divided evenly between full-time and part-time (29% each) workers.

Change over year

BRES estimates show that between September 2015 and September 2016 there was:

- an increase in male jobs of 1.4% (5,052 jobs) since 2015;
- an increase in female jobs of 1.5% (5,631 jobs) since 2015;
- an increase in full-time jobs of 1.5% (7,257 jobs) since 2015;
- an increase in part-time jobs of 1.3% (3,425 jobs) since 2015, and
- the proportions of male/female full-time/part-time employee jobs by industry remained broadly unchanged over the year to September 2016.

6 Employee jobs by Public/Private Sector Split

Full-time employment: persons working more than 30 hours per week.

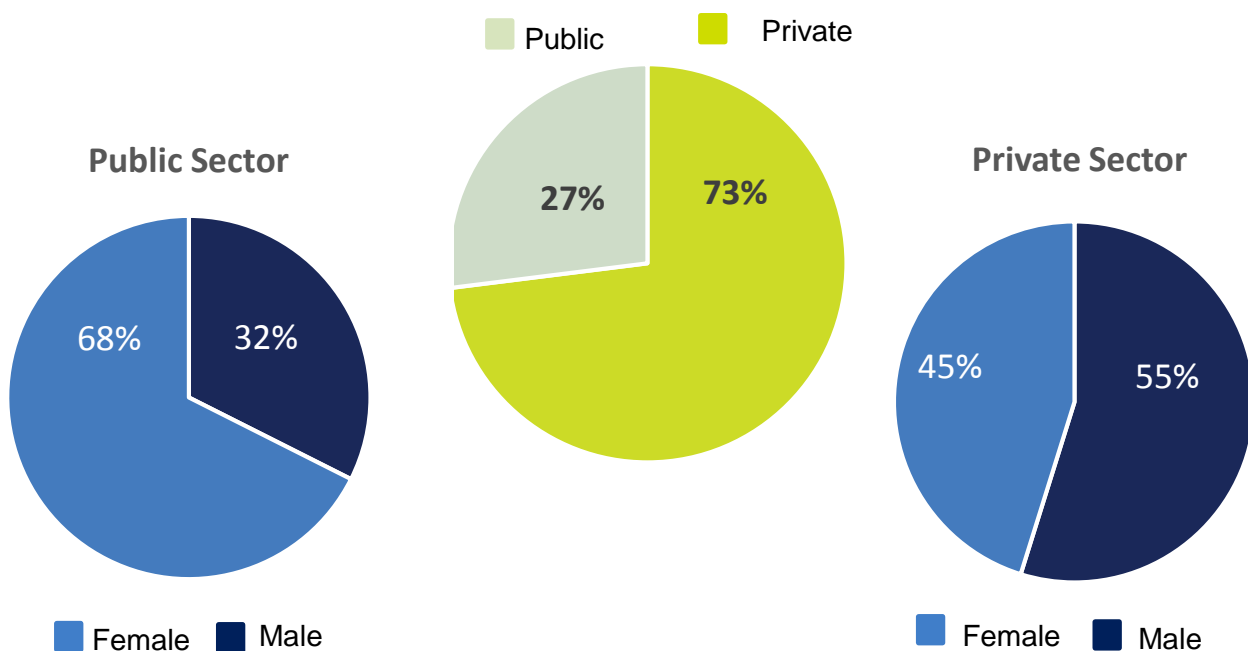
Part-time employment: persons working 30 hours or less per week.

Public sector: employee jobs are defined as Central and Local Government (primarily SIC2007 section 'O') and public corporations. For further information on the definition of the public sector, please see note 6 in chapter 8.

Key findings:

- 27% of employee jobs were in the public sector, 73% of employee jobs were in the private sector.
- Private sector showed an increase of 15,485 (3.0%) employee jobs since 2015; and there was a decrease of 4,803 (-2.4%) in public sector employee jobs.
- Public sector employee jobs fell below 200,000 for the first time since 2001.
- Public sector male and female part-time jobs fell by 5.8% and 4.2% respectively over the year.

Figure 5: Proportion of public and private sector employee jobs, Sept 2016

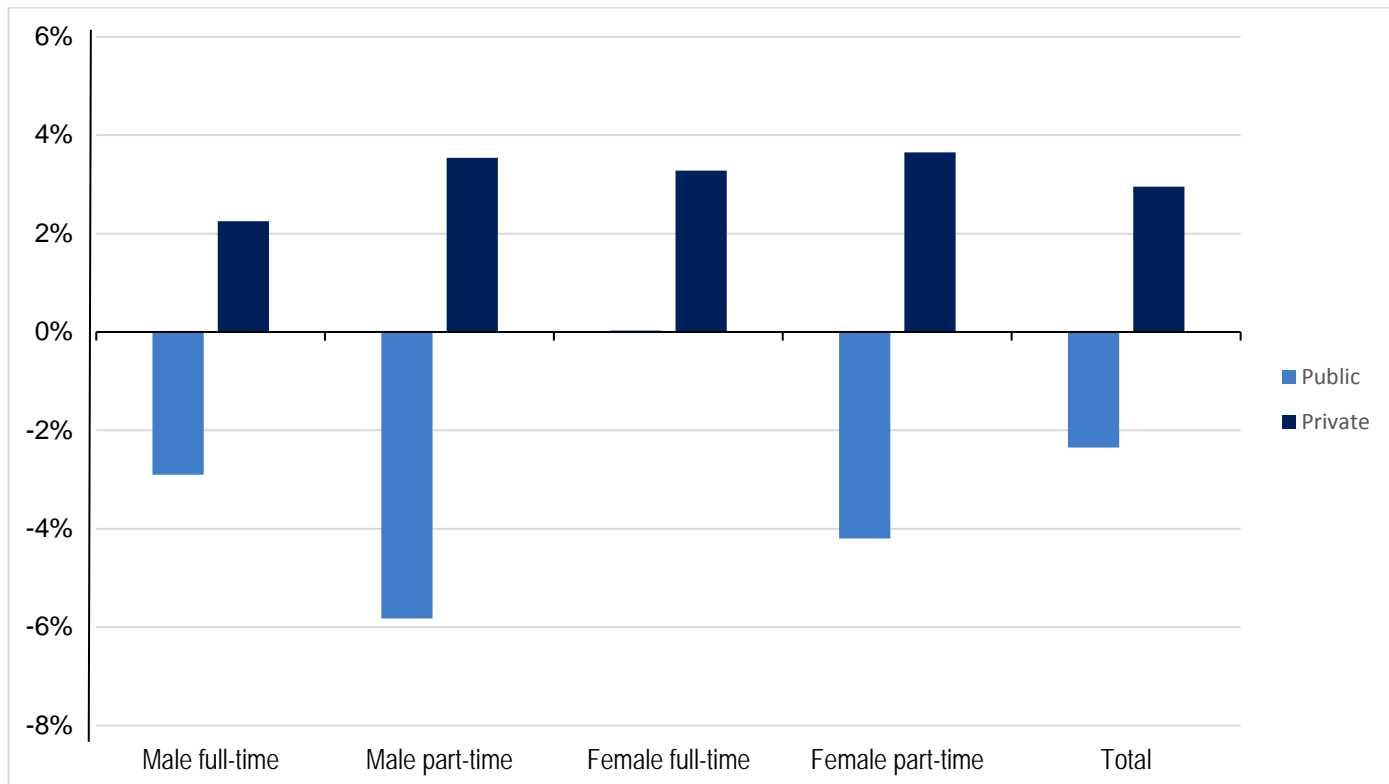


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- Public sector jobs accounted for 27% (199,558) and private sector jobs accounted for 73% (540,056) of employee jobs in 2016.
- Of public sector jobs, 68% were female. Private sector jobs were more evenly split with males accounting for 55% of private sector employee jobs and females accounting for 45% of private sector employee jobs.
- The overall proportion of public and private sector jobs has remained relatively unchanged between 2015 and 2016 (for comparison, the public sector accounted for 28% and the private sector accounted for 72% of employee jobs in 2015).
- The majority of public sector employee jobs (98%) are within the services industry.
- Public sector employee jobs as a proportion of total population was 11% in 2016. This amounts to 10,717 public sector jobs per 100,000 of the Northern Ireland population.

Change over year

Figure 6: Percentage change in public and private sector employee jobs by sex and work-pattern, Sept 2015 to Sept 2016



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BRES estimates show that between September 2015 and September 2016 there was:

- a decrease in public sector jobs of -2.4% (4,803 jobs);
 - a decrease in full-time public sector jobs of -1.2% (1,615 jobs),
 - a decrease of part-time public sector jobs of -4.4% (3,188 jobs) , and
- an increase in private sector jobs of 3% (15,485 jobs),
 - an increase of full-time private sector jobs of 2.6% (8,872 jobs),
 - an increase of part-time private sector jobs of 3.6% (6,613 jobs).

7 Employee Jobs by District Council Area

District Council Area: are the new council areas that came into operation in Northern Ireland in April 2015.

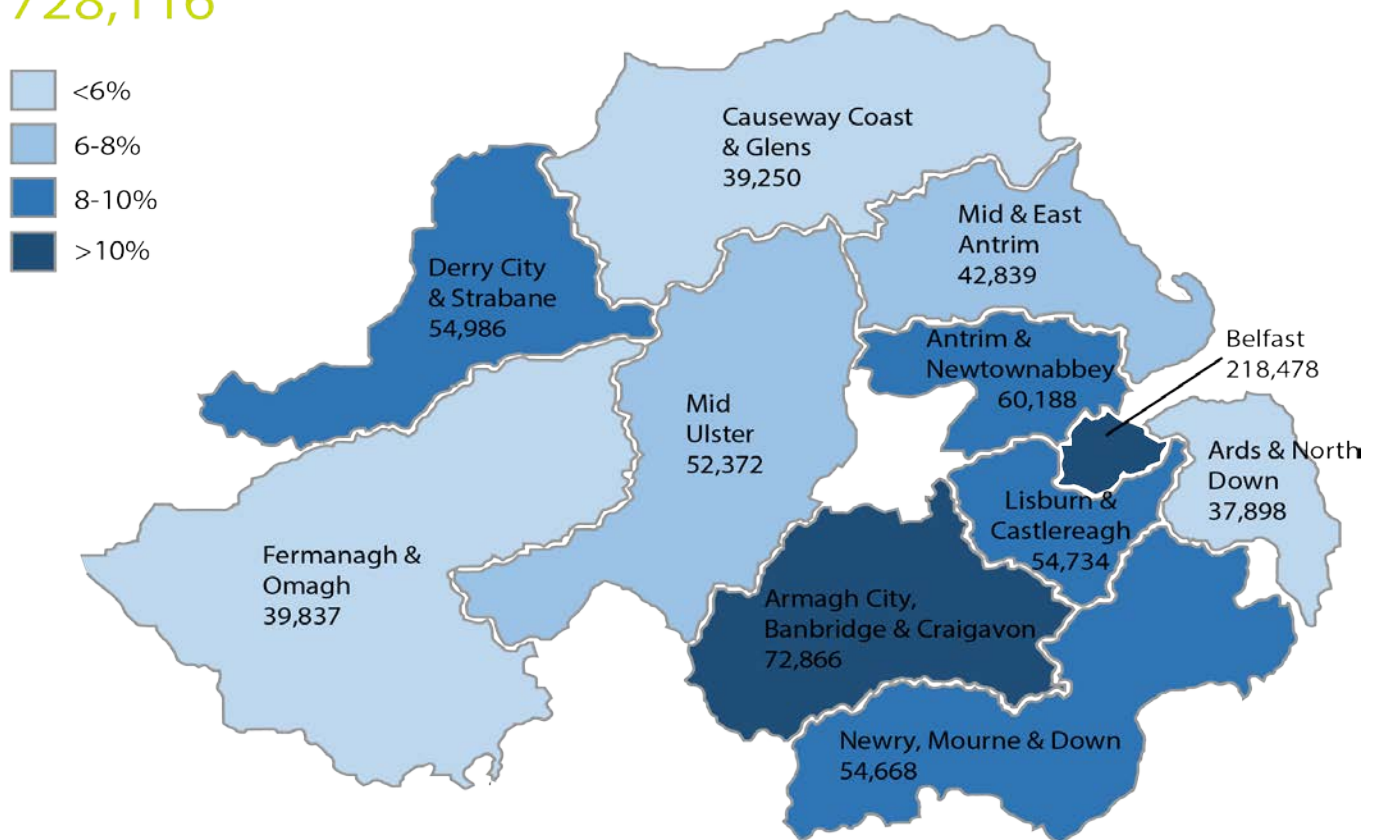
The figures in this chapter **exclude** the Agriculture employee job estimates provided by the Agriculture Census but include animal husbandry services and hunting, trapping and game

Key findings:

- The District Council Areas with the highest number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland were Belfast (218,478 jobs) and Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon (72,866 jobs).
- The District Council Areas with the lowest number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland were Ards & North Down (37,898 jobs), Causeway Coast & Glens (39,250 jobs) and Fermanagh & Omagh (39,837 jobs).
- There was an increase in employee jobs within 7 District Council Areas since 2015.
- The largest increase in employee jobs was in the Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council Area, of 4,251 jobs (8%).
- There was a decrease in employee jobs within 4 District Council Areas since 2015.
- The greatest decrease of employee jobs was in the Mid & East Antrim Borough Council Area, of -659 jobs (-2%).

Figure 7: Employee jobs within Northern Ireland District Council Area, Sept 2016

Northern Ireland 728,116



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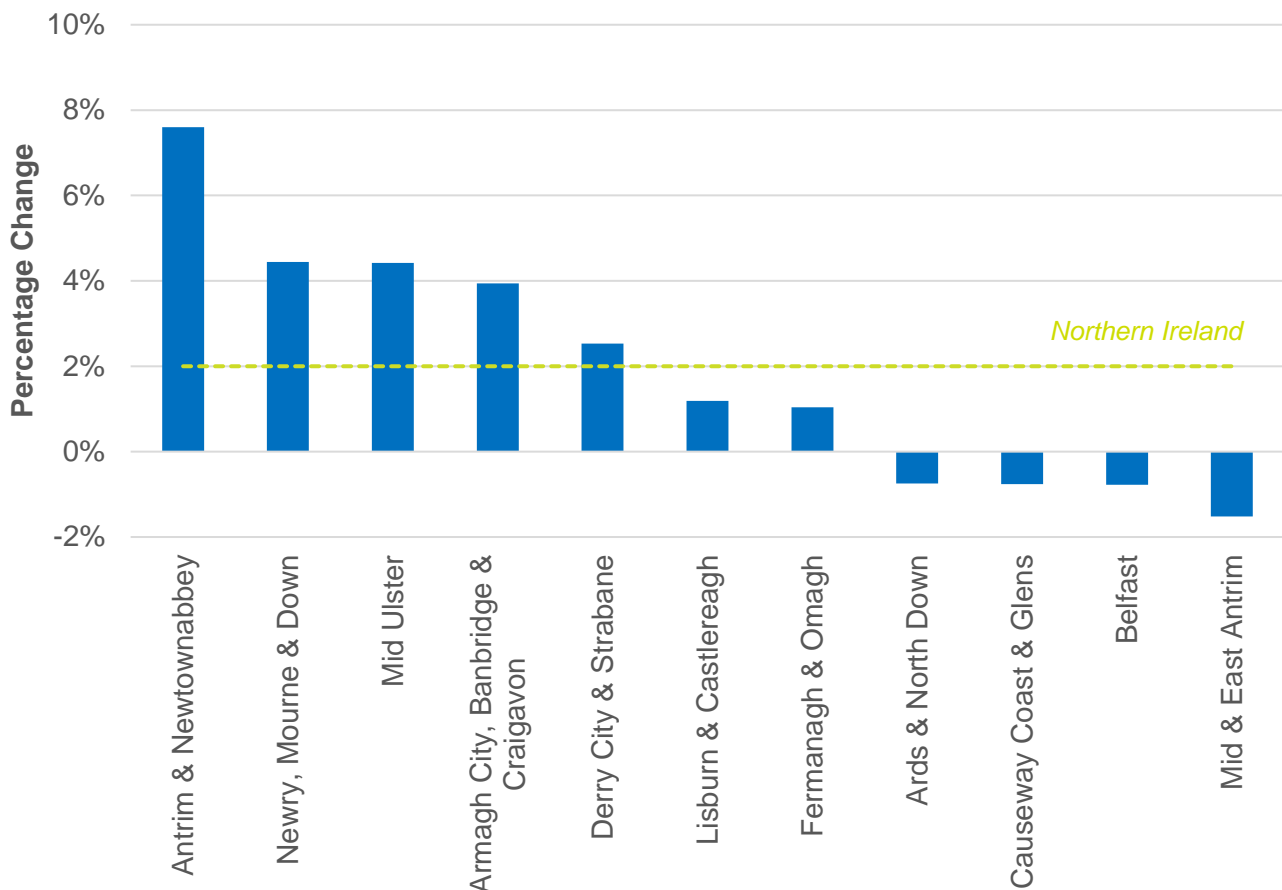
Note: Employee job figures by DCA **exclude** agriculture.

- The District Council Area with the highest number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland was Belfast with 218,478 jobs, representing 30% of jobs in Northern Ireland.
- Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon accounted for the second highest number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland (72,866 jobs or 10% of jobs).
- The District Council Areas with the lowest number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland were Arms & North Down (37,898 jobs or 5% of jobs), Causeway Coast & Glens (39,250 jobs or 5% of jobs) and Fermanagh & Omagh (39,837 jobs or 5% of jobs).

- The majority of employee jobs in each District Council Area are in the services broad industry sector (from 61% in Mid Ulster to 93% in Belfast); of all employee jobs in Northern Ireland in the services broad industry, 34% are located in Belfast District Council Area.
- Of all employee jobs in the Mid Ulster DCA, 28% are in the Manufacturing industry, much higher than any other DCA, and the Northern Ireland average of 11%. These employee jobs represent 18% of the total Manufacturing industry employee jobs in Northern Ireland.

Change over year

Figure 8: Percentage change in the number of employee jobs by District Council Area, Sept 2015 to Sept 2016



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BRES estimates show that between September 2015 and September 2016:

- 7 District Council Areas had an increase in the number of employee jobs since 2015;
- 4 District Council Areas had a decrease in the number of employee jobs since 2015;
- The annual changes ranged from a -2% decrease in Mid & East Antrim to an 8% increase in Antrim & Newtownabbey, and
- The overall increase for Northern Ireland was 2%.

Table 5: Employee jobs by DCA and broad industry with percentage change Sept 2015 to Sept 2016

District Council Area	Employee Jobs 2016 % Change 2015-2016*				
	Manufacturing	Construction	Services	Other	Total
Antrim & Newtownabbey	7,315 -1%	2,800 8%	49,036 9%	1,037 16%	60,188 8%
Ards & North Down	2,797 -1%	1,176 -2%	33,638 -1%	287 -11%	37,898 -1%
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon	11,533 -2%	3,643 9%	56,570 5%	1,120 1%	72,866 4%
Belfast	9,332 -3%	4,476 < 0%	202,421 -1%	2,251 6%	218,478 -1%
Causeway Coast & Glens	3,426 -6%	2,126 2%	33,145 -1%	554 18%	39,250 -1%
Derry City & Strabane	5,365 5%	2,877 29%	46,053 1%	691 7%	54,986 3%
Fermanagh & Omagh	4,842 1%	2,853 5%	31,286 1%	856 6%	39,837 1%
Lisburn & Castlereagh	4,989 -3%	2,643 -6%	46,503 2%	599 11%	54,734 1%
Mid & East Antrim	8,640 -6%	1,956 -5%	31,273 < 0%	969 4%	42,839 -2%
Mid Ulster	14,781 6%	4,691 6%	31,871 3%	1,030 17%	52,372 4%
Newry, Mourne & Down	7,428 11%	3,810 10%	42,289 3%	1,141 -5%	54,668 4%
Total	80,446 1%	33,050 5%	604,086 1%	10,535 6%	728,116 2%

*Percentages rounded to nearest whole number

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Further employee jobs analysis by District Council Area and Industry sector and public/private split are available on the NISRA Economic and Labour Market Statistics branch website [here](#).

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9 Background Notes

Note 1 – Business Register and Employment Survey

The 2016 Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) was the fifth conducted in Northern Ireland. BRES is conducted annually with the sample size varying on a 4 year cyclical basis.

Note 2 - Methodology

BRES is conducted by means of a postal and electronic form enquiry and a full response rate is sought in order to obtain an accurate count of the number of employee jobs at the BRES date. BRES forms are sent to the addresses where employers hold their pay records and employers are asked to return the numbers of employees and the business activity for each address where they have employees. The BRES 2016 figures relate to 4 September 2016.

For the September 2016 BRES, the units to be surveyed were drawn from the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR), which is a register held by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), combining information from the VAT based business register and the HM Revenue and Customs' computerised PAYE system. Units considered to be live at September 2016 were sampled. The 2016 BRES was a sample survey of approximately 12,000 businesses, including all units in the public sector and all private sector units with more than 20 employees or more than one site/business activity. For comparison, the 2015 BRES was a full census of all businesses in Northern Ireland, while BRES 2017 will utilise a sample of approximately 30,000 businesses in Northern Ireland. The effective response rate for 2016 for actual live units was 90%. Employment for non-respondents was estimated on the basis of previous returns and/or information already held on the IDBR.

Note 3 – Agriculture employee jobs

Overall employment (i.e. employee and self-employment) estimates for the agricultural sector are provided, on an annual basis, from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Agriculture Census. This employee figure includes all workers in agricultural businesses other than (a) part-time farmers and partners and (b) farmers' spouses. It includes full-time, part-time and casual workers, both paid and unpaid. The Agriculture Census estimate for Agriculture is only included in the employee jobs figures for the whole of Northern Ireland and splits by broad industry, gender and working pattern and public/private sector (chapters 1-6). It is not included in the District Council Area estimates in chapter 7.

Note 4 – Location of jobs

Sub-Northern Ireland analysis from the BRES is primarily based on the location of the jobs, not on the home address of the employees. However, in a small number of instances where employers were not able to provide figures by actual location, the employees were allocated to the address where pay

records were held. The re-location or change of reporting procedures by large employers can therefore affect the BRES sub-NI analysis when making annual comparisons.

Note 5 – Bank staff in Health and Social Care Trusts

In BRES 2016, estimates of bank employees working on 4 September 2016 were included in the employee job estimates for the five Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Trusts. This change in approach can affect the BRES sub-NI analysis when making annual comparisons, particularly for the District Council Areas which have a Health and Social Care Trust presence.

Note 6 – Public sector definition

BRES defines public sector employee jobs as Central Government (including bodies under the aegis of Central Government) and Local Government (primarily SIC2007 section 'O') and Public Corporations. Please note that for comparison purposes, in October 2013 the Public Sector Classification Committee (PSCC) announced that Royal Mail plc had been reclassified to the private sector. It is, therefore, included in the public sector employee jobs estimates for September 2013 (and earlier years), but not for subsequent years. In December 2013 a further announcement by the PSCC reclassified Lloyds Banking Group and its subsidiaries to the private sector and are, therefore, included in public sector employee job estimates in September 2013 but not in subsequent years.

Note 7 – Employee jobs versus persons employed

BRES counts the number of jobs rather than the number of persons with a job. As a result, a person holding both a full-time job and a part-time job, or someone with two part-time jobs, will be counted twice.

Note 8 – Self-employed

BRES does not include the self-employed in its employee job estimates.

Note 9 – Methodology Changes

In BRES 2016, estimates have been recalibrated in an attempt to provide results which are more coherent with other short term measures such as the Quarterly Business Survey. This is part of an ongoing attempt to provide more coherent employee job estimates each year.

Note 10 – Changes with District Council Areas

Employee job counts within DCAs can change as a result of job creation and/or job losses. It should also be noted that employee jobs can be relocated to other DCAs resulting in changing DCA totals.

10 Contact Details

Further information and more detailed results from the 2016 Business Register and Employment Survey may be made available, subject to confidentiality constraints, by contacting the Economic and Labour Market Statistics Branch. If you require further help, please contact:

Arlene Connolly

Business Register and Employment Survey

Economic and Labour Market Statistics Branch

Department of Finance and Personnel

Colby House

Stranmillis Court

Belfast

BT9 5RR

Telephone: (028) 9052 9606

E-mail: BRES@finance-ni.gov.uk

Web Site: <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/annual-employee-jobs-surveys/business-register-and-employment-survey>