

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council

Council Area Profile

September 2019

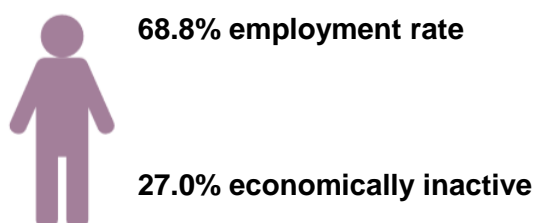
GVA

GVA in Fermanagh & Omagh in 2017 was £1.6bn. This represented 3.9% of the NI share¹.

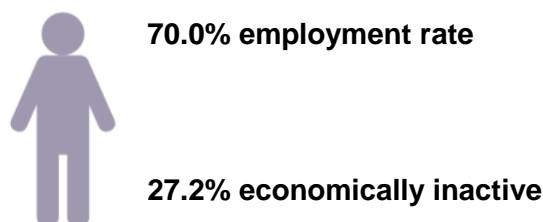
Labour Market Structure

In 2018, the employment rate for NI was 70.0% and the economic inactivity rate was 27.2%. Fermanagh and Omagh was close to the NI averages, with an employment rate of 68.8% (within 1.2 percentage points of the NI rate) and an inactivity rate of 27.0% (within 0.2 percentage points of the NI rate).

Fermanagh & Omagh

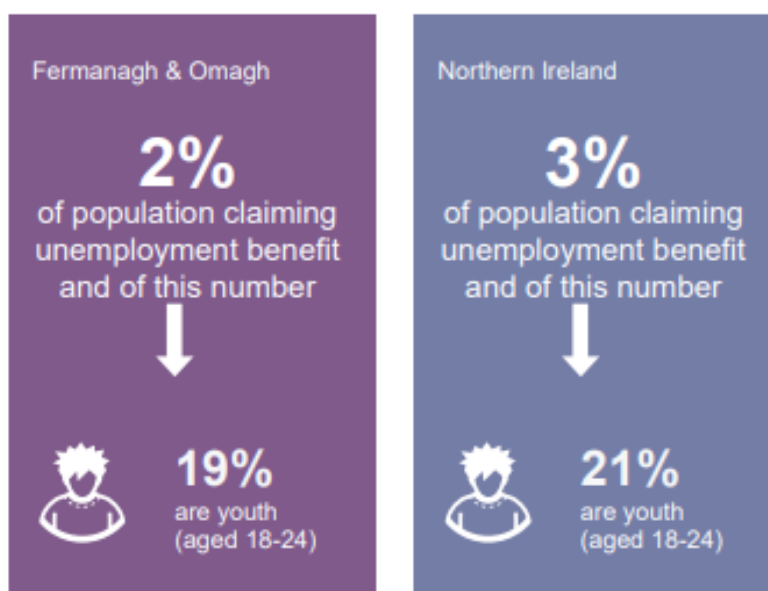


Northern Ireland



In 2017 Fermanagh & Omagh had one of the highest self-employment rates across all Local Government Districts (LGDs) at 26% which was well above the NI average of 16%.²

In 2018, 2% of the population in Fermanagh & Omagh were claiming unemployment benefit which was lower than the NI rate. Just under one-fifth of those in receipt of claiming benefits were young people (aged 18-24).³



¹ Office for National Statistics (ONS)

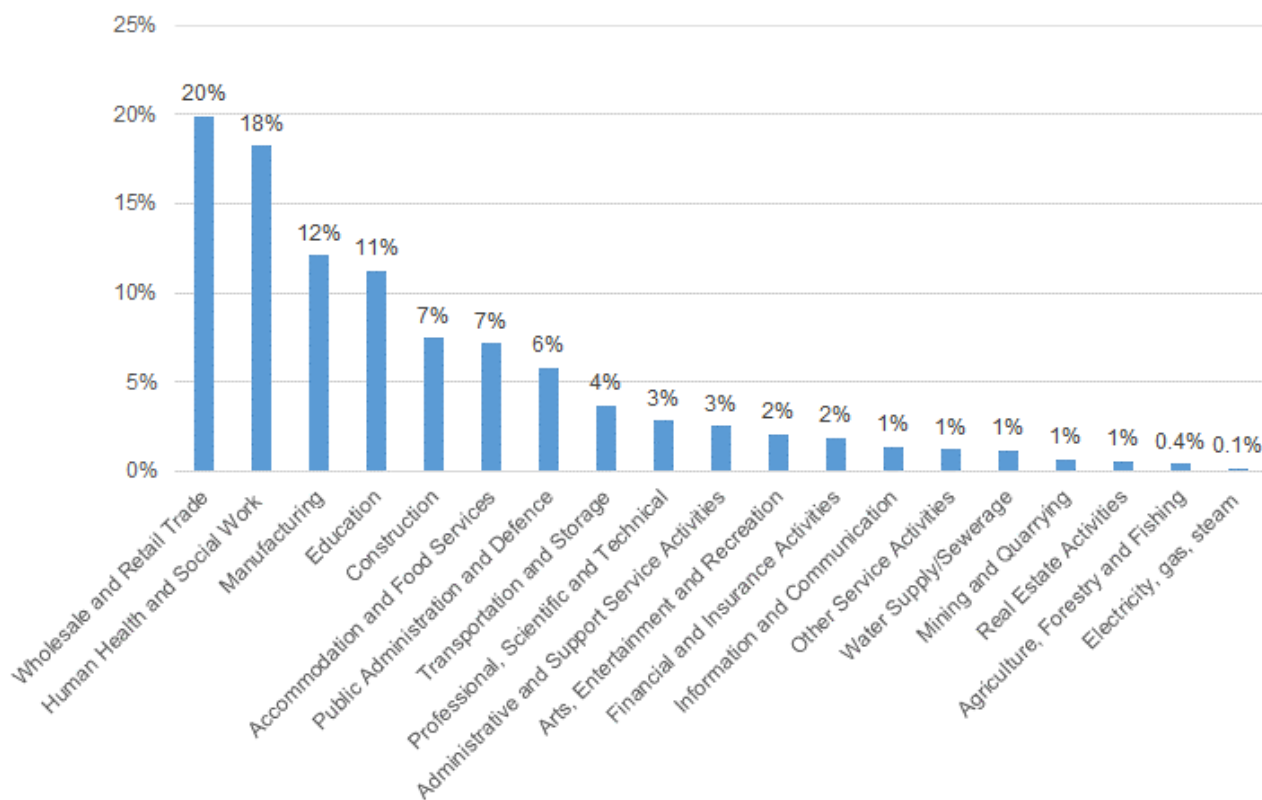
² Labour Force Survey, January-December 2018

³ Claimant Count, NISRA

Employee Jobs

In 2018, there were 41,860 jobs within Fermanagh & Omagh representing 6% of the NI total. Wholesale & Retail Trade is Fermanagh & Omagh's largest sector (20%) followed by Human Health & Social Work (18%) and Manufacturing (12%)⁴.

Figure 1: Employee Jobs by Industry, 2017



The private sector accounted for 69% of all employee jobs in Fermanagh & Omagh in 2018 compared to the NI average of 73%⁵.

Table 1: Public / Private Sector, 2018

District Council	Totals	Public Sector %	Private Sector %
Fermanagh and Omagh	41,860	31%	69%
Total	759,358	27%	73%

⁴ Industry statistics refer to 2017 data. Data for employee jobs by industry is published every 2 years.

⁵ NI business Register and Employment Survey

Redundancies

In 2018 there were 2,498 redundancies across NI. A total of 41 redundancies were in Fermanagh & Omagh representing 2% of the NI total⁶.

Earnings

When analysed by place of work, annual median earnings in 2018 for Fermanagh & Omagh were £18,767, which was the lowest rate amongst all council areas. When analysed by place of residence Fermanagh & Omagh had one of the lowest levels of annual median earnings at £20,717.⁷



Agriculture⁸

In total there are 5,094 farms in Fermanagh and Omagh which represents 20% of total NI farms. Of those, the majority of farm businesses in Fermanagh and Omagh are classified as very small (83%).

Table 2: Number of farms by farm business size⁹ and by District Council in Northern Ireland, June 2018

District Council	Average SO/Farm (€ '000)	Number of farms					Total
		V. Small	Small	Medium	Large		
Fermanagh and Omagh	54.2	4,220	503	189	182	5,094	
NI Total	77.6	19,188	2,824	1,190	1,693	24,895	

⁶ NISRA, Council Area Statistics

⁷ Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, NISRA

⁸ DAERA June Agricultural Census, June 2018

⁹ Note: Farm business size classification is calculated from Standard Labour Requirements (SLR). The total SLR for each farm is calculated by multiplying its crop areas and livestock numbers by the appropriate SLR coefficients and then summing the results for all enterprises on the farm. A standard labour unit is equivalent to 1,900 hours of work per year.

Cattle and sheep farms constitute 86% of farms in Fermanagh and Omagh.

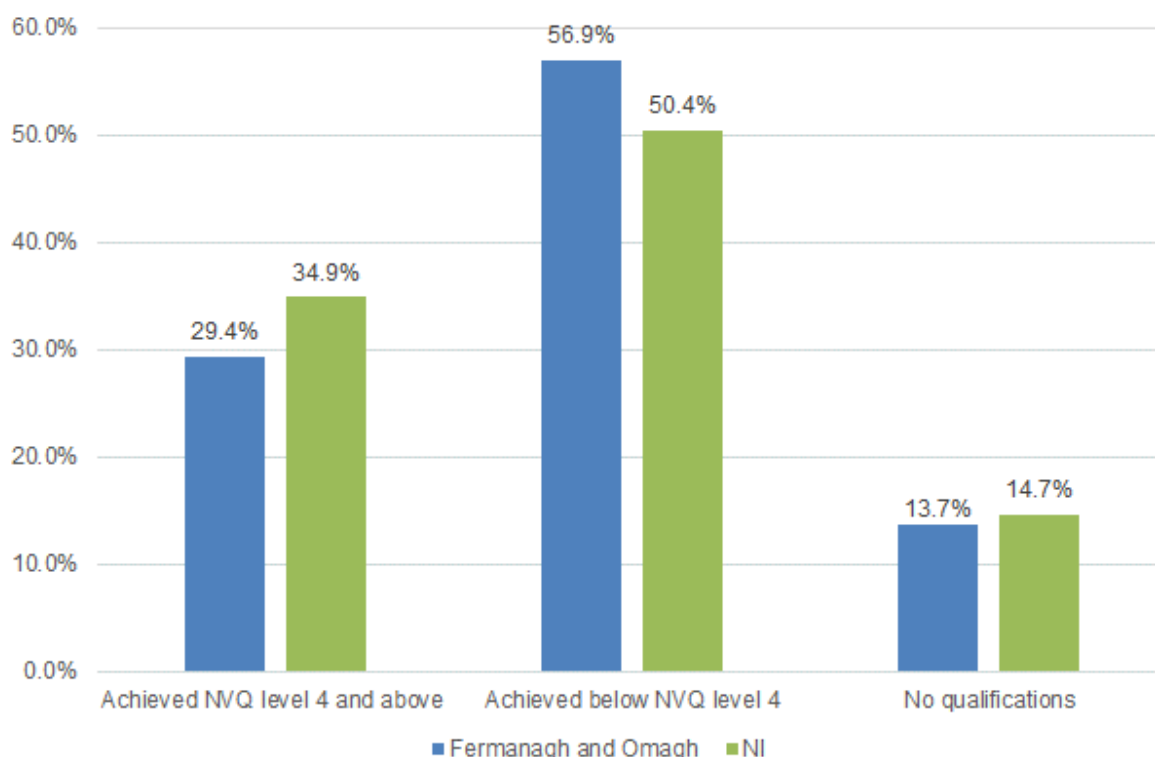
Table 3: Top 3 farm types by number of farms by District Council in Northern Ireland, June 2018

District Council	Poultry	Dairy	Cattle & Sheep		Total number of farms
			LFA ¹⁰	Lowland	
Fermanagh and Omagh	98	491	4,275	103	5,094
NI Total	639	2,545	14,700	5,109	24,895

Qualifications

In 2018, 29.4% of those aged 16-64 years were qualified to NVQ level 4 and above¹¹ in Fermanagh & Omagh compared to 34.9% for NI; and 13.7% had no qualifications compared with 14.7% in NI.¹²

Figure 2: Qualifications based on working age population (16-64), 2018



¹⁰ Less Favoured Area

¹¹ This relates to those at degree level and above which includes foundation degrees, higher degrees, teaching and nursing degrees.

¹² NISRA, [Labour Force Survey 2018](#)

Cross Border Movements

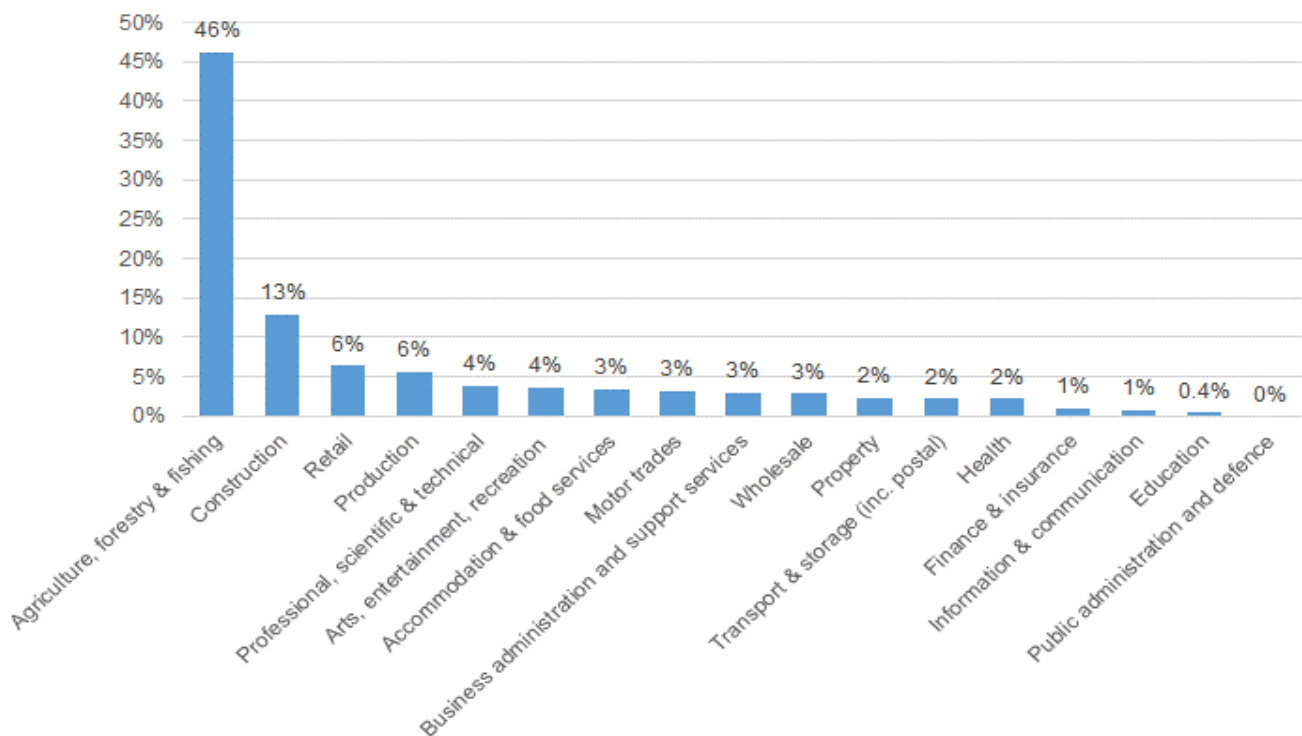
Analysis of Mobile Network Operator (MNO) information¹³ indicates that 17% of cross border travel from NI to ROI by NI residents started in Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. 24% of crossings from ROI to NI by ROI residents ended in Fermanagh and Omagh.

On average residents made 2.5 cross border trips per week. 32% of cross border travel was for work purposes and 68% was for social/leisure purposes.

Business Profile

In 2019 there were 8,200 businesses located within Fermanagh & Omagh representing 11% of the NI population. The vast majority (94%) are classified as micro (0-9 employees). The top sectors in Fermanagh & Omagh are: Agriculture, Forestry & fishing (46%) and Construction (13%).¹⁴

Figure 3: Number of VAT and/or PAYE Registered Businesses Operating in Fermanagh & Omagh by Broad Industry Group, 2019



Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

According to Invest NI's Fermanagh & Omagh Council Briefing¹⁵, over the period 2014/15 to 2018/19, 17 externally owned businesses were offered support that contributed towards investment commitments of £29m and assisted 124 jobs in the area.

¹³ DfE (2018) [Cross Border Movements: The movement of people across the NI-Rol border](#)

¹⁴ Source: NISRA, Inter-Departmental Business Register

¹⁵ <https://secure.investni.com/static/library/invest-ni/documents/investni-support-council-area-fermanagh-and-omagh-2019.pdf>

Web-links to useful data sources

[Labour Force Survey](#)

[Claimant Count](#)

[Regional analysis and trends](#)

[Quarterly Employment Survey](#)

[Business Register and Employment Survey](#)

[Annual Business Inquiry](#)

[Redundancies](#)

[Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings](#)

[Regional Gross Value Added \(Balanced\)](#)

[NI Composite Economic Index](#)

[Broad Economy Sales and Exports Statistics](#)

[Inter Departmental Business Register](#)

[Agricultural Census 2018](#)

[Local Government Tourism Statistics](#)

[Invest NI Regional Profiles](#)

- [Eastern](#)
- [North Eastern](#)
- [North Western](#)
- [Southern](#)
- [Western](#)

[Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2018](#)

[Northern Ireland Trade and Investment Under 'No Deal'](#)

[The movement of people across the Northern Ireland - Republic of Ireland border](#)

[An analysis of migrant workers from the NI census](#)