

Northern Ireland Business Register and Employment Survey 2015



First published: 28th September 2016
Geographical Area: Northern Ireland
Theme: Labour Market
Frequency: Biennially

Key Points

- The total number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland in September 2015 was 728,932, an increase of 7,749 jobs (1.1%) since September 2014.
- This increase was driven by growth in employee jobs in the Services (3,830 jobs), Manufacturing (3,162 jobs) and Construction (1,425 jobs) industries.
- Businesses classified in the 'Other' industry sector showed a decrease of 668 employee jobs since September 2014. This was driven almost entirely by a fall in the number of farm workers (658 jobs).
- Over the year to September 2015 both male and female jobs increased, by 6,436 (1.8%) and 1,312 (0.4%) jobs respectively. Full-time employee jobs increased by 15,665 (3.4%) over the year while part-time employee jobs decreased by 7,917 (3.0%).
- Between September 2014 and September 2015, there was a decrease in jobs in the public sector (5,430 jobs or 2.6%) and an increase in jobs in the private sector (13,179 jobs or 2.6%).
- Eight District Council Areas recorded an increase in the number of employee jobs since 2014. The largest increase was seen in Belfast (5,440 jobs or 2.5%) to 220,190 jobs, whilst decreases were seen in Fermanagh and Omagh (-401 jobs or -1.0%), Lisburn and Castlereagh (-276 jobs or -0.5%) and Mid and East Antrim (-76 jobs or -0.2%).

National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

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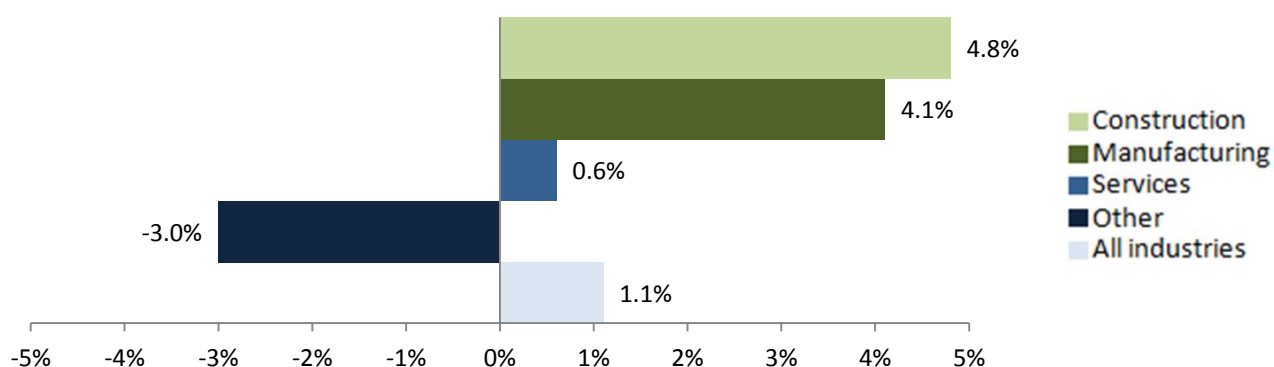
Summary of Employee Jobs – September 2015

Employee Jobs Estimates

The Northern Ireland Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) estimates that at September 2015:

- the total number of employee jobs in Northern Ireland was 728,932.
- employee jobs were comprised of 82% in the Services industry, 11% in the Manufacturing industry, 4% in the Construction industry and 3% in the 'Other' industry.

Figure 1: Changes in Employee Jobs by Broad Industry, September 2014 to September 2015



Change over year

Between September 2014 and September 2015, employee jobs;

- increased by 7,749 (1.1%) in Northern Ireland;
- increased by 1,425 (4.8%) in the Construction industry;
- increased by 3,162 (4.1%) in the Manufacturing industry;
- increased by 3,830 (0.6%) in the Services industry; and
- decreased by 668 (3.0%) in the 'Other' industry.

Composition of Employee Jobs

BRES estimates show that at September 2015;

- 49% of employee jobs were occupied by males and 51% by females.
- 65% of employee jobs were full-time and 35% were part-time.

Change over year

BRES estimates show that between September 2014 and September 2015;

- both male and female jobs increased, by 6,436 (1.8%) and 1,312 (0.4%) respectively.

- full-time employee jobs increased by 15,665 (3.4%), while part-time employee jobs decreased by 7,917 (3.0%).
- the increase in full-time employee jobs was largely driven by an increase in full-time employee jobs in the Services industry (11,058 jobs). This was made up of an increase of 7,391 female full-time jobs and 3,667 male full-time jobs.
- there were also considerable increases in male full-time jobs in the Manufacturing and Construction industries (2,341 and 1,408 jobs respectively).

Employee Jobs by Public/Private Sector Split

BRES estimates show that at September 2015;

- 28% of employee jobs were in the public sector (204,361).
- 72% of employee jobs were in the private sector (524,571).

Change over year

BRES estimates show that between September 2014 and September 2015;

- there was a decrease in jobs in the public sector (5,430 jobs or 2.6%) and an increase in jobs in the private sector (13,179 jobs or 2.6%).
- the increase in private sector jobs was largely driven by increases in both male full-time and female full-time jobs in the private sector (7,862 and 5,278 jobs respectively); while the decrease in public sector jobs was largely driven by decreases in male part-time and female part-time jobs (2,665 and 5,291 jobs respectively).

Employee Jobs by Northern Ireland District Council Area

BRES estimates show that at September 2015;

- the District Council Areas with the highest number of employee jobs were Belfast (220,190), Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon (70,101) and Antrim and Newtownabbey (55,937) .
- the District Council Areas with the lowest number of employee jobs were Ards and North Down (38,182), Fermanagh and Omagh (39,426) and Causeway Coast and Glens (39,552).

Change over year

BRES estimates show that between September 2014 and September 2015;

- eight District Council Areas recorded an increase in the number of employee jobs. Fermanagh and Omagh, Lisburn and Castlereagh and Mid and East Antrim were the only District Council Areas to show decreases in employee jobs (-1.0%, -0.5% and -0.2% respectively).
- Belfast saw the largest increase of 5,440 jobs (2.5%), and Mid Ulster saw the largest percentage increase of 2.8% (1,370 jobs).

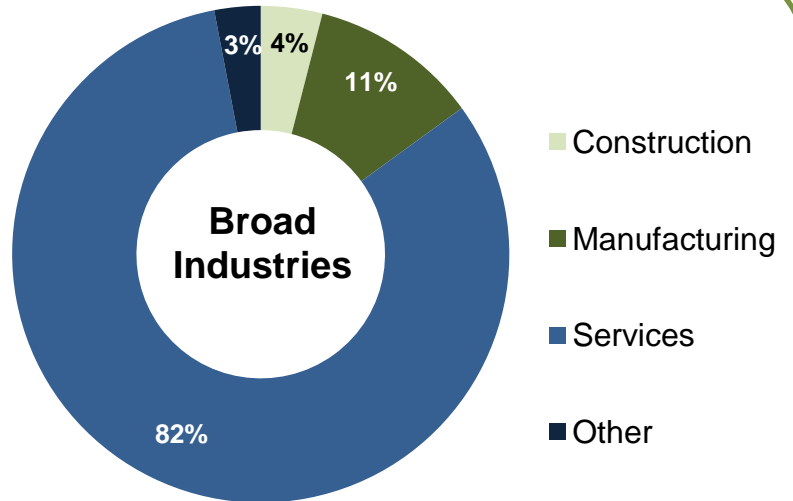
NISRA LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS

Business Register and Employment Survey Employee Jobs in Northern Ireland, September 2015

728,932
September 2015

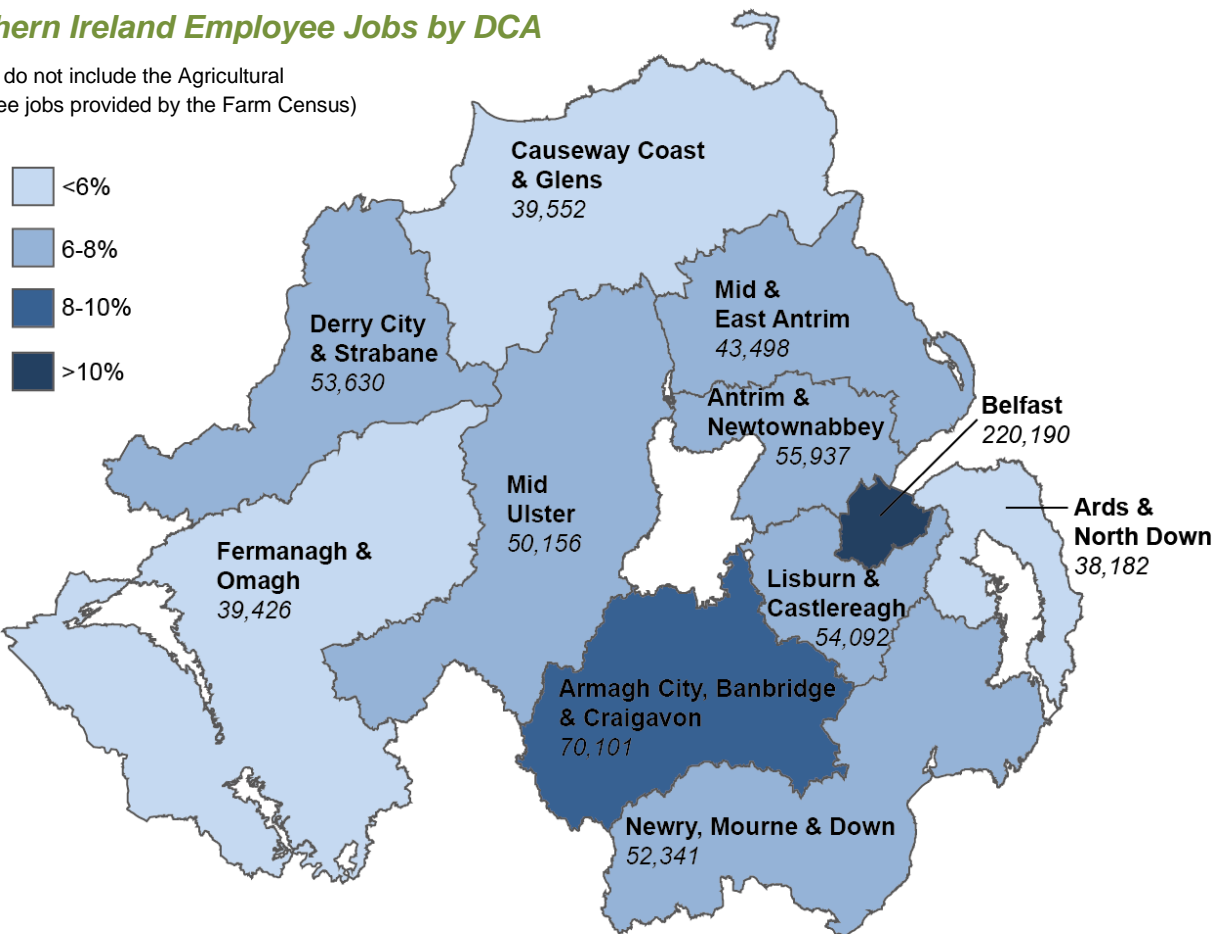


+7,749 from
September 2014



Northern Ireland Employee Jobs by DCA

(figures do not include the Agricultural employee jobs provided by the Farm Census)



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This bulletin summarises findings from the Northern Ireland Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) 2015. The 2015 BRES was a full census of all businesses in Northern Ireland, while the 2014 BRES was a sample survey of approximately 12,000 businesses in Northern Ireland. The effective response rate for BRES 2015 was 88 per cent.

Coverage and Definitions

The survey collects information on the number of males and females in full-time and part-time employment by business activity. 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 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 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). 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 Farm Census (<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/agricultural-census-northern-ireland>). The estimates from BRES are combined with the estimates from the Farm 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 Farm Census are not included in the District Council Area splits. Results from the Northern Ireland BRES are incorporated into the results from the GB BRES (produced by the Office for National Statistics) in order to provide relevant comparisons for the UK as a whole (see <http://www.ons.gov.uk>).

It should be noted that 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.

BRES is only one of the employment measures for Northern Ireland. Other measures include the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) and the Labour Force Survey (LFS). QES is a business survey

providing short-term employee job estimates for Northern Ireland to identify job trends from quarter to quarter and year to year. Employee job figures produced from BRES and QES Quarter 3 are comparable.

The 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.

A set of associated tables have been provided and are available at the following link:

<https://www.detini.gov.uk/publications/bres-publications-and-tables-2015>

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Employee Jobs by Industry

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

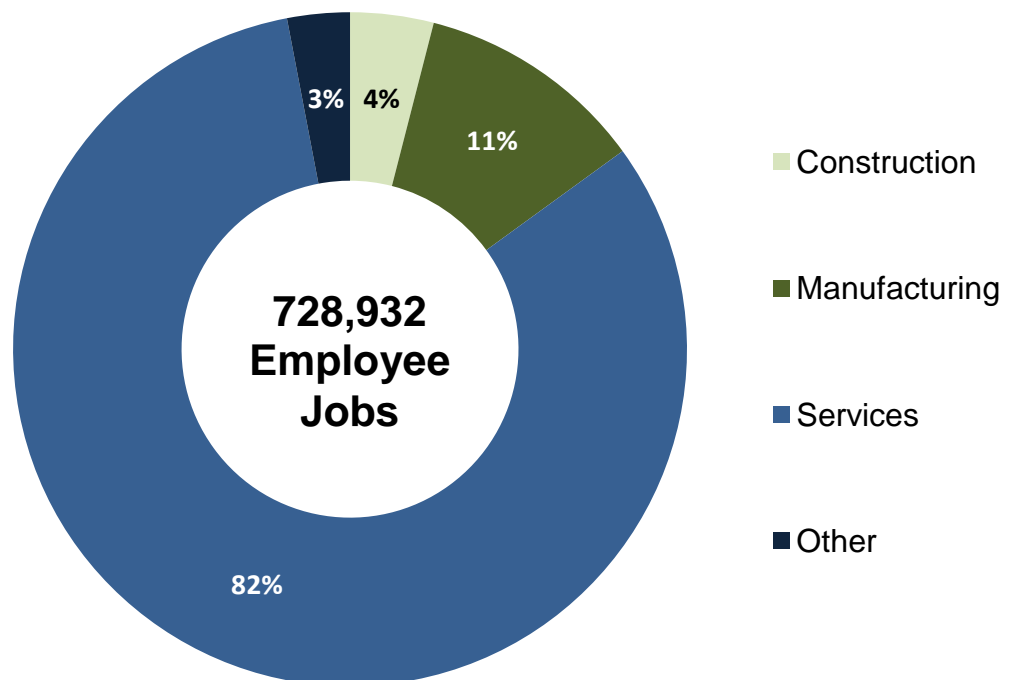
An employee job is a job occupied by anyone aged 16 years or over and that an organisation pays directly from its payroll(s), in return for the employee carrying out a full-time or part-time job or being on a training scheme in Northern Ireland.

BRES counts the number of jobs rather than the number of persons with jobs. Therefore a person holding both a full-time and a part-time job, or someone with two part-time jobs, will be counted twice. Full-time equivalents are not used.

Key findings:

- In September 2015, there were 728,932 employee jobs in Northern Ireland, an increase of 7,749 jobs (1.1%) since 2014
- This overall increase was driven by increases in the Construction (4.8%), Manufacturing (4.1%) and Services (0.6%) industries
- Businesses classified in the 'Other' industry sector showed a decrease of 3.0% since 2014

Figure 2: Percentage of employee jobs by Broad Industry, September 2015



The 728,932 employee jobs in 2015 were made up of;

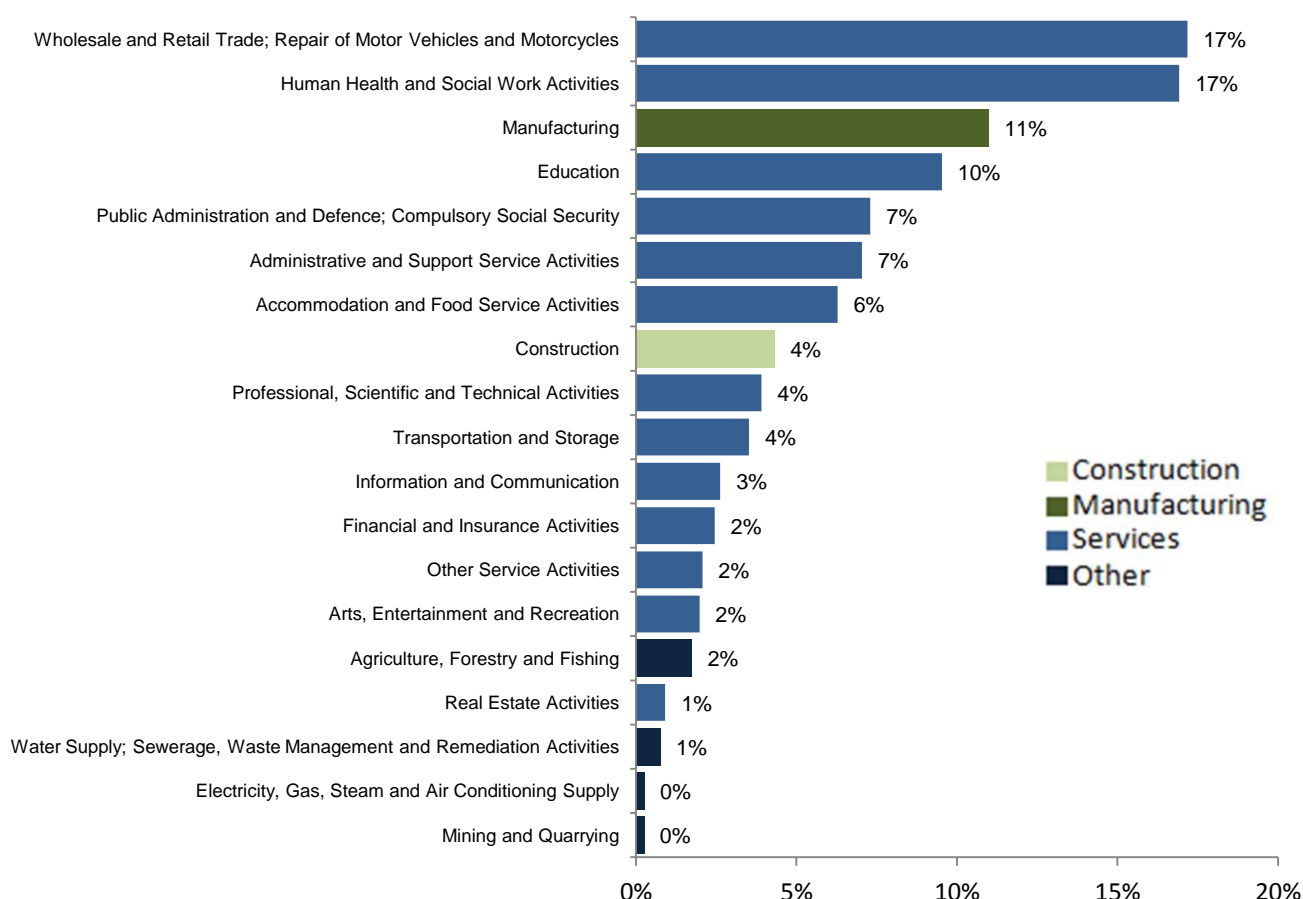
- 82% (595,731) in the Services industry
- 11% (80,013) in the Manufacturing industry
- 4% (31,406) in the Construction industry
- 3% (21,782) in the 'Other' industry

Change over year

BRES estimates show that between September 2014 and September 2015 employee jobs;

- increased by 4.8% (1,425) in the Construction industry
- increased by 4.1% (3,162) in the Manufacturing industry
- increased by 0.6% (3,830) in the Services industry
- decreased by 3.0% (668) in the 'Other' industry. This was driven almost entirely by a decrease in the number of farm workers (658 jobs).

Figure 3: Percentage of employee jobs by Industry Section, September 2015



- The three biggest industry sections are Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles, Human Health and Social Work Activities and Manufacturing, with employee jobs in these three industries accounting for nearly half (45.1%) of all employee jobs in Northern Ireland.

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Composition of Employee Jobs

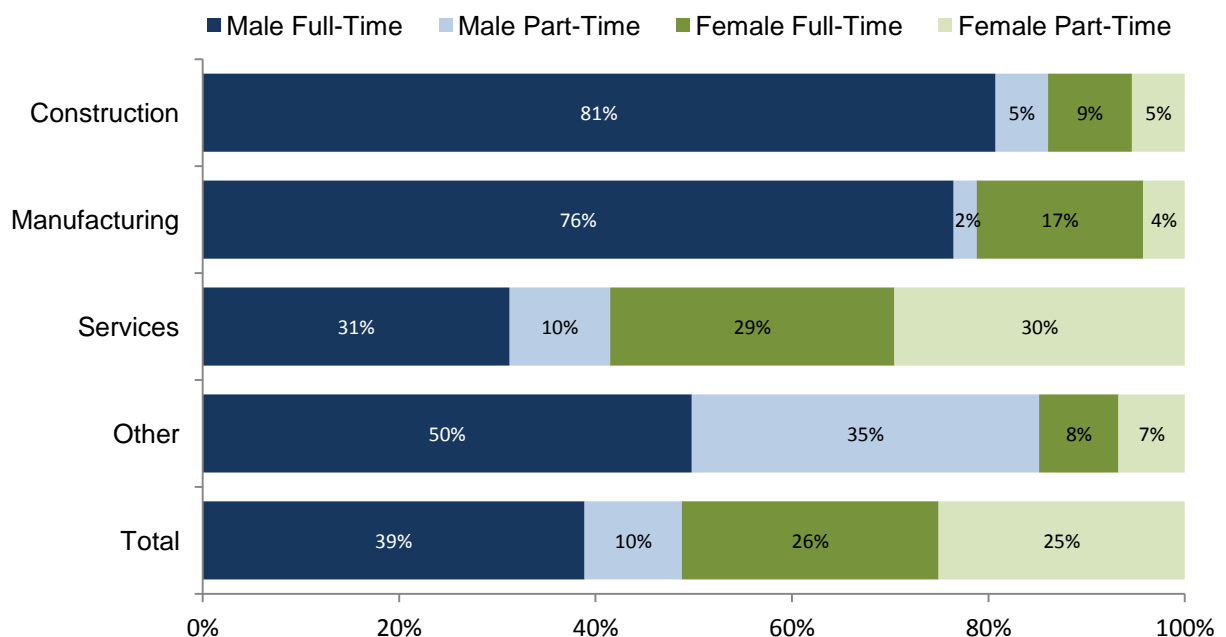
The figures in this chapter include the Agriculture employee job estimates provided by the Farm Census. These employee jobs are included within the 'Other' broad industry.

Persons working more than 30 hours per week are normally regarded as in full-time employment. Persons working 30 hours or less per week are 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.

Key findings:

- 49% of employee jobs were occupied by males and 51% by females
- 65% of employee jobs were full-time and 35% were part-time
- Both male and female jobs increased since 2014, however the overall increase in employee jobs since 2014 was largely driven by an increase in male jobs (6,436 jobs)
- Male full-time employee jobs accounted for the largest proportion of jobs (39%)
- 80% of male jobs were full-time whilst female jobs were almost evenly split between full-time and part-time (51% and 49% respectively)

Figure 4: Percentage of employee jobs as male/female, full-time/part-time, September 2015



BRES estimates highlight that in September 2015;

- Male jobs accounted for 49% (355,714) and female jobs accounted for 51% (373,218) of employee jobs.
- Full-time jobs accounted for 65% (474,015), and part-time jobs accounted for 35% (254,917) of all employee jobs.
- A large proportion of Construction and Manufacturing employee jobs were male full-time jobs (81% and 76% respectively). Males also occupy a large proportion (85%) of employee jobs in the 'Other' industry, divided between full-time (50%) and part-time (35%).
- Females occupied approximately 59% of employee jobs within the 'Services' industry. These jobs were divided almost evenly between full-time (29%) and part-time (30%).

Change over year

BRES estimates show that between September 2014 and September 2015 there was;

- an increase in male jobs of 1.8% (6,436 jobs)
- an increase in female jobs of 0.4% (1,312 jobs)
- an increase in full-time jobs of 3.4% (15,665 jobs)
- a decrease in part-time jobs of 3.0% (7,917 jobs)

- The increase in full-time employee jobs was largely driven by an increase in full-time employee jobs in the Services industry (11,058 jobs). This was made up of an increase of 7,391 female full-time jobs and 3,667 male full-time jobs.
- There were also considerable increases in male full-time jobs in the Manufacturing and Construction industries (2,341 and 1,408 jobs respectively).

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Employee Jobs by Public/Private Sector Split

The figures in this chapter include the Agriculture employee job estimates provided by the Farm Census. These employee jobs are included within the Private industry.

Persons working more than 30 hours per week are regarded as in full-time employment.

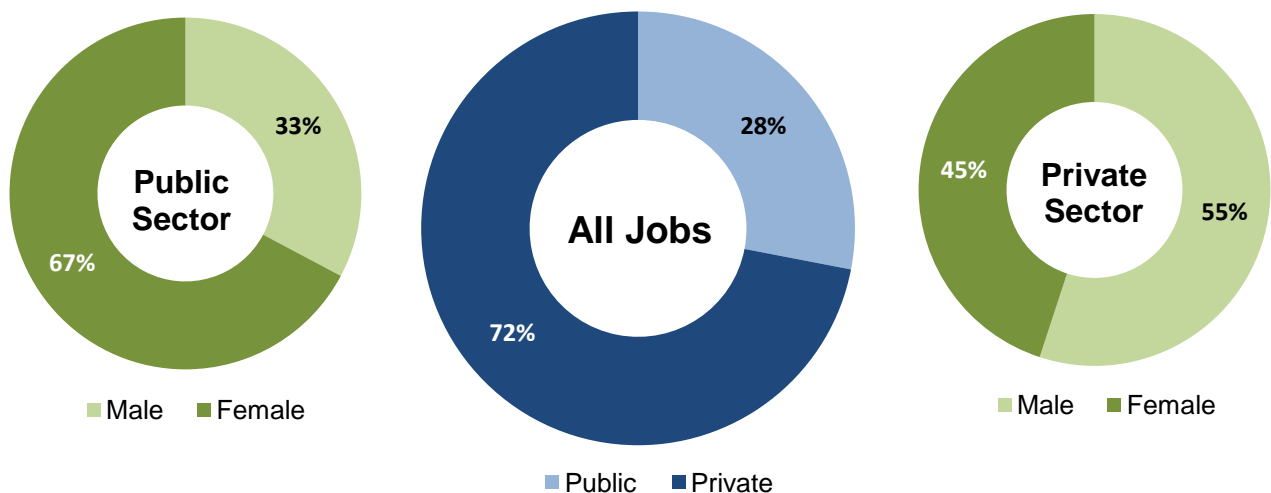
Persons working 30 hours or less per week are regarded as in part-time employment.

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:

- 28% of employee jobs were in the public sector whilst 72% were in the private sector
- The private sector showed an increase of 13,179 employee jobs (2.6%) since 2014; whilst the public sector showed a decrease of 5,430 employee jobs (2.6%)
- The majority of public sector jobs were occupied by females (67%) whilst the majority of private sector jobs were occupied by males (55%)

Figure 5: Proportion of public and private sector employee jobs, September 2015

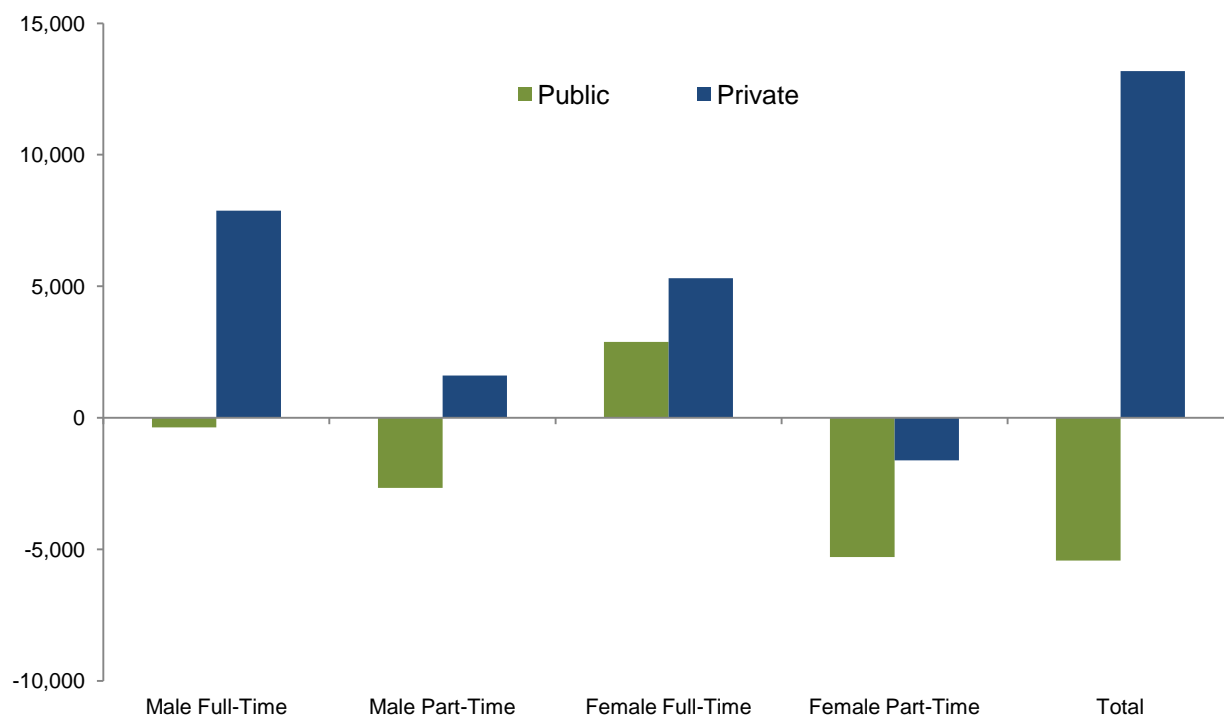


- Public sector jobs accounted for 28% (204,361) and private sector jobs accounted for 72% (524,571) of employee jobs in 2015.
- Of public sector jobs, 67% were female. Private sector jobs were more evenly split with males accounting for 55% of private sector employee jobs and females accounting for 45% of private sector employee jobs.

- The overall proportion of public and private sector jobs has remained relatively unchanged between 2014 and 2015 (for comparison, the public sector accounted for 29% and the private sector accounted for 71% of employee jobs in 2014).

Change over year

Figure 6: Change in public and private sector employee jobs by gender and work-pattern, September 2014 to September 2015



BRES estimates show that between September 2014 and September 2015 there was:

- a decrease in public sector jobs of 2.6% (5,430 jobs)
 - an increase in full-time public sector jobs of 1.9% (2,525 jobs)
 - a decrease of part-time public sector jobs of 10.0% (7,955 jobs)
- an increase in private sector jobs of 2.6% (13,179 jobs)
 - an increase of full-time private sector jobs of 4.0% (13,140 jobs)
 - a small increase of 39 part-time private sector jobs

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Employee jobs by District Council Area

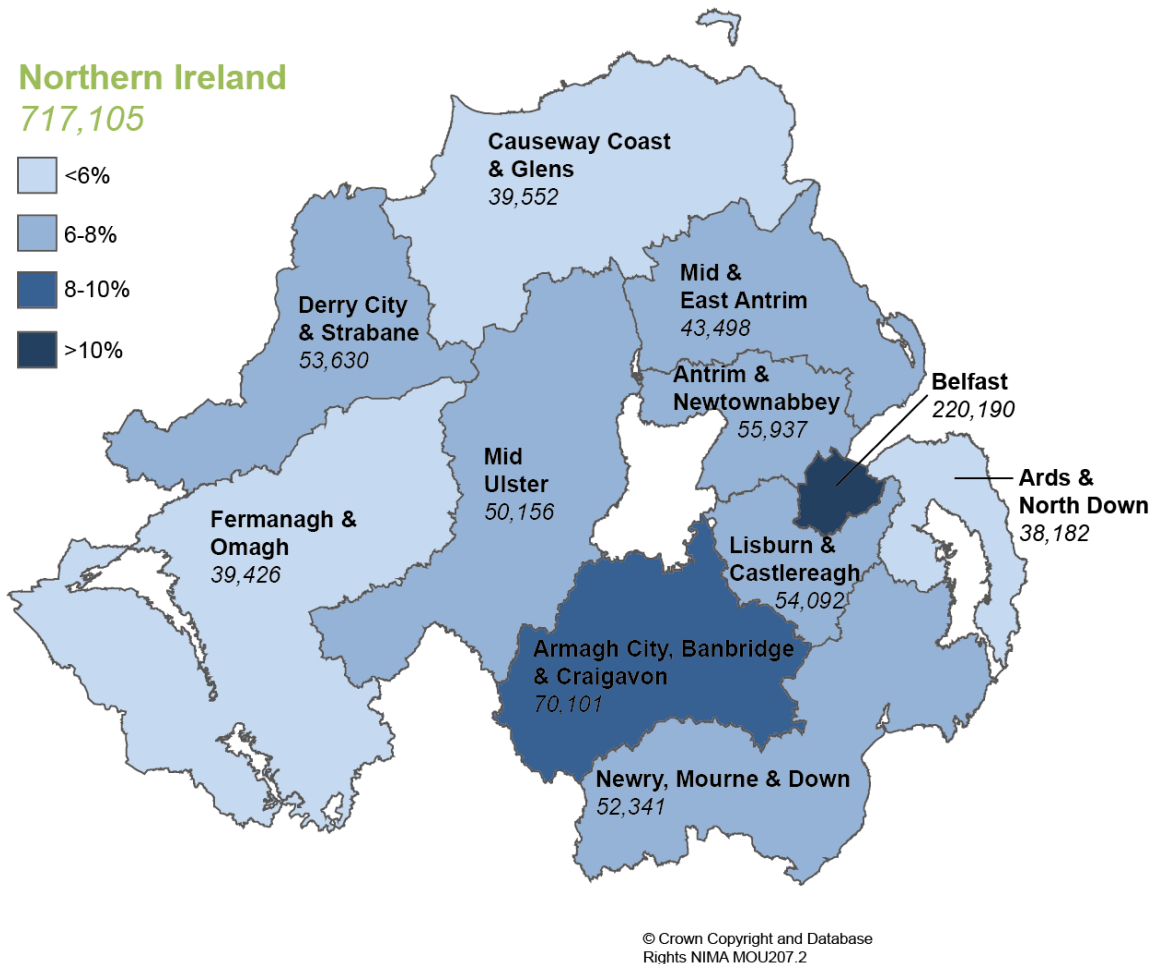
The figures in this chapter exclude the Agriculture employee job estimates provided by the Farm Census but include animal husbandry services and hunting, trapping and game propagation.

The figures provided are based on the new district councils in Northern Ireland that came into operation in April 2015. The figures are primarily based on the location of the jobs, not on the home address of the employees (see note 4, chapter 8 for further details).

Key findings:

- The District Council Area with the highest number of employee jobs was Belfast (220,190 jobs), whilst Ards and North Down had the lowest number (38,182 jobs).
- Eight District Council Areas recorded an increase in the number of employee jobs since 2014. The largest increase was seen in Belfast (5,440 jobs), whilst decreases were seen in Fermanagh and Omagh (401 jobs), Lisburn and Castlereagh (276 jobs) and Mid and East Antrim (76 jobs).

Figure 7: Employee jobs within each District Council Area of Northern Ireland, September 2015

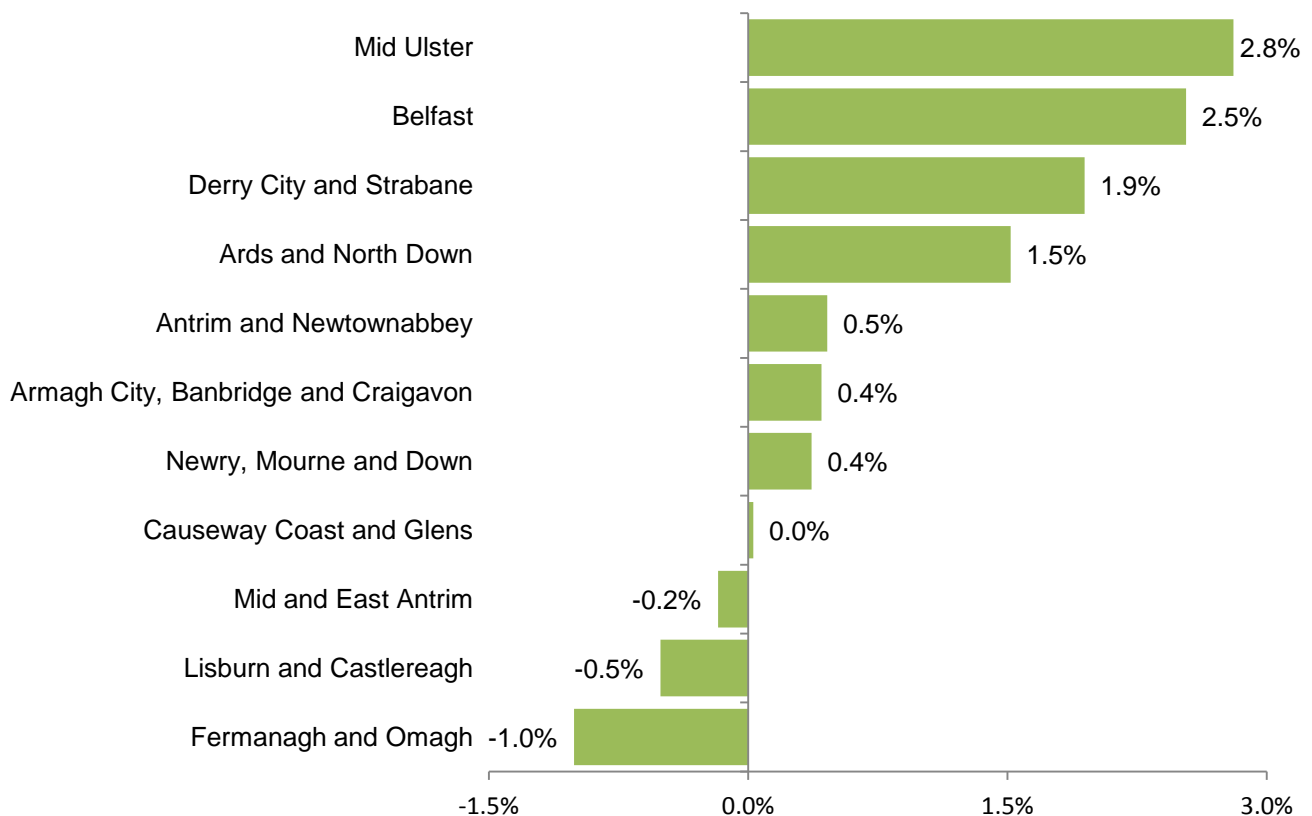


BRES estimates show that in September 2015:

- The District Council Area with the highest number of employee jobs was Belfast (220,190), accounting for 31% of the total employee jobs in Northern Ireland.
- Employee jobs in Belfast, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon and Antrim and Newtownabbey account for nearly half of all employee jobs in Northern Ireland (48%).
- The District Council Area with the lowest number of employee jobs was Ards and North Down (38,182), accounting for 5% of the total employee jobs in Northern Ireland.

Change over year

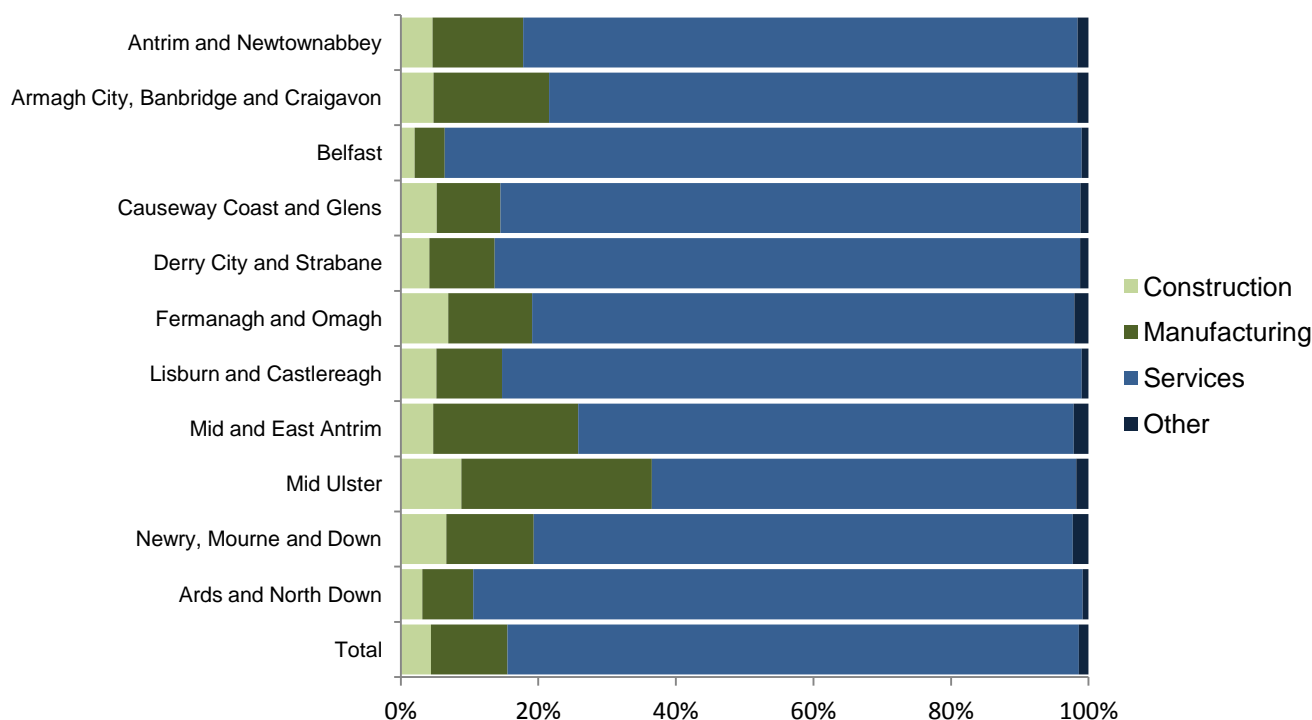
Figure 8: Percentage change in the number of employee jobs by District Council Area, September 2014 to September 2015



Between September 2014 and September 2015;

- Eight District Council Areas recorded an increase in the number of employee jobs since 2014. The biggest increases were seen in Mid Ulster (2.8%), Belfast (2.5%) and Derry City and Strabane (1.9%). Causeway Coast and Glens showed a small increase of 12 jobs.
- Fermanagh and Omagh, Lisburn and Castlereagh and Mid and East Antrim were the only District Council Areas to show a decrease in employee jobs (-1.0%, -0.5% and -0.2% respectively), with the remainder showing an increase.

Figure 9: Employee jobs by District Council Area and Broad Industry, September 2015



- Mid Ulster has the highest proportions of employee jobs in both the Construction and Manufacturing industries (9% and 28% of Mid Ulster employee jobs respectively).
- Belfast has the highest proportion of employee jobs in the Services industry (93% of Belfast employee jobs), followed by Ards and North Down (89%). The majority of employee jobs in each District Council Area are in the Services industry.
- The proportions of employee jobs in the 'Other' industry are fairly consistent across all District Council Areas, ranging from 1% - 2% of employee jobs in each District Council Area.

Change over year

Between September 2014 and September 2015;

- Belfast was the only District Council Area to show a decrease in the number of employee jobs in the Construction industry (-138 jobs), with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon showing the biggest increase (290 jobs).
- Belfast and Causeway Coast and Glens were the only District Council Areas to show decreases in the number of employee jobs in the Manufacturing industry (-170 and -64 jobs respectively), with Antrim and Newtownabbey showing the biggest increase (1,066 jobs).
- Decreases in employee jobs in the Services industry were seen in seven District Council Areas, however these were offset by a large increase in Belfast District Council Area (5,893 jobs).
- Decreases were seen in employee jobs in the 'Other' industry in four District Council Areas.

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Quarterly Employment Estimates

The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) results provide a benchmark for the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) employee jobs series which had previously estimated the September 2015 employee jobs figure to be 724,860. Table 2 shows that the BRES figure is 4,072 jobs (0.6%) higher than the previously published Quarterly Employment Survey estimate for September 2015.

Table 2: Quarterly Employment Estimates

	SIC 2007 Section	Previously Published Quarterly Estimate for September 2015	BRES September 2015	Difference	% Difference
Manufacturing	C	79,080	80,013	933	1.2%
Construction	F	29,910	31,406	1,496	5.0%
Services	G-S	594,420	595,731	1,311	0.2%
Other*	A, B, D & E	21,450	21,782	332	1.5%
All Industries	A-S	724,860	728,932	4,072	0.6%

* Covers Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing, Mining & Quarrying and Electricity, Gas & Air conditioning supply and Water supply, Sewerage, Waste management and remediation activities.

The quarterly estimates for the period December 2013 to September 2015 will be revised in light of these BRES results and the new estimates will be published in the Labour Market Report (LMR) publication on Wednesday 14 December 2016.

Note 1 – Business Register and Employment Survey

The 2015 Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) was the fourth conducted in Northern Ireland.

Note 2 – Methodology

BRES is conducted by means of a postal 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 2015 figures relate to 7th September 2015.

For the September 2015 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 2015 were sampled. The 2015 BRES was a full census of all businesses in Northern Ireland, while the 2014 BRES was a sample survey of approximately 12,000 businesses in Northern Ireland. The effective response rate for 2015 for actual live units was 88 per cent. 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) Farm 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 Farm 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. It is not included in the District Council Area estimates.

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

Estimates of bank employees working on 7th September 2015 were included in the employee job estimates for the five Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Trusts.

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.

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.

More detailed results from the 2015 Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) are now available, including information on District Council Areas (DCAs) which can be downloaded from the branch website as given below. Further data, including detailed industrial breakdowns (disaggregated Standard Industrial Classification data) and ward level totals will be available via the website, subject to confidentiality constraints. If you require further help, please contact:

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