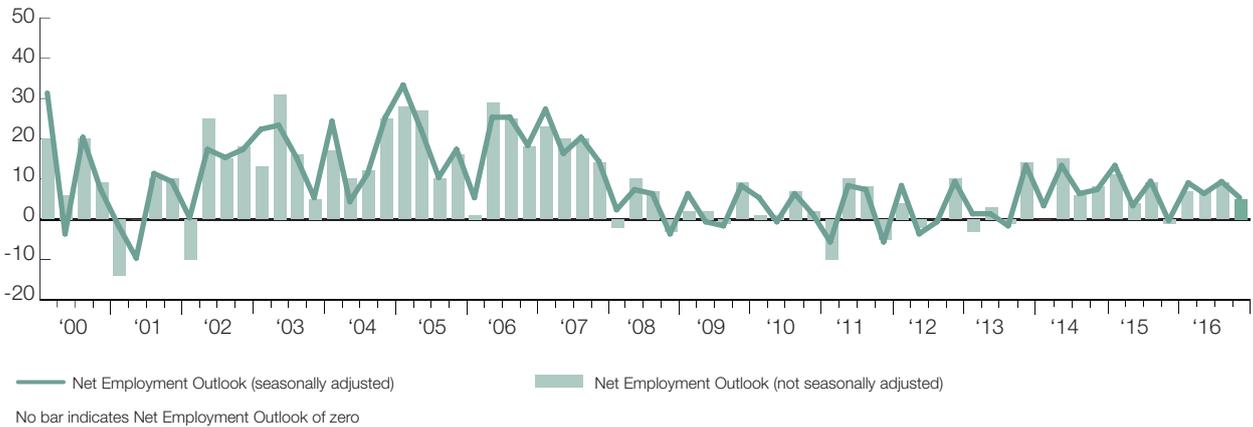




# Employers are cautiously optimistic

For the fourth quarter of 2016, the North East has seen a slight fall in hiring intentions when compared to the previous quarter. However, with an Employment Outlook of +5%, employers in the North East are cautiously optimistic about the prospects for job creation.



Q4 2016

## North East employment snapshot

### Average weekly pay

The North East is the second-lowest paid region in the UK. The average weekly wage is **£496**, some £98 below the national average.

### Employment

The rate of employment in the North East is below the national average and stands at **71.2%**. Nevertheless, the rate has risen 3.1% when compared to the same period last year.

### Hiring Outlook

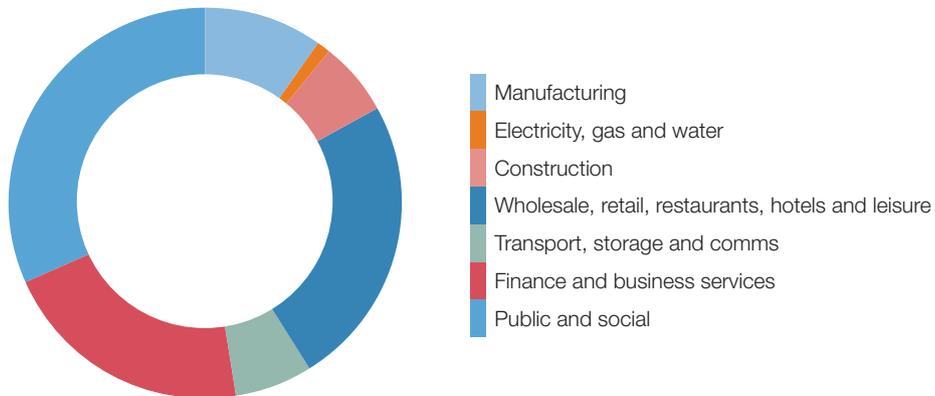
For the fourth quarter of 2016, the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook in the North East is **+5%**, exactly in line with the national average.

### Unemployment

At **7.6%**, the unemployment rate is the highest in the country and is significantly higher than the national average (4.9%). However, unemployment has fallen slightly when compared to the same period last year.

Q4 2016

## WHERE DO PEOPLE WORK?



## WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?



### Market overview

In the last three months, the North East recruitment market has remained fairly steady with activity picking up in August. We've seen increased hiring demand around roles in construction and engineering (particularly in Newcastle), contact centre, IT, legal, and the retail trade.

However, with persistent skills shortages, employers are struggling to find candidates with the right skills. It is a candidate-led market, and job seekers have become increasingly picky in choosing where, and for whom, they want to work. As a result, more employers are approaching us for advice about the most competitive salaries to offer.