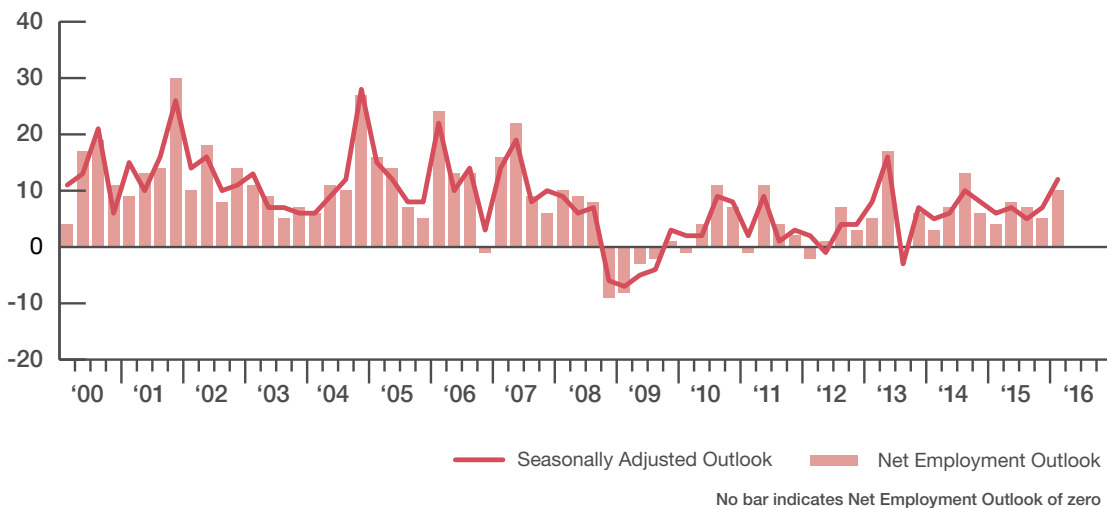




Manpower®

South East the most optimistic region for jobs

At +12%, the Employment Outlook for the South East has shown an increase in employer hiring intentions. While employers have remained consistently optimistic for the past year, the prospects for job creation in the first quarter of 2016 are now higher than anywhere else in the country.



Q1 2016

South East employment snapshot*

Average weekly pay

The South East is the second highest-paid region in the UK. The average weekly wage is **£647**, some £73 higher than the national average.

Hiring Outlook

For the first quarter of 2016, the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook in the South East is **+12%**; this is markedly higher than the national average (+7%).

Employment

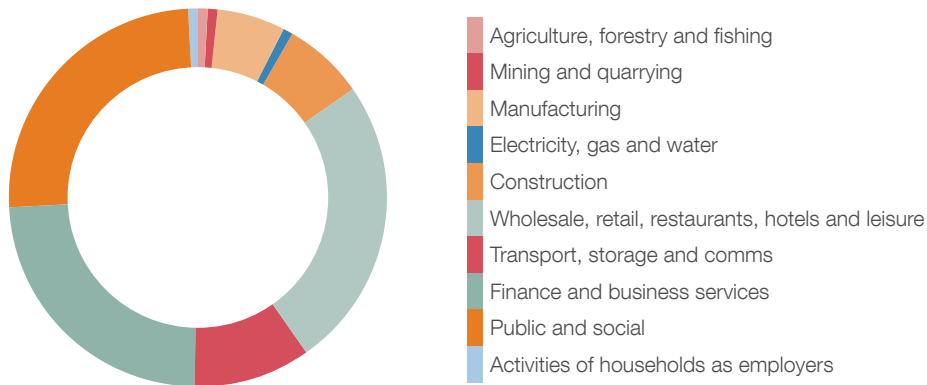
At **77.2%**, the South East rate of employment is higher than both the national average (73.7%) and most UK regions. The rate has risen some 0.7% since the same period last year.

Unemployment

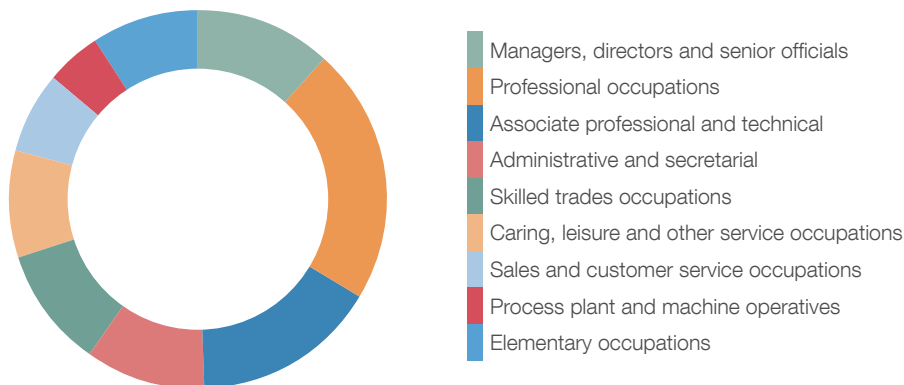
At **3.9%**, the unemployment rate continues to be significantly lower than the national average. The South East has among the lowest unemployment rates in the country.

2016
Q1

WHERE DO PEOPLE WORK?



WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?



Market overview

In the South East, hiring demand is growing as the economy continues to expand. In fact, some locations like Oxford have witnessed considerable spikes in the number of positions employers are seeking to fill.

However, across the region, many businesses are struggling to find the talent they are seeking. Temporary pay rates remain stubbornly low, while candidates seem better informed than ever before about the rates and salaries they can command, with the best candidates holding out for a better offer.

Consequently, employers looking to find, attract and retain the best candidates are increasingly having to reconsider their approach. Many forward-thinking clients that we speak to are looking at solutions that range from reviewing employment packages; to the better use of temporary workforces to fill current skills shortages; and the upskilling of their existing employees.

*ONS employment and unemployment rates and average weekly pay statistics relate to July 2015 – September 2015; employment by occupation refers to July 2014 – June 2015; and workforce jobs by industry refers to June 2015. The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is a forward-looking measure, anticipating hiring intentions for Quarter 1 2016.