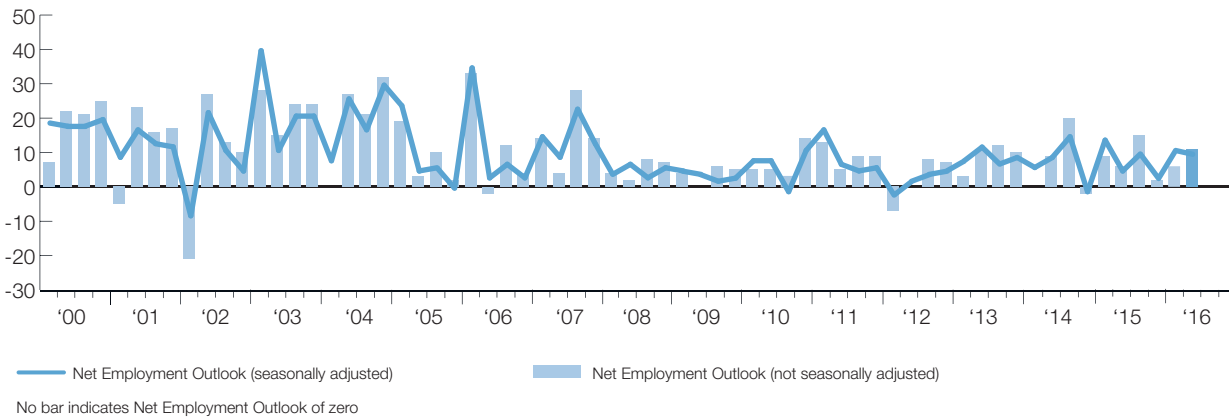




Manpower®

Employer optimism still strong in the South West

Already buoyed by high employment and low unemployment, employers in the South West have remained optimistic about hiring and job creation, with an Employment Outlook of +10% for the second quarter of 2016.



Q2 2016

South West employment snapshot

Average weekly pay

The South West is the fourth best-paid region in the UK. The average weekly wage is **£554**, £25 below the national average.

Employment

The rate of employment in the South West is above the national average and stands at **77.5%**. The South West has the third-highest rate of employment in the UK.

Hiring Outlook

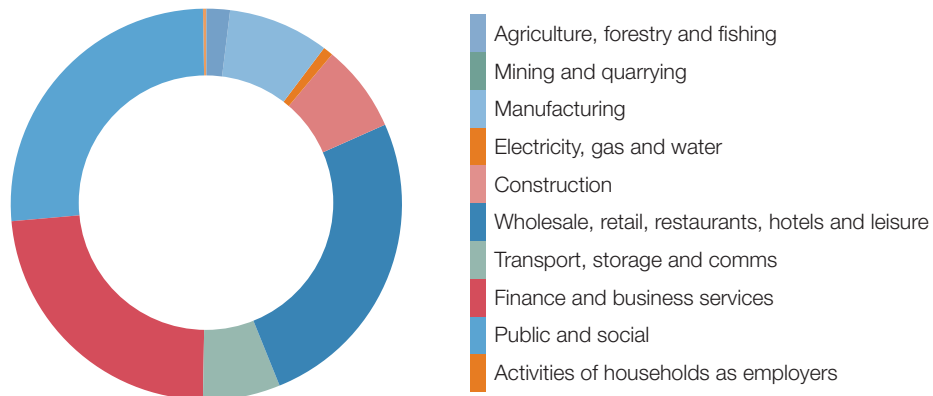
For the second quarter of 2016, the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook in the South West is **+10%**. This is higher than the national average of +7%.

Unemployment

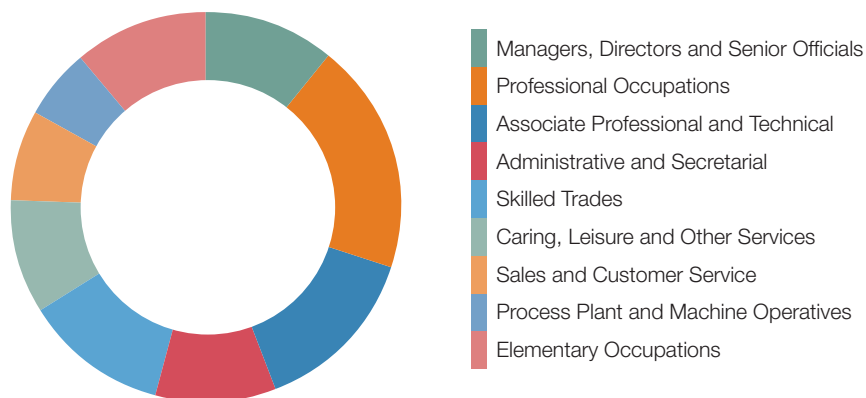
At **3.7%**, the unemployment rate continues to be markedly lower than the national average, with the South West having the lowest unemployment rate in the country.

Q2 2016

WHERE DO PEOPLE WORK?



WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?



Market overview

Within the South West, hiring trends have varied by towns and cities. In Plymouth, CNC engineering roles are in high demand, both in programming and operation. However, faced with ongoing skills shortages, employers are choosing to hold out for the right candidate, even if this will take some time.

In Bristol, demand is particularly strong for candidates with customer service skills, and in particular, for roles in the financial services sector and in the city centre. Fulfilling PPI requirements continues to be the main driver behind these opportunities, though employers are finding the pool of talent who can pass stringent security checks is diminishing. Meanwhile, in Exeter, there's been a significant increase in senior roles in the area, as well as those within business support and engineering.