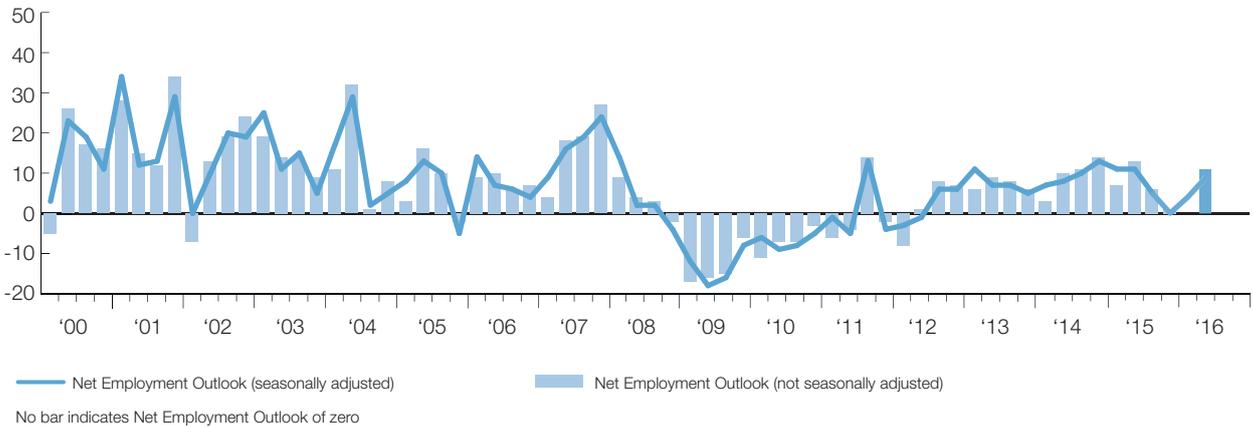




Manpower®

Employer optimism rises in the West Midlands

The West Midlands is now witnessing a second modest increase in employer hiring intentions. For the second quarter of 2016, the Employment Outlook stands at +9% with employers more optimistic about the prospects for job creation than they were three months ago.



Q2 2016

West Midlands employment snapshot

Average weekly pay

The West Midlands is the seventh best-paid region in the UK with an average weekly wage of **£524**, some £55 below the national average.

Hiring Outlook

For the second quarter of 2016, the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook in the West Midlands stands at **+9%**; this is above the national average (+7%).

Employment

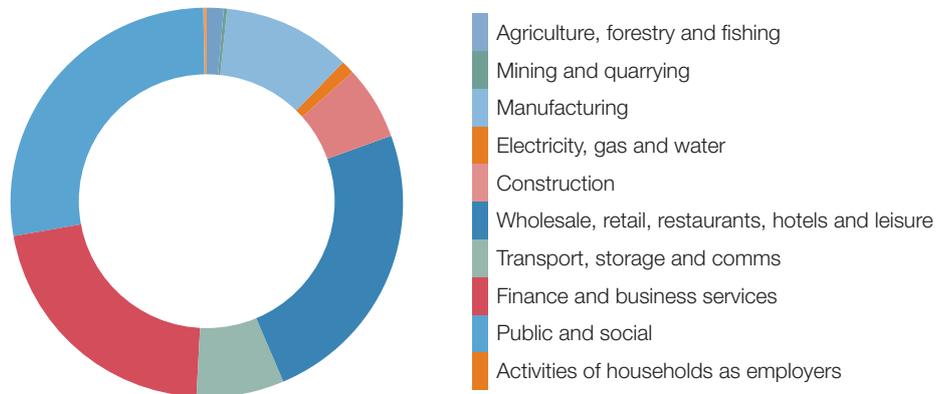
The rate of employment in the West Midlands is below the national average and stands at **71.4%**. However, there has been little year-on-year change when compared to the same period last year.

Unemployment

At **5.2%**, the unemployment rate is slightly above the national average and higher than a number of other UK regions. However, the rate of unemployment has fallen 0.8% since the same period last year.

2016
Q2

WHERE DO PEOPLE WORK?



WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?



Market overview

Across the region as a whole, we're seeing opportunities being created within insurance, warehousing and manufacturing. However, in both temporary and permanent roles, candidates in the West Midlands are savvy about the demand for their skills and are in a strong position to negotiate due to the choices available to them. Lengthy assessments aimed at screening candidates prior to interview might seem like a good idea for some employers, but can turn off high calibre candidates from furthering their application.

Within the region, Birmingham is drawing talent from the surrounding towns due to the higher pay on offer but this is creating tougher recruitment markets in Solihull and Wolverhampton particularly.