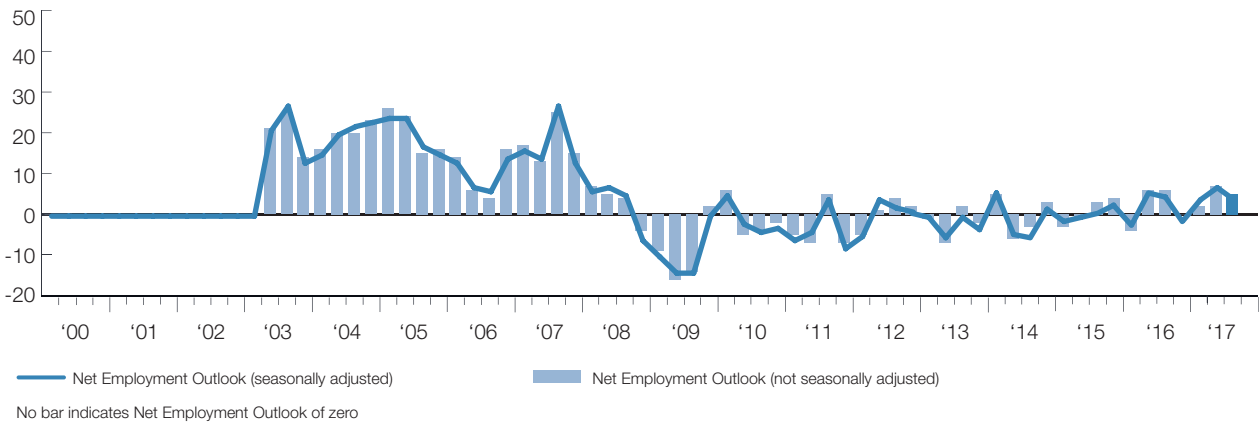




Manpower®

Northern Ireland employers are cautiously optimistic

At +4%, the Employment Outlook for the third quarter of 2017 in Northern Ireland has seen hiring intentions decline when compared to the previous quarter. Nevertheless, employers remain cautiously optimistic about job creation for the coming quarter.



Q3 2017

Northern Ireland employment snapshot

Average weekly pay

Average weekly pay is **£503**, some £96 below the national average, and remains the lowest rate of pay in the UK.

Employment

The rate of employment in Northern Ireland is well below the national average and stands at **68.4%**; the lowest in the country.

Hiring Outlook

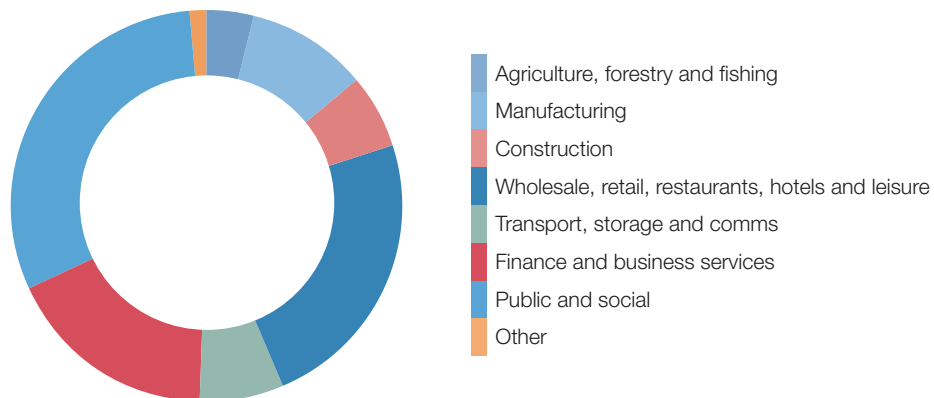
For the third quarter of 2017, the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook in Northern Ireland is **+4%**, which is slightly below the national average (+5%).

Unemployment

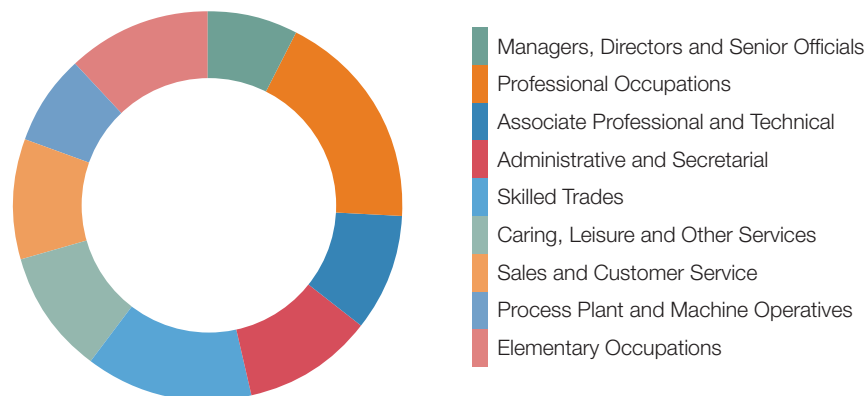
At **5.3%**, Northern Ireland has the fourth-highest unemployment rate in the UK. Despite this, the region has also seen a 0.8 percentage point decline in unemployment when compared to the same period last year.

2017
Q3

WHERE DO PEOPLE WORK?



WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?



Market overview

With political uncertainty weighing on employers following the Northern Ireland election in March, and the General Election in June, a note of caution has entered the market, particularly within the public sector and its supply chain.

Nevertheless, there are some sectors that are bucking the trend, with two standing out in particular: hospitality and construction. The hospitality sector is buoyant, with hiring steady for restaurant and hotel workers. The construction sector, too, is upbeat and due to an upswing in the level of activity normally seen at this time of year.

While hiring levels are generally subdued across the region, employers are still finding it difficult to fill roles. Many are seeking advice on appropriate pay rates. In fact, we are seeing upwards pressure on pay in many areas, but none more so than within IT and driving, where both sectors are experiencing an acute shortage of qualified personnel.