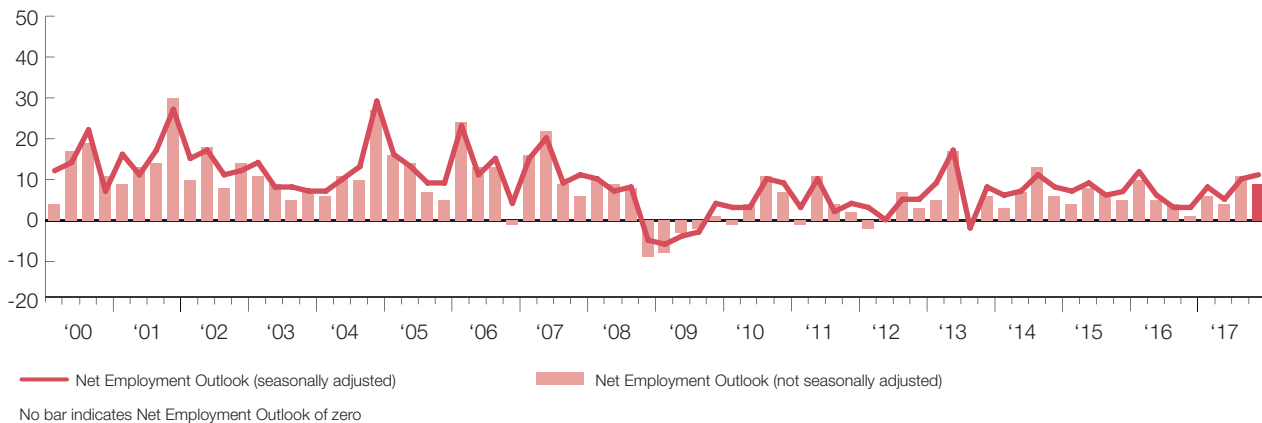


# Employers are upbeat about job creation

At +10%, the Employment Outlook for the South East has seen a slight rise when compared to the previous quarter. Employers here remain upbeat about the prospects for job creation in the fourth quarter of 2017.



## South East employment snapshot

### Average weekly pay

The South East is the second-highest paid region in the UK. The average weekly wage is **£678**, some £72 higher than the national average.

### Hiring Outlook

For the fourth quarter of 2017, the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook in the South East is **+10%**. This is higher than the national average (+6%).

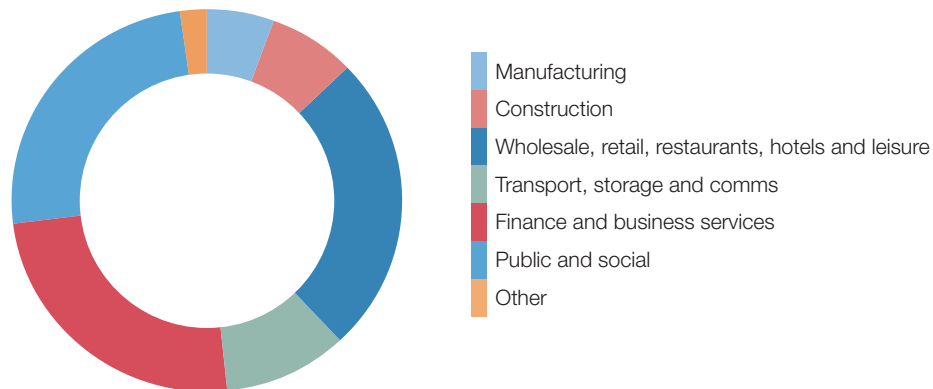
### Employment

At **79.1%**, the South East rate of employment remains significantly higher than the national average (75.1%) and is the highest in the UK. The rate has seen a 0.9 percentage point rise since the same period last year.

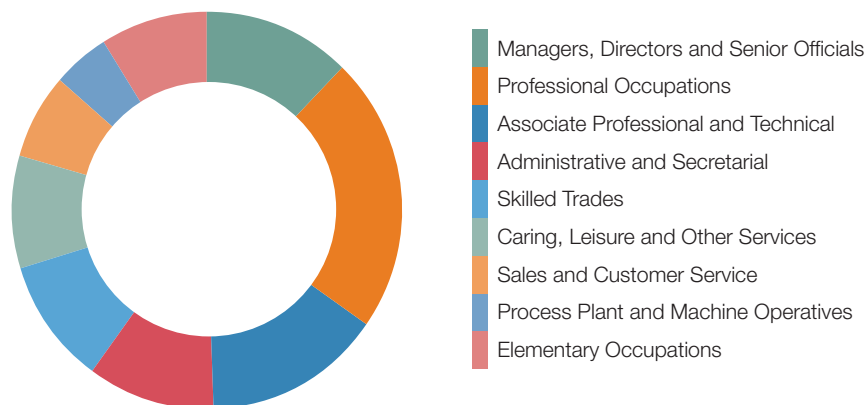
### Unemployment

At **3.2%**, the unemployment rate continues to be notably lower than the national average (4.4%). The South East has the lowest unemployment rate in the country and the rate has seen a 0.5 percentage point fall when compared to the same period last year.

## WHERE DO PEOPLE WORK?



## WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?



### Market overview

We have seen a rise in job creation over the past quarter.

Yet despite the increase in job opportunities, employers we speak to are facing a significant talent shortage. Many are seeing fewer applications – and fewer quality candidates – than in previous quarters. Much of this issue reflects the dynamic of what is already a tight labour market, one where skilled job-seekers now have more bargaining power and have more choice about where they wish to work. In fact, many candidates we speak to appear more reluctant to switch roles than in previous years. And as the region nears full employment, this trend is only set to continue.

To counter this, we're advising clients to focus upon their employer brand, and also determine how they can stand out as employers of choice in order to attract candidates from further afield.