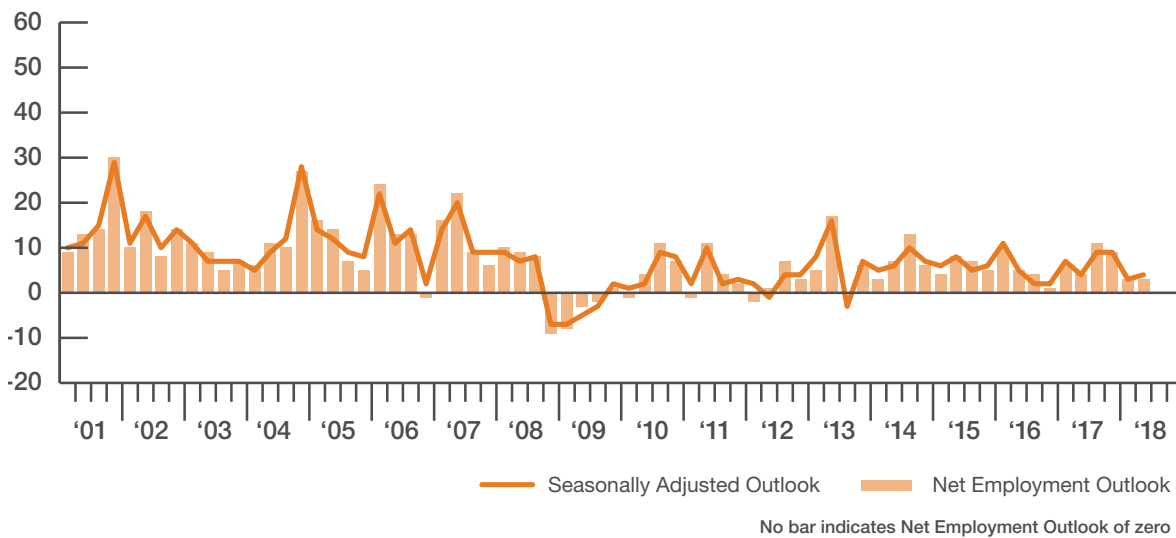




Manpower®

# Employers remain cautious about hiring

At +4%, the Employment Outlook for the South East has seen a small rise when compared to the previous quarter. Employers here remain cautiously optimistic about the prospects for job creation in the second quarter of 2018.



Q2 2018

## South East employment snapshot\*

### Average weekly pay

The South East is the second-highest paid region in the UK. The average weekly wage is **£681**, some £77 higher than the national average.

### Hiring Outlook

For the second quarter of 2018, the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook in the South East is **+4%**, which is beneath the national average.

### Employment

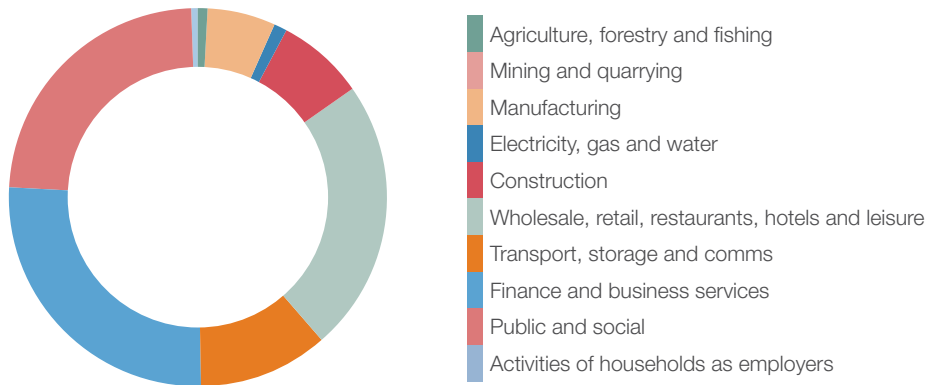
At **79.9%**, the South East rate of employment remains significantly higher than the national average (75.2%) and is the highest in the UK. The rate has seen a 1.3 percentage point rise since the same period last year.

### Unemployment

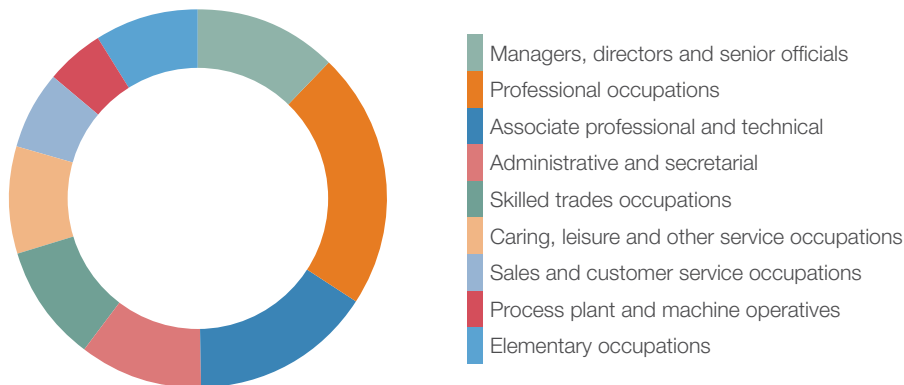
At **3.1%**, the unemployment rate continues to be notably lower than the national average (4.4%). The South East has the lowest unemployment rate in the country and the rate has seen a 0.2 percentage point fall when compared to the same period last year.

2018  
Q2

## WHERE DO PEOPLE WORK?



## WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?



### Market overview

We have continued to see a rise in job creation across the board over the past three months, with the rise in temporary and permanent opportunities particularly noticeable in the food manufacturing, engineering, and IT sectors. And in general, we have seen a rise in hiring for driving and logistics; financial, administration and IT staff especially; however many of these are proving hard to fill.

Employers are still facing a talent shortage, and in today's candidate-led market, skilled job-seekers have more choice about where they wish to work. Many organisations are finding that their employer brand alone isn't enough to convince skilled individuals to join them. As a result, we are seeing a trend where some employers are entering bidding wars to attract the best candidates.

To help counter this, we're advising clients to consider offering relocating packages for those with in-demand skills, as well as consider training and upskilling internal candidates.