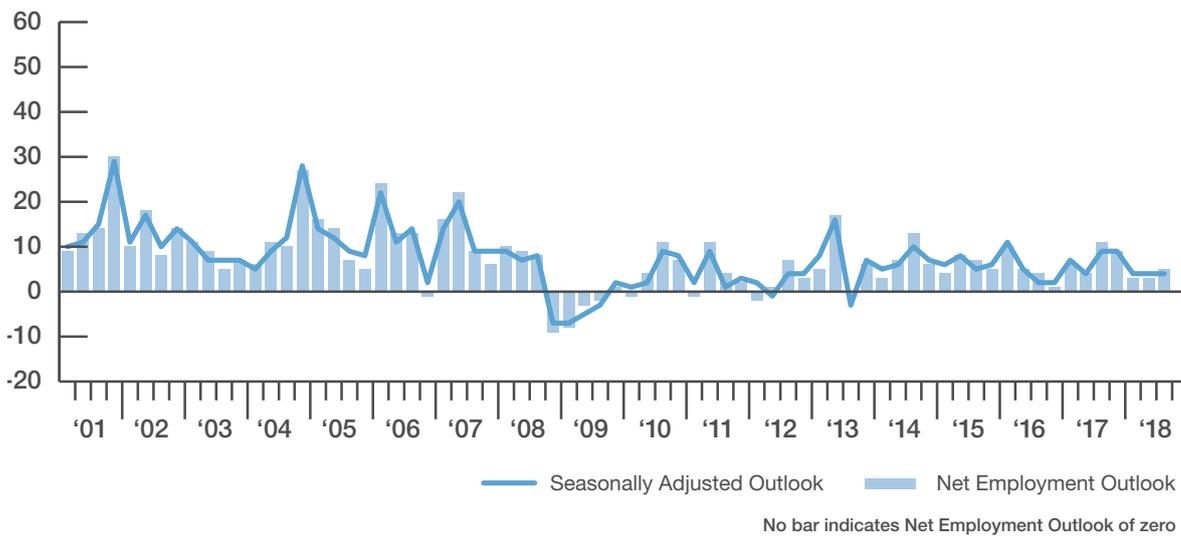




Manpower®

# Employers remain cautious about hiring

At +4%, the Employment Outlook for the South East has remained exactly the same when compared to the previous two quarters. As a result, employers in the South East are cautiously optimistic about the prospects for job creation.



Q3 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 **£674**, some £64 higher than the national average.

### Hiring Outlook

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

### Employment

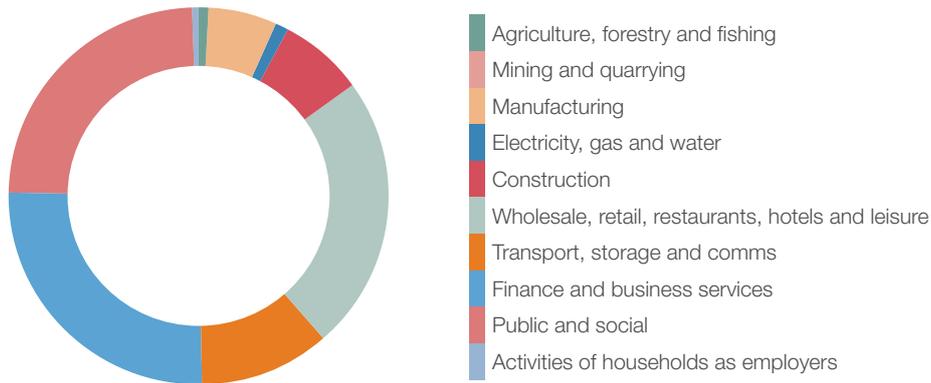
At **78.7%**, the South East rate of employment remains significantly higher than the national average (75.6%) and is the second-highest in the UK. The rate has seen a 0.3 percentage point rise since the same period last year.

### Unemployment

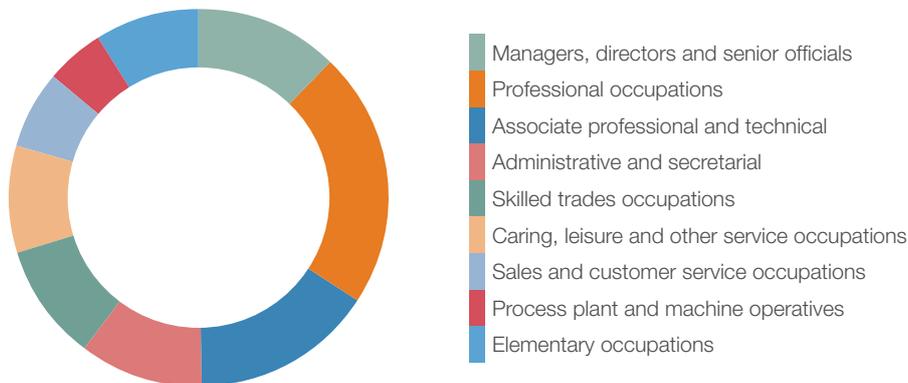
At **3.4%**, the unemployment rate continues to be notably lower than the national average (4.2%). The South East has the second-lowest unemployment rate in the country and the rate has remained unchanged when compared to the same period last year.

2018  
Q3

## WHERE DO PEOPLE WORK?



## WHAT DO PEOPLE DO?



### Market overview

We have seen a rise in job creation over the past three months, with significant increases in both temporary and permanent positions. The demand for candidates has been particularly noticeable in the Manufacturing; Engineering; and Driving and Logistics sectors. Yet many roles are proving hard to fill, particularly those that require very specific skills like multi-lingual Contact Centre operatives, and HGV drivers for example.

And this isn't surprising. In today's labour market, job-seekers have more choice about where they wish to work (and for how much). With expectations on pay rising, candidates we speak to can often pick and choose between multiple opportunities. Meanwhile, many organisations are finding that their employer brand alone isn't enough to convince skilled individuals to join them. To stay competitive, we would recommend that employers regularly re-evaluate the pay rates on offer.