



Hiring Outlook in Northern Ireland Increases to +52%

MARKET OVERVIEW

Employers in Northern Ireland anticipate a very strong labour market during the April –June period, reporting a Net Employment Outlook of +52%. Hiring has increased thirty-one percentage-points since last quarter and fifteen percentage-points year-on-year. This is the strongest increase quarter-on-quarter and year-on-year of any region. Hiring in Northern Ireland is 23 percentage-points above the national average, and the nation and region with the highest Net Employment Outlook. Northern Ireland is one of three regions to increase hiring intentions year-on-year, alongside Wales and the North West.

The latest official labour market estimates put the employment rate in Northern Ireland at 72.4%, up 0.5% on the previous quarter. The unemployment rate is 2.4%, level with the previous quarter. This is the lowest reported unemployment rate of any region. Economic inactivity is 25.8%, a decrease of 0.6% on last quarter. This is the highest reported economic inactivity rate of any region.