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Department for
**Employment
and Learning**

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STATISTICAL BULLETIN

Vacancies in Northern Ireland

Statistics from 2007 to 2012



Introduction

This Statistical Bulletin, published annually, presents key information on vacancies which have been notified to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices (J&Bo) of the Department for Employment and Learning. The statistics do not represent the total unsatisfied demand for staff by employers within Northern Ireland, but are only those vacant positions notified by employers to the Department for Employment and Learning.

This bulletin comprises five sections:

- [Key Statistics](#) – presents the main findings from the statistical bulletin.
- [Vacancies Trends](#) – shows the trends in notified vacancies from 2007/08 to 2011/12
- [Monthly Statistics](#) – highlights the trends from June 2010 to 2012 in notified, cancelled and filled, and unfilled vacancies.
- [Annual Statistics](#) – presents total vacancies notified during the last three financial years by Standard Industrial Classification 2007, Standard Occupational Classification 2000, Local Government District, Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (2010) quintiles, and Travel to Work Area. Statistics on unfilled vacancies at June 2012 are also included; this is the most recent count date for which validated data are available.
- [Notes to Readers](#) – provides further information on methodology and definitions.

KEY STATISTICS

- The number of vacancies notified to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices (J&Bo) of the Department for Employment and Learning has decreased each year since the onset of the downturn in the economy. Notified vacancies fell by 10% between 2009/10 (54,835) and 2010/11 (49,709), with less marked change between 2010/11 and 2011/12 (down by 1% to 48,658). The number of notified vacancies is now less than half the level immediately before the downturn. .
- While notified vacancy levels decreased in most sectors between 2009/10 and 2011/12 some sectors showed increasing levels: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (up 62%), Construction (up 58%), Information and Communication (up 25%), Other Services Activities (up 24%) and Manufacturing (up 12%).
- Similarly, notified vacancies declined in most occupational groups between April 2009 and March 2012, with the exception of Skilled Trades (up 13%), Process, Plant and Machine Operatives (up 11%) and Personal Service (up 10%).
- During this period, three out of ten vacancies were notified in Belfast district.

VACANCIES TRENDS

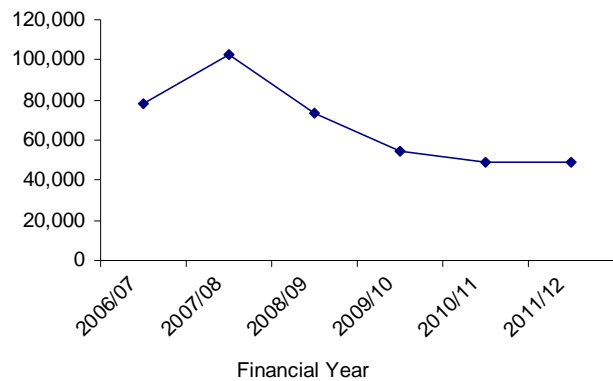
Vacancies Notified, 2007/08 to 2011/12

During the financial years 2007/08 to 2011/12, total vacancies notified were lower than in the previous financial year, with the exception of in 2007/08 when notified vacancies increased by 32% (Table 1). In 2011/12, 48,658 vacancies were notified, less than half (down 53%) the number notified in 2007/08 (102,789). While the number of vacancies notified in recent years has fallen, the rate of decline was much less marked over the last two years (from 2009/10 to 2011/12) as illustrated in Figure 1.

Table 1: Change over year in Total Vacancies Notified, 2007/08 to 2011/12 ⁽¹⁾

Financial Year	Vacancies Notified ⁽²⁾	
	Total	Change over year
2007/08	102,789	32%
2008/09	73,185	-29%
2009/10	54,835	-25%
2010/11	49,079	-10%
2011/12	48,658	-1%

Figure 1: Vacancies notified by Financial Year



Notes:

- (1) All statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) on 8th June 2012.
- (2) Vacancies notified (inflow) are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning.

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Vacancies Notified, Outflow, and Vacancies Unfilled

Headline figures are presented for vacancies which have been notified to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices (J&Bo) of the Department for Employment and Learning in Figure 2 and Table 2. Unadjusted vacancy inflow and outflow figures cover either a 4 or 5 week period; whereas standardised values convert levels to reflect a 4 1/3 week period.

Standardised Vacancies Notified (Inflow)

For each of the last 12 months to June 2012, inflow figures were higher than in the corresponding month in the previous year with the exception of the months ending July and August 2011. Over the year to June 2012, vacancies notified varied from over 5,300 in the month ending 7th October 2011 to a low of just under 2,300 in the month to 6th January 2012.

Standardised Vacancies Filled and Cancelled (Outflows)

In 9 out of the 12 months to June 2012, the outflow figure was higher than for the corresponding period in the previous year. Vacancies filled and cancelled varied over the year ending June 2012, from a peak of just over 5,200 in the month ending 4th November 2011 to less than 3,000 in the month to 2nd March 2012.

Unfilled Vacancies

A total of 6,618 vacancies remained unfilled on 8th June 2012, an increase of 38% on the level of unfilled vacancies in June 2011 (4,799) and an increase of 4% on the level unfilled in June 2010 (6,359). Unfilled vacancies varied over the year to June 2012; the number unfilled peaked in November 2011 at just over 7,200, fell to approximately 3,600 in January 2012, and then rose again to more than 6,600 by the end of the period.

Of the 6,618 unfilled vacancies, 2,707 were classed as live meaning that they were available to jobseekers. The majority of the other 3,911 unfilled vacancies were no longer open to applications from jobseekers, as employers were being consulted to see if submitted clients had been successful. Live unfilled vacancies varied over the 12 month period ending June 2012, from a high of almost 3,100 in November 2011 to a low of just under 1,400 in January 2012.

Figure 2: Standardised Notified Vacancies and Unfilled Vacancies: June 2010 to June 2012

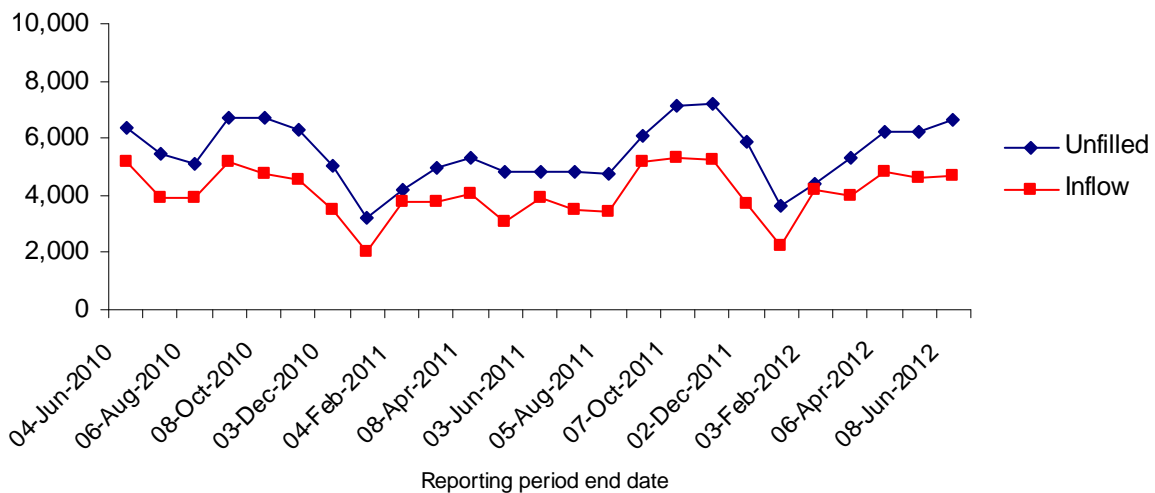


Table 2: Vacancies Notified, Outflow, and Vacancies Unfilled: June 2010 to June 2012 ⁽¹⁾

Report Period Ending		Vacancies notified (Inflows) ⁽²⁾			Vacancies Filled and Cancelled (Outflows) ⁽³⁾			Unfilled Vacancies ⁽⁴⁾			
		Level Unadjusted ⁽⁵⁾	Level Standardised ⁽⁶⁾	Change over year ⁽⁷⁾	Level Unadjusted ⁽⁵⁾	Level Standardised ⁽⁶⁾	Change over year ⁽⁷⁾	Level Unadjusted ⁽⁵⁾	Change over year	Of which live	Change over year
2010	04-Jun	4,762	5,159	19%	4,436	4,806	10%	6,359	5%	2,386	n/a
	02-Jul	3,607	3,908	1%	4,526	4,903	11%	5,440	-2%	1,660	n/a
	06-Aug*	4,511	3,910	-4%	4,855	4,208	5%	5,096	-10%	1,925	n/a
	03-Sep	4,764	5,161	-3%	3,129	3,390	-15%	6,731	-3%	2,385	n/a
	08-Oct*	5,489	4,757	-29%	5,517	4,781	-21%	6,703	-12%	2,079	n/a
	05-Nov	4,221	4,573	-11%	4,626	5,012	-13%	6,298	-9%	1,988	n/a
	03-Dec	3,257	3,528	-21%	4,536	4,914	-4%	5,019	-20%	1,506	n/a
2011	07-Jan*	2,320	2,011	-30%	4,104	3,557	-23%	3,235	-25%	1,190	n/a
	04-Feb	3,502	3,794	-17%	2,554	2,767	-9%	4,183	-26%	1,712	n/a
	04-Mar	3,503	3,795	-23%	2,727	2,954	-29%	4,959	-22%	1,807	n/a
	08-Apr*	4,720	4,091	-11%	4,343	3,764	-22%	5,336	-13%	1,866	n/a
	06-May	2,857	3,095	-32%	3,366	3,647	-22%	4,827	-20%	1,445	-30%
	03-Jun	3,594	3,894	-25%	3,622	3,924	-18%	4,799	-25%	1,653	-31%
	08-Jul*	4,040	3,501	-10%	3,992	3,460	-29%	4,847	-11%	1,512	-9%
	05-Aug	3,191	3,457	-12%	3,287	3,561	-15%	4,751	-7%	1,743	-9%
	02-Sep	4,788	5,187	1%	3,437	3,723	10%	6,102	-9%	2,245	-6%
	07-Oct*	6,116	5,301	11%	5,069	4,393	-8%	7,149	7%	2,589	25%
	04-Nov	4,865	5,270	15%	4,812	5,213	4%	7,202	14%	3,058	54%
	02-Dec	3,405	3,689	5%	4,759	5,156	5%	5,848	17%	1,712	14%
2012	06-Jan*	2,610	2,262	13%	4,816	4,174	17%	3,642	13%	1,363	15%
	03-Feb	3,905	4,230	12%	3,159	3,422	24%	4,388	5%	2,012	18%
	02-Mar	3,671	3,977	5%	2,743	2,972	1%	5,316	7%	2,247	24%
	06-Apr*	5,576	4,833	18%	4,677	4,053	8%	6,215	16%	2,724	46%
	04-May	4,279	4,636	50%	4,281	4,638	27%	6,213	29%	2,669	85%
	08-Jun*	5,396	4,677	20%	4,991	4,326	10%	6,618	38%	2,707	64%

Notes:

- (1) All statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) on 8th June 2012. A subset of this table was previously published in the DETI Labour Market Report August 2012.
- (2) Vacancies notified (inflow) are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning.
- (3) Outflows are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning that have been placed or cancelled. This includes vacancies filled by JobCentres / J&Bos or other recruitment channels and vacancies that have been withdrawn.
- (4) Vacancies unfilled are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning remaining unfilled on the count date (the first Friday after the first Thursday of every month). Unfilled vacancies can be split into live, pending, raised and suspended. Live vacancies are those for which jobseekers can apply. Vacancies are pending while the Department for Employment and Learning awaits feedback from employers. Live unfilled statistics are not available (n/a) prior to May 2010, and therefore change on same month in previous year is only available from May 2011. See notes to readers for more information on live, raised, pending and suspended vacancies.
- (5) Monthly flow data is collected for a 4 or 5 week period between count dates. Unadjusted levels reflect either a 4 or 5 week period. Five week periods are marked by an asterisk (*).
- (6) Standardised levels convert volumes to a standard 4 1/3 week month. Figures are not seasonally adjusted.
- (7) Percentage change calculated using non-rounded standardised figures.

ANNUAL STATISTICS

Standard Industrial Classification 2007

Vacancies notified and unfilled by UK Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities 2007 (SIC 2007) are shown in [Table 3](#). The sectors showing the greatest levels of decline between 2009/10 and 2011/12 were *Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security* (down 69%), *Financial and Insurance* (down 36%) *Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles* (down 34%), *Arts, Entertainment and Recreation* (down 22%) and *Administrative and Support Service Activities* (down 17%). Excluding some sectors with small numbers of vacancies, modest levels of decline in notified vacancies occurred in *Accommodation and Food Services* (down 11%), *Transportation and Storage* (down 9%), *Professional Scientific and Technical* (down 7%), and *Human Health and Social Work* (down 6%).

In contrast to the declining trend for total notified vacancies between 2009/10 and 2011/12, levels increased in *Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing* (up 62%), *Construction* (up 58%), *Information and Communication* (up 25%), *Other Services Activities* (up 24%), and *Manufacturing* (up 12%).

In the financial year 2009/10, a total of 54,835 vacancies were notified, with the greatest proportions to *Administrative and Support Service Activities* (12,739; 23%), *Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles* (12,570; 23%) and *Other Service Activities* (8,212, 15%). In 2011/12, these were still the industries with the greatest demand for staff from employers, in total, accounting for three-fifths of all vacancies notified. *Other Service Activities* is a residual category which includes activities such as the repair of computers and household goods; activities of membership organisations (e.g. trade unions and professional membership organisations) and other personal service activities (e.g. washing and dry cleaning). Other key industries notifying vacancies to the Department for Employment and Learning include *Accommodation and Food Service Activities* (11%) and *Human Health and Social Work Activities* (8-10%).

A broadly similar pattern is evident for unfilled vacancies in June 2012 although it is recognised that this is a snapshot at a point in time. The greatest proportion of unfilled vacancies in June 2012 was within *Administrative and Support Service Activities* (1,635; one quarter of total). Just under a quarter of unfilled vacancies were in *Other Service Activities* (1,559), 12% were classed as *Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles* (774); 10% were in *Accommodation and Food Service Activities* (682) and *Human Health and Social Work Activities* (698) represented 11% percent of the unfilled total.

For live unfilled vacancies, the proportions in each category of SIC 2007 were comparable to the breakdown of total unfilled vacancies. However, *Other Service Activities* accounted for the greatest proportion of live vacancies (28%), followed by *Administrative and Support Service Activities* (24%).

Table 3: Notified and Unfilled Vacancies by Standard Industrial Classification 2007 Sections ⁽¹⁾

SIC 2007 Section ⁽⁴⁾	Vacancies Notified by Financial Year ⁽²⁾						Unfilled Vacancies ⁽³⁾			
	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		Total June 2012	%	Of which Live	%
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%				
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	233	0%	247	1%	377	1%	21	0%	5	0%
Mining & Quarrying	46	0%	52	0%	47	0%	6	0%	3	0%
Manufacturing	1,360	2%	1,461	3%	1,528	3%	202	3%	77	3%
Electricity, Gas, Steam & Air Conditioning Supply	38	0%	54	0%	37	0%	7	0%	4	0%
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management & Remediation	216	0%	181	0%	142	0%	22	0%	7	0%
Construction	1,193	2%	1,322	3%	1,879	4%	230	3%	112	4%
Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles & Motorcycles	12,570	23%	9,643	20%	8,354	17%	774	12%	208	8%
Transportation & Storage	603	1%	517	1%	549	1%	98	1%	38	1%
Accommodation & Food Services	6,033	11%	5,489	11%	5,356	11%	682	10%	220	8%
Information & Communication	481	1%	625	1%	602	1%	68	1%	9	0%
Financial & Insurance	476	1%	418	1%	303	1%	35	1%	17	1%
Real Estate	56	0%	60	0%	84	0%	8	0%	1	0%
Professional, Scientific & Technical	639	1%	610	1%	593	1%	76	1%	39	1%
Administrative & Support Service	12,739	23%	10,538	21%	10,560	22%	1,635	25%	637	24%
Public Administration & Defence; Compulsory Social Security	2,164	4%	1,662	3%	674	1%	70	1%	30	1%
Education	1,957	4%	1,643	3%	1,951	4%	303	5%	123	5%
Human Health & Social Work	4,932	9%	4,074	8%	4,647	10%	698	11%	384	14%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	495	1%	491	1%	387	1%	89	1%	16	1%
Other Services	8,212	15%	9,745	20%	10,181	21%	1,559	24%	760	28%
Activities of Households; Goods- & Services-Production for Own Use	211	0%	160	0%	232	0%	31	0%	15	1%
Activities of Extraterritorial Organisations & Bodies	181	0%	86	0%	174	0%	4	0%	2	0%
Not known	0	0%	1	0%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	54,835	100%	49,079	100%	48,658	100%	6,618	100%	2,707	100%

Notes:

- (1) All statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) on 8th June 2012. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
- (2) Vacancies notified are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning. Notified is subdivided by financial years which run from 1st April to 31st March.
- (3) Vacancies unfilled are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning remaining unfilled on 8th June 2012. The total unfilled figures include live, pending, raised and suspended vacancies. See notes to readers for more information.
- (4) SIC 2007 codes were introduced gradually by JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning during 2007/08. In cases where this field has not been completed for an employer all vacancies notified by that employer are recorded as not known. Activities of Households as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods- & Services-Producing Activities of Households for Own Use has been abbreviated to Activities of Households; Goods- & Services-Production for Own Use.

Standard Occupational Classification 2000

Vacancies notified by financial year and unfilled vacancies at June 2012 are broken down by Standard Occupational Classification 2000 (SOC 2000) in [Table 4](#). Notified vacancies declined in all occupational groups from 2009/10 to 2011/12 with the exception of *Skilled Trades* (up 13%), *Process, Plant and Machine Operatives* (up 11%) and *Personal Service* (up 10%), where the number of notified vacancies increased.

The most frequently notified occupation types for vacancies during financial years 2009/10 to 2011/12 were *Sales and Customer Service* (22-27%) and *Elementary* (20-22%). For example, of the 48,658 positions notified in 2011/12, 10,833 were *Sales and Customer Service* and 9,828 were *Elementary Occupations*. In *Sales and Customer Service Occupations* (e.g. call centre agents), typically a general education and sales related work based training is required and the main duty is selling. *Elementary Occupations* generally require education to be completed to compulsory level and include jobs such as cleaning and bar work. Less than nine percent of vacancies notified to the Department for Employment and Learning were for *Managers and Senior Officials* (2,114 in 2011/12) or *Professional Occupations* (2,133 in 2011/12).

A similar trend is evident for total unfilled vacancies. When only those vacancies available to jobseekers at June 2012 are considered, the three key occupational groups were *Sales and Customer Service* (21%), *Associate Professional and Technical* (27%), and *Elementary* (11%).

Table 4: Notified and Unfilled Vacancies by Standard Occupational Classification 2000 Major Groups ⁽¹⁾

SOC 2000 Major Group	Vacancies Notified by Financial Year ⁽²⁾						Unfilled Vacancies ⁽³⁾			
	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		Total June 2012	%	Of which Live	%
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%				
Managers & Senior Officials	2,436	4%	2,305	5%	2,114	4%	267	4%	108	4%
Professional	2,219	4%	1,694	3%	2,133	4%	236	4%	118	4%
Associate Professional & Technical	6,655	12%	5,034	10%	6,021	12%	1,161	18%	742	27%
Administrative & Secretarial	4,101	7%	3,919	8%	3,266	7%	364	6%	63	2%
Skilled Trades	4,243	8%	4,442	9%	4,776	10%	667	10%	211	8%
Personal Service	5,749	10%	5,779	12%	6,322	13%	961	15%	466	17%
Sales and Customer Service	14,786	27%	11,842	24%	10,833	22%	1,426	22%	563	21%
Process, Plant & Machine Operatives	3,042	6%	3,353	7%	3,365	7%	446	7%	129	5%
Elementary	11,604	21%	10,711	22%	9,828	20%	1,090	16%	307	11%
Total	54,835	100%	49,079	100%	48,658	100%	6,618	100%	2,707	100%

Notes:

- (1) All statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) on 8th June 2012. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
- (2) Vacancies notified are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning. Notified is subdivided by financial years which run from 1st April to 31st March.
- (3) Vacancies unfilled are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning remaining unfilled on 8th June 2012. The total unfilled figures include live, pending, raised and suspended vacancies. See notes to readers for more information.

Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010

Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2010 ranks Northern Ireland's 890 Super Output Areas in terms of deprivation level. Vacancies notified during financial years 2009/10 to 2011/12 and for unfilled as of June 2012 are presented by NIMDM 2010 quintile bands in [Table 5](#). Vacancies notified declined in four out of five deprivation quintiles from 2009/10 to 2011/12.

For all financial years, a substantial proportion of total notified vacancies (34 - 37%) were located in the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland. A similar pattern is evident for unfilled vacancies, with 37% of total unfilled and 38% of live unfilled vacancies located in the most deprived areas. This contrasts to 12% of unfilled vacancies (792) being located in the least deprived areas of Northern Ireland.

Table 5: Notified and Unfilled Vacancies by Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 quintiles ⁽¹⁾

Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 quintiles ^(4, 5)	Vacancies Notified by Financial Year ⁽²⁾						Unfilled Vacancies ⁽³⁾			
	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		Total June 2012	%	Of which Live	%
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%				
Ranks 1-178 (most deprived)	20,094	37%	17,085	35%	16,647	34%	2,454	37%	1,039	38%
Ranks 179-356	9,848	18%	9,355	19%	9,550	20%	1,258	19%	404	15%
Ranks 357-534	8,116	15%	6,521	13%	7,348	15%	931	14%	393	15%
Ranks 535-712	7,047	13%	6,783	14%	7,077	15%	846	13%	351	13%
Ranks 713-890 (least deprived)	6,764	12%	5,556	11%	5,507	11%	792	12%	385	14%
Not known	2,966	5%	3,779	8%	2,529	5%	337	5%	135	5%
Total	54,835	100%	49,079	100%	48,658	100%	6,618	100%	2,707	100%

Notes:

- (1) All statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) on 8th June 2012. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
- (2) Vacancies notified are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning. Notified is subdivided by financial years which run from 1st April to 31st March.
- (3) Vacancies unfilled are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning remaining unfilled on 8th June 2012. The total unfilled figures include live, pending, raised and suspended vacancies. See notes to readers for more information.
- (4) [Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010](#) ranks are based on the Super Output Area (SOA) classification of the vacancy. SOAs are ranked from 1 (most deprived) to 890 (least deprived). Vacancies with no SOA classification have a Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure Classification of not known.
- (5) SOA classifications are assigned to vacancies based on the postcode of the employers account. When a valid employer's account postcode is not available, the postcode of the vacancy is used. When both employer and vacancy postcode are incorrect/incomplete/outside of Northern Ireland, the Super Output Area of the vacancy is recorded as not known.

Local Government District

Table 6 presents vacancies notified for financial years 2009/10 to 2011/12 and unfilled vacancies at June 2012 by Local Government District.

During this period, levels of vacancies notified decreased in half of the districts, with the greatest falls in Larne (down 45%), Carrickfergus (down 33%), Newtownabbey (down 32%) and Derry (down 31%). Notified vacancies increased in 13 out of 26 districts from 2009/10 to 2011/12. With the exception of Ards (up 27%), the largest increases were in the Western districts, Limavady (up 43%), Strabane (up 37%), and Fermanagh (up 23%) as illustrated in Figures 3 and 4.

The number of vacancies notified in Belfast fell from 65 vacancies per 1,000 resident population in 2009/10 to 53 per 1,000 resident population in 2011/12. However, notified vacancies have been consistently most prevalent in Belfast with around three out of ten vacancies being notified in Belfast. Similarly, approximately 35% of the total unfilled and live unfilled vacancies were in Belfast in June 2012.

Figures presented at local level can be disproportionately impacted by single employers. Caution must be shown when interpreting local level trends as in some cases, the trend at local level may be distorted by the activity of a single employer. For example the relatively high levels of vacancies in Larne in 2009/10 can be attributed to over 400 jobs being notified by a single employer that year.

Table 6: Notified and Unfilled Vacancies by Local Government District ⁽¹⁾

Local Government District ⁽⁴⁾	Vacancies Notified by Financial Year ⁽²⁾						Unfilled Vacancies ⁽³⁾	
	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		Total June 2012	Of which Live
	Total	Per 1,000 resident population ⁽⁵⁾	Total	Per 1,000 resident population ⁽⁵⁾	Total	Per 1,000 resident population ⁽⁵⁾		
Antrim	1,518	28.1	1,391	25.7	1,576	28.5	250	124
Ards	1,406	18.0	1,562	20.0	1,785	22.6	161	69
Armagh	1,529	26.0	1,322	22.2	1,584	26.4	227	82
Ballymena	1,949	30.9	1,452	22.9	1,616	25.2	165	58
Ballymoney	308	10.1	315	10.3	347	11.2	31	16
Banbridge	829	17.4	801	16.7	681	14.0	48	26
Belfast	17,488	65.2	14,859	55.3	14,415	53.4	2,309	959
Carrickfergus	673	16.8	475	11.8	454	11.2	55	19
Castlereagh	1,711	25.6	1,255	18.7	1,334	19.9	118	39
Coleraine	1,998	35.0	1,822	32.1	1,571	27.5	178	123
Cookstown	668	18.4	654	17.8	725	19.5	55	19
Craigavon	2,170	23.5	2,555	27.3	2,132	22.4	265	89
Derry	3,430	31.3	2,368	21.6	2,364	21.3	355	204
Down	1,053	15.0	1,018	14.4	1,121	15.7	148	85
Dungannon	930	16.5	1,034	17.9	1,106	18.9	154	41
Fermanagh	908	14.6	1,095	17.4	1,118	17.7	98	36
Larne	1,046	33.3	639	20.2	577	18.3	43	20
Limavady	734	21.6	563	16.8	1,052	30.4	80	46
Lisburn	3,407	29.3	2,614	22.2	2,477	21.0	352	102
Magherafelt	697	15.8	701	15.7	773	17.1	119	36
Moyle	174	10.3	180	10.6	144	8.4	20	7
Newry and Mourne	2,152	21.8	2,059	20.6	2,221	21.8	398	135
Newtownabbey	1,964	23.5	1,331	15.9	1,330	15.8	259	74
North Down	1,993	25.0	2,208	27.6	2,367	29.7	214	113
Omagh	666	12.7	508	9.6	617	11.6	81	36
Strabane	468	11.7	519	12.9	642	15.9	98	14
Not known	2,966		3,779		2,529		337	135
Total	54,835	30.7	49,079	27.3	48,658	26.8	6,618	2,707

Notes:

- (1) All statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System on 8th June 2012.
- (2) Vacancies notified are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning. Notified is subdivided by financial years which run from 1st April to 31st March.
- (3) Vacancies unfilled are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning remaining unfilled on 8th June 2012. The total unfilled figures include live, pending, raised and suspended vacancies. See notes to readers for more information.
- (4) Local Government District classifications are assigned to vacancies based on the postcode of the employers account. When a valid employer's account postcode is not available, the postcode of the vacancy is used. When both employer and vacancy postcode are incorrect/incomplete/outside of Northern Ireland, the Local Government District of the vacancy is recorded as not known.
- (5) Local Government District mid year population estimates (MYE) from the [Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service \(NINIS\)](#) for financial years 2009/10 (2009 MYE), and 2010/11 (2010 MYE), and population projections published in 2008 for financial year 2011/12 were used to derive per 1,000 resident population figures.

Figure 3: Notified vacancies per 1,000 population by Local Government District in 2009/10

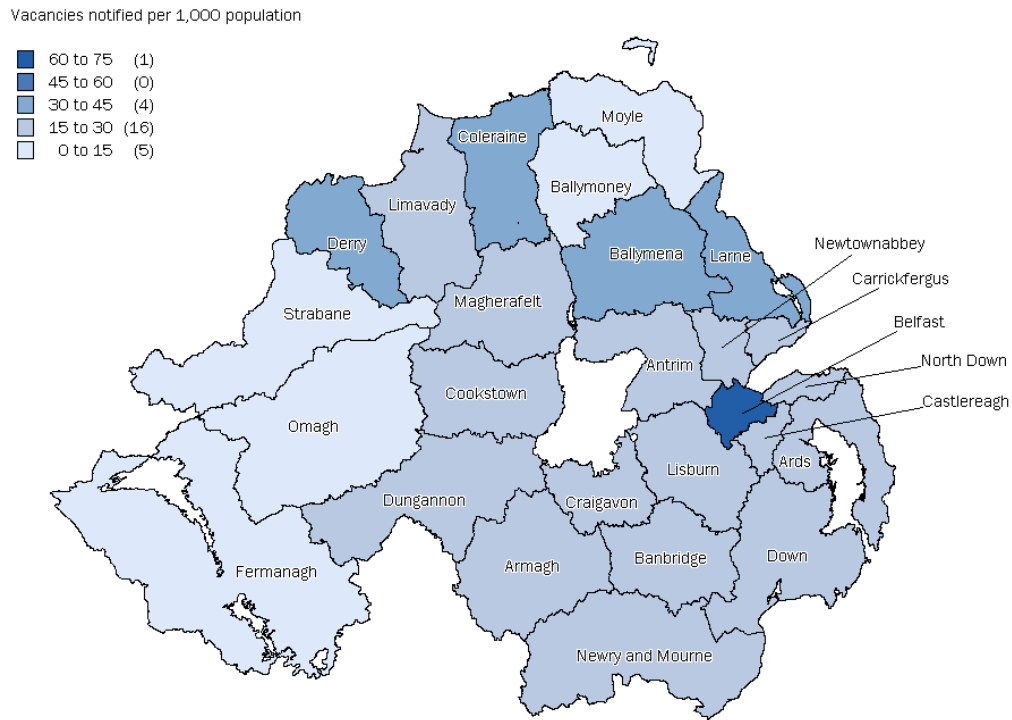
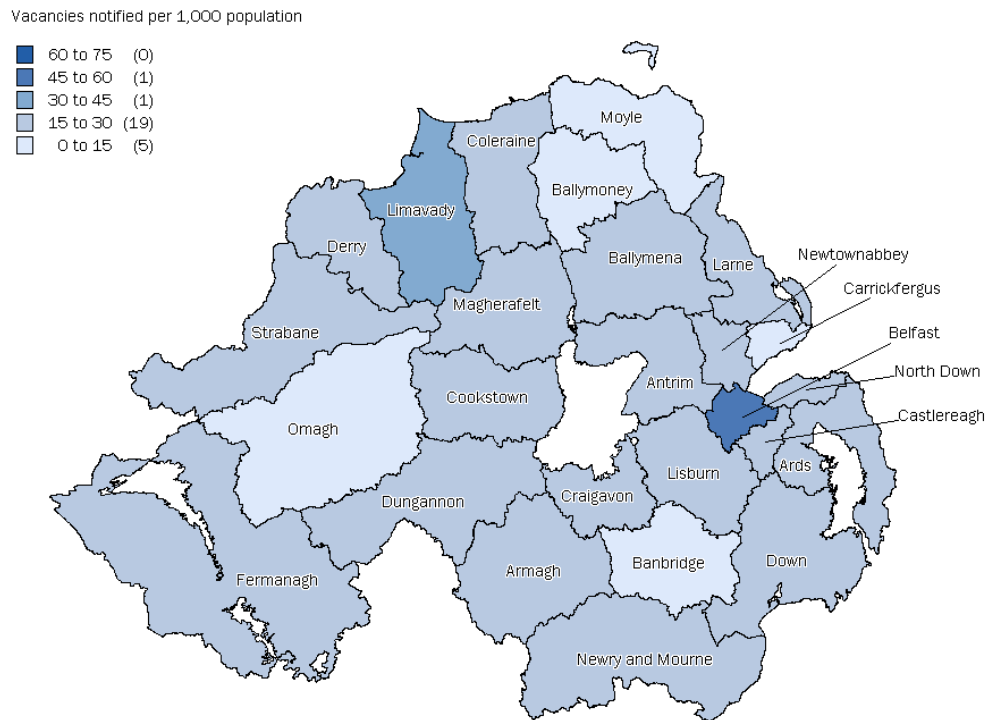


Figure 4: Notified vacancies per 1,000 population by Local Government District in 2011/12



Travel to Work Area

Travel to Work Areas (TTWA) are defined as zones where the majority of their resident economically active population work within the same area. Data presented by Travel to Work Area is particularly useful for those involved in labour market analysis and planning (Table 7).

Notified vacancies declined in most Travel to Work Areas from 2009/10 to 2011/12, with the exception of Enniskillen (up 25%), Strabane (up 22%), Dungannon (up 19%) and Mid-Ulster (up 9%). From 2009/10 to 2011/12, the majority of notified vacancies were in the Belfast TTWA (56-58%). Similarly, in June 2012, most unfilled and live unfilled vacancies were in the Belfast TTWA (just under 59% of all unfilled vacancies).

Table 7: Notified and Unfilled Vacancies by Travel to Work Area ⁽¹⁾

Travel to Work Area ⁽⁴⁾	Vacancies Notified by Financial Year ⁽²⁾						Unfilled Vacancies ⁽³⁾			
	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		Total June 2012	%	Of which Live	%
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%				
Ballymena	2,052	4%	1,596	3%	1,738	4%	186	3%	68	3%
Belfast	31,888	58%	27,276	56%	27,264	56%	3,888	59%	1,594	59%
Coleraine	2,391	4%	2,201	4%	1,953	4%	214	3%	141	5%
Craigavon	4,078	7%	4,098	8%	3,904	8%	496	7%	173	6%
Derry	4,168	8%	2,933	6%	3,491	7%	435	7%	250	9%
Dungannon	951	2%	1,062	2%	1,127	2%	151	2%	41	2%
Enniskillen	909	2%	1,110	2%	1,138	2%	101	2%	36	1%
Mid-Ulster	1,403	3%	1,349	3%	1,532	3%	190	3%	63	2%
Newry	2,899	5%	2,650	5%	2,798	6%	441	7%	156	6%
Omagh	666	1%	508	1%	617	1%	81	1%	36	1%
Strabane	464	1%	517	1%	567	1%	98	1%	14	1%
Not Known	2,966	5%	3,779	8%	2,529	5%	337	5%	135	5%
Total	54,835	100%	49,079	100%	48,658	100%	6,618	100%	2,707	100%

Notes:

- (1) All statistics are derived from data extracted from the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System on 8th June 2012.
- (2) Vacancies notified are all vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning. Notified is subdivided by financial years which run from 1st April to 31st March.
- (3) Vacancies unfilled are those vacancies notified to JobCentres / J&Bos of the Department for Employment and Learning remaining unfilled on 8th June 2012. The total unfilled figures include live, pending, raised and suspended vacancies. See notes to readers for more information.
- (4) Travel to Work Area classifications are assigned to vacancies based on the postcode of the employers account. When a valid employer's account postcode is not available, the postcode of the vacancy is used. When both employer and vacancy postcode are incorrect/incomplete/outside of Northern Ireland, the Travel to Work Area of the vacancy is recorded as not known.

NOTES TO READERS

1. Methodology and Definitions

Vacancy details are recorded on the Department for Employment and Learning Client Management System (CMS) which is installed in the JobCentre/Jobs & Benefits offices throughout Northern Ireland. This is an IT system which is used to facilitate the interface with the Department's customers.

The relevant data are extracted from CMS each month to form a Vacancies database maintained by the Department's Research and Evaluation Branch (REB) within Analytical Services. The data presented in this Statistical Bulletin are derived from the Vacancies database.

Vacancies advertised by other means (e.g. newspapers) are not included in the figures presented in this bulletin. The statistics therefore do not provide comprehensive measures relating to all vacancies in Northern Ireland. The proportion of vacancies which are notified by employers varies over time, according to the occupation and industry of the vacancies and also by geographical area.

The following notes explain the definitions underlying the data presented in this statistical bulletin.

Vacancies Notified (Inflow): All vacancy positions notified and added to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices of the Department for Employment and Learning.

Vacancies Filled and Cancelled (Outflow): Those vacancies notified to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices of the Department for Employment and Learning that have been placed or cancelled. This includes vacancies filled by JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices or other recruitment channels and vacancies that have been withdrawn.

Unadjusted Vacancies: Monthly flow data is collected for 4 or 5 week periods between count dates. Unadjusted levels reflect either a 4 or 5 week period.

Standardised Vacancies: Vacancy levels after conversion to a standard 4 1/3 week month. Figures are not seasonally adjusted.

Count date: The first Friday after the first Thursday of every month.

Unfilled Vacancies: Those vacancies notified to JobCentres /Jobs & Benefits offices of the Department for Employment and Learning remaining unfilled on the count date. Unfilled vacancies are split into live, raised, pended and suspended. In June 2012, the numbers in each of these unfilled categories were as follows: live (2,707) pended (3,881), raised (16) and suspended (14).

Live Vacancies: Displayed on [JobCentre Online \(JCOL\)](#) and open to applications from job seekers. JobCentre Online is the public Employment Service website in Northern Ireland and contains all the current vacancies of JobCentres and Jobs and Benefits Offices.

Pended Vacancies: These have been removed from display on JCOL and are no longer open to applications from job seekers. Vacancies are automatically removed from display once the closing date has been reached. These vacancies remain as pended while staff

at JobCentres /Jobs & Benefits offices consult with employers to see if the submitted clients were successful.

Raised Vacancies: A small proportion of unfilled vacancies have a status of raised. All vacancies are initially put into the raised status by the vacancy taker until the supervisor has checked the vacancy data and changed the status of the vacancy to live. While the vacancy is in raised status it cannot be viewed on JCOL by the public.

Suspended Vacancies: Occasionally a vacancy is suspended if a query arises. Depending on the outcome of the query these vacancies will either be closed or have their status restored to live.

UK Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities 2007 (SIC 2007): Employers are assigned the SIC 2007 code which best reflects their dominant activity by staff at JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices of the Department for Employment and Learning. All vacancies are assigned the SIC 2007 code of the employer that notified them. Vacancies are broken down by SIC 2007 section level. Brief descriptions of the SIC 2007 sections are provided below. More information about SIC 2007 is available in the [UK Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities 2007 \(SIC 2007\): Structure and Explanatory Notes](#) manual.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing: Activities involving vegetable and animal natural resources (e.g. growing crops and breeding animals).

Mining and Quarrying: This section includes the extraction of minerals via methods such as mining and well operation, and the preparation of crude materials for marketing.

Manufacturing: Transformation of materials, substances or components into new products via chemical or physical means (e.g. milk pasteurising; processing and preserving of fish; manufacture of bread).

Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply: Includes provision, through a permanent infrastructure, of electric power, natural gas, steam and hot water.

Water supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities: Covers activities related to the management of various forms of waste (e.g. waste collection) and activities of water supply.

Construction: General and specialised construction activities for buildings and engineering works (e.g. demolition and site preparation).

Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles: Sale, without transformation, of any type of goods; the supply of services that are incidental to the sale of merchandise; and the repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles.

Transportation and Storage: Provision of freight or passenger transport by rail, pipeline, road, water or air and associated activities (e.g. parking; cargo handling).

Accommodation and Food Service Activities: Covers the provision of short stay accommodation, and complete meals and drinks which are fit for immediate

consumption.

Information and Communication: Includes activities such as motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing; programming and broadcasting; telecommunications.

Financial and Insurance Activities: Activities include insurance; reinsurance and pension funding activities; and activities to support financial services.

Real Estate Activities: Acting as agents and/or brokers in areas such as selling or buying real estate.

Professional Scientific and Technical Activities: These activities require a substantial amount of training, and make specialised skills and knowledge available to users (e.g. legal activities; accounting; veterinary activities).

Administrative and Support Service Activities: Activities that support general business operations (e.g. renting and leasing; employment agency activities).

Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security: Included in this section are activities that are governmental in nature (e.g. regulation of activities which provide health care, education and cultural services).

Education: Covers education at all levels (e.g. pre-primary, primary, secondary and further) and for all professions.

Human Health and Social Work Activities: Example activities include hospital; residential nursing care; and social work without accommodation.

Arts, Entertainment and Recreation: Creative, arts and entertainment activities; libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities; gambling and betting; and sports activities, amusement and recreation activities are included in this section.

Other Service Activities: This residual category covers the activities of membership organisations; repair of computers and personal household goods; and other personal service activities such as hairdressing.

Activities of Households as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods- and Services-Producing Activities of Households for Own Use: Includes employment of domestic personnel such as maids and cooks; production of goods or services by private households for the purpose of subsistence.

Activities of Extraterritorial Organisations and Bodies: Activities of organisations such as the United Nations.

Standard Occupational Classification 2000 (SOC 2000): JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices of the Department for Employment and Learning assign to each vacancy the SOC 2000 code which most reflects the main duties of the post. Vacancies are broken down by SOC 2000 Major Group level. The nine Major Group levels are outlined, with examples, at a general level below in terms of qualifications, training and experience required. Further examples and information can be found in the [Standard Occupational Classification 2000: Volume 1 Structure and descriptions of unit groups](#).

Managers and Senior Officials: Considerable knowledge and experience of the production processes associated with the efficient functioning of organisations and businesses (e.g. customer care managers; managers in construction; pharmacy managers).

Professional occupations: Degree level qualification usually needed and some occupations require a postgraduate level qualification and/or experience related training (e.g. chemists; software professionals; dental practitioners).

Associate Professional and Technical Occupations: Typically a higher level vocational qualification is required, which will usually involve a substantial period of training/further study. Task related training is usually provided during the induction period (e.g. nurses; graphic designers; sports players).

Administrative and Secretarial Occupations: For most jobs, general education of a good standard is essential and further training to a well defined standard may be required (e.g. civil service executive officers; library assistants; school secretaries).

Skilled Trades Occupations: Often a substantial period of training is provided via a work based training programme (e.g. farmers; pipe fitters; motor mechanics).

Personal Service Occupations: General education of a good standard is expected, and further vocational training provided by means of a work based training programme may be required (e.g. nursery nurses; travel agents; dental nurses).

Sales and Customer Service Occupations: General education and sales related work based training are normally required. Some posts that require special knowledge are included in this category because the primary job duty is selling (e.g. sales and retail assistant; call centre agents/operators).

Process, Plant and Machine Operatives: Jobs in this category tend to need knowledge and experience of how to operate mobile machinery such as vehicles, to operate and supervise industrial plant and equipment, assembly products in accordance with regulations. Most occupations require that a minimum level of competence should be reached and that a formal period of experience related training should be completed (e.g. coal mine operatives; van drivers).

Elementary Occupations: Usually require education to be completed to compulsory level. Some occupations may require short periods of work related training in areas such as health and safety (e.g. farm workers; bar staff; cleaners).

Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 (NIMDM 2010) Quintiles: The NIMDM 2010 replaces the NIMDM 2005 as the official measure of deprivation in Northern Ireland, and provides a relative measure of deprivation in small areas. NIMDM 2010 gives an overall measure of seven types of deprivation: Income, Employment Health, Education, Proximity to Services, Living Environment, and Crime and Disorder. Further information is available at [Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010](#). Vacancy statistics are presented by Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure quintile bands: ranks 1-178 (most deprived), ranks 179-356, ranks 357-534, ranks 535-712, ranks 713-890 (least deprived). Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure ranks are based on the Super Output Area (SOA) classification of the vacancy. SOA

classifications are assigned to vacancies using the Central Postcode Directory June 2012 based on the postcode of the employers account. When a valid employer's account postcode is not available, the postcode of the vacancy is used.

Local Government District: One of the 26 Local Government Districts in Northern Ireland was assigned using the Central Postcode Directory June 2012 to each vacancy. Employer postcode was used when available and valid; otherwise the postcode of the vacancy was used.

Travel to Work Area (TTWA): In each of the 11 Travel to Work Areas the majority of the resident population work within the same area. Specifically, of the resident economically active population, at least 75% actually work in the area. Additionally, of everyone working in the area, at least 75% actually live in the area. Travel to Work Areas are used by those involved in labour market analysis and planning as they provide statistics for labour market areas. The Central Postcode Directory June 2012 was used to assign Travel to Work Areas to the postcode of the employer who notified the vacancy. However, when employer postcode was unavailable or invalid the postcode of the vacancy was used instead.

2. Revisions Policy

Over time, as more information becomes available, estimates can be revised to improve quality and accuracy, which will provide a better picture of that being measured. As the vacancy database is built and updated from a live administrative system there is potential for some revision of statistics in the future. Any necessary revision will therefore be incorporated into future vacancy statistical bulletins. Revisions are expected to be minimal but may be due to database changes applied or to amendments to vacancies which are live on the recent count date.

3. Quality Measures

Relevance: This statistical bulletin includes vacancies statistics as one aspect of labour market information in Northern Ireland. There are a wide variety of users of labour market data, including businesses, national and local government, academia, and the general public.

Accuracy: The statistics included are representative of the administrative database at the time of data extraction. The administrative system has in-built validation checks to minimise user error and can be interrogated to assess data quality and cross check statistics. Validation checks are also carried out on the vacancies database and when erroneous data are found they are corrected. In some cases the same vacancies may be notified to JobCentres / Jobs & Benefits offices by an employer and a recruitment agency. While every effort is made to validate vacancy data it should be noted that there is potential for duplicates. During the period from 2007/08 to 2011/12, the administrative system for recording vacancies was enhanced and therefore a small proportion of the decrease in notified vacancies may be due to improvements in data quality.

Timeliness and Punctuality: Vacancy statistics are published up to the count date two months prior to the month of publication. The publication schedule for the Department for Employment and Learning can be found at the following link: [Statistics Publication Schedule](#).

Accessibility and Clarity: The statistical bulletin is due to be published annually on the Department for Employment and Learning website and is free of charge. The bulletin includes tables and text highlighting the key facts. The bulletin is available in other formats upon request.

Comparability: This bulletin provides detailed vacancy statistics for the past three financial years. Vacancy data is also published each month in the DFP Labour Market Bulletin and includes comparisons over time in notified, filled and cancelled, and unfilled vacancies. It can be accessed on the Statistics and Economics Research Page from the following link: www.detini.gov.uk/. Vacancies notified and unfilled in GB can be accessed via [NOMIS](#).

When methodological changes or other effects such as administrative system changes are made, every effort is made to ensure that all previous data are amended to make them directly comparable. If statistics are not directly comparable, this will be highlighted in the bulletin.

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