

GRADUATES IN NORTHUMBERLAND

- FIRST DESTINATION

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Graduate Attraction

- All UK regions retain at least 40% of graduates from institutions in their region. The further a region lies from London, the more graduates it keeps.
- London is the most popular location for graduate employment, with one in six graduates finding employment in the capital in 2003.

Graduate employment

- Employment for graduates working in the North East is dominated by the public sector, with health and social work, education and public administration positions accounting for half of all jobs obtained by graduates in the region.
- More than one fifth of graduates in 4 of the districts within the county have chosen employment in Northumberland.
- Nearly two thirds of Northumberland's employed domiciled graduates found jobs in the North East in 2002, which has slipped to just over half for 2005

Graduate retention

- Improving graduate retention within the region is a major issue according to the Regional Education Forum and One NorthEast.
- The Regional Economic Strategy Action Plan 2006 aims to “Undertake greater coordination and an increase in the number of graduate placements within the region to improve graduate retention and proactively work to encourage the highest calibre graduates from outside the North East to live and work here”.

First destination of Graduates

- Of the new graduates domiciled in Northumberland that found work in 2001, 61% were employed in Northumberland or elsewhere in the North East. The actual number rose in 2005, although the percentage finding employment in the North East fell.
- From the analysis it is apparent that Northumberland is a net exporter of graduates, with only 17% staying within the county to find employment. The North East is neither a net importer nor exporter of graduates.
- Out of the employed graduates domiciled in the rest of the North East, only 1.4% found employment in Northumberland.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Graduate Attraction

Organisations such as ASPIRE and NRAIS have found that regional employers are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit the appropriately skilled and motivated employees they need. The region needs its young people to stay, develop and contribute to the local economy. Business needs a steady supply of quality young people that it can call upon as it seeks to compete on a regional, national and international level. The differences in skills levels and the type of jobs available to highly skilled workers accounts for a major part of the gap in economic performance between English regions.

1.2 Graduate retention within the region

Improving graduate retention within the region (i.e. the number of graduates that remain in the North East to find employment) has been highlighted as a major issue by the Regional Education Forum. Also One NorthEast in the Regional Economic Strategy Action Plan (Draft) 2006 aims to “Undertake greater coordination and an increase in the number of graduate placements within the region to improve graduate retention and proactively work to encourage the highest calibre graduates from outside the North East to live and work here”. This can be broken down into:

- The extent to which graduates domiciled in Northumberland (and the North East) find employment in the region
- The extent to which graduates completing Higher Education courses in the North East (irrespective of residence) find employment in the region
- The number of Northumberland resident graduates who find employment in the region but did not study in the region

2. GRADUATE FIRST DESTINATION

2.1 Background

Graduate retention has been highlighted as an important issue by One NorthEast in The Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and within the remit of the Regional Education Forum (REF).

Leading the Way, the Regional Economic Strategy for the North East (NE), recognises universities and colleges at the heart of the regional economy. The strategy highlights the value of colleges and universities in terms of knowledge transfer, innovation, teaching and learning to varying degrees, according to the type of organisation. A key priority for the North East is to have a strong economy with a diverse, resilient and competitive company base with a range of skill levels, good research and design, entrepreneurship and innovation.

The Lambert Review¹ re-emphasises the importance of universities to their regional economies. The review considers the supply of highly skilled individuals to business and knowledge transfer activity as key to a successful economy.

The North East Regional Skills Partnership has recognised that the region's changing economic and industrial structure is increasing the need for higher level skills. Given the importance of graduates in supplying these skills, this study will investigate graduate employment in relation to place of study and domicile.

The proportion of graduates domiciled in Northumberland and the North East that find employment in the County and the region, and how many leave to find employment elsewhere is a major issue; as is the number of graduates that study in the North East (irrespective of where they were domiciled) that remain in the region to find employment. The proportion of graduates that find graduate-level jobs, based on Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) and associated skill levels is also important.

¹ Lambert Review of Business-University Collaboration 2003 HM Treasury

All of the findings in this section of the report are based on the HESA First Destination Survey conducted with students that graduated in 2004/05; 6 months after graduating. In 2004, 60% of first degree students graduating from HEIs went straight into employment, 18% to further study, 10% to work and study, 10% were classed as unemployed and a further 6% were unknown².

2.2 Local Recruitment

Furthermore, looking at Figure 1 which measures graduate retention in the region, the 'new' Universities have a higher retention rate than the two older Universities. The University of Newcastle has the lowest retention rate of 57.2%, which may be due to the specific nature of courses available.

Figure 1: Proportion of NE domicile Students remaining in their region of study following graduation

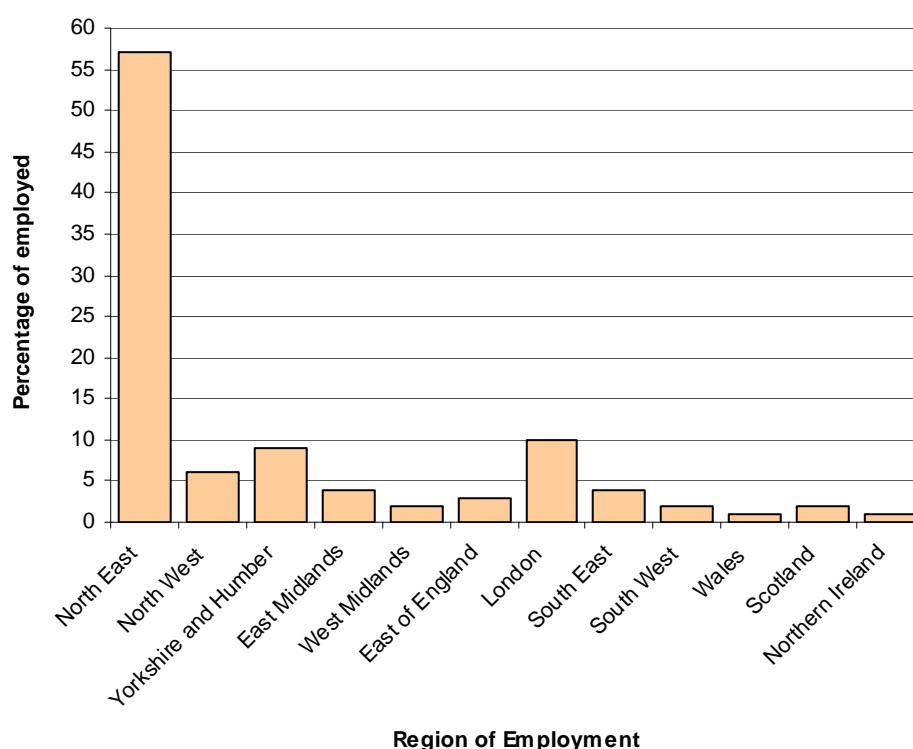
	% remaining in NE	% NA/UK
University of Northumbria	76.5%	17.2%
University of Sunderland	71.4%	22.6%
University of Teesside	73.6%	18.3%
Durham University	62.2%	25.7%
University of Newcastle Upon Tyne	57.2%	33.6%
Source: HESA, 2004/05		

There are a significant percentage of graduates who have not provided information on their whereabouts following graduation, (shown on the right column) and if this information was available, it could substantially alter the percentages shown.

Figure 2³ clearly shows the high percentage of graduates, more than half, from North East HEIs who remain in the region to find employment.

² HEFCE data

³ HEFCE 2005 Regional Profile North East

Figure 2: Where graduates from North East HEI's find employment

To differentiate Northumberland from the North East a domicile location was created which is effectively the North East excluding Northumberland. This was also repeated to create geography for the rest of England, i.e. minus Northumberland and the rest of the North East. This is to make true comparisons between areas, where one percentage does not contribute to part of another. The figures shown below are for the mutually exclusive areas only with no overlap.

Figure 3 : The number and percentage of domiciled graduates by employment location

Employment location	Domicile Location							
	2001				2004/05			
	N'land		NE ex. N'land		N'land		NE ex. N'land	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Northumberland	220	23.0	105	2.00	290	16.7	163	1.4
North East ex. N'land	360	38.0	3,385	67.0	577	33.3	6,551	57.4
England ex. N'land, NE	310	33.0	1,465	28.0	429	24.8	2,133	18.7
NA/NK					436	25.2	2,575	22.5
Total	950	100	5,055	100	1,732	100	11,422	100

Source: adapted from HESA (2002, 2004/05)

2.3 Northumberland and graduate employment

From information based on graduates domiciled in the North East, there were 13,154 persons who found employment on leaving higher education based on HESA 2004/05 data. Of these, 453 new graduates found employment in Northumberland compared with 405 in 2001, an increase of 48. This figure shows that 56% of these were domiciled in the County and the rest, elsewhere in the North East.

Based on the 2004/05 survey, 1,732 people domiciled in Northumberland found employment, and of these only 16.7% (290) were employed in the County compared with 23% in 2001/02. In contrast 33.3% (577) found employment in the rest of the North East which was an increase in number of 217, but a decrease in percentage by about 4%.

Overall, Northumberland is a net exporter of graduates with 58% (77% in 2001/02) of new graduates domiciled in the County finding employment outside of the County boundary (the location of a further 25% are not available or not known) . In total, 163 new graduates domiciled in the North East (excluding Northumberland) found employment in the County in 2004/05; and just over 1000 new graduates domiciled in Northumberland found work outside of the County in the same period, giving a net outflow of 843. Comparing this to the 2001/02 figure of 545 net outflows, this illustrates that the county does not have the capacity to employ all the graduates it generates. However, it should be noted that approximately 25% of those surveyed did not provide an employment location and this should be taken into account as these could make a difference to overall percentages.

As Figure 4 shows, the number of graduates domiciled in Northumberland and employed in Northumberland has increased from 220 to 290. In 1995/96 this figure was 100, so although this is still relatively small in absolute terms, it represents a 190% increase in new graduate retention in the last 10 years, with a growth of 31% over the last 4 years. The growth in Northumberland domiciled graduates employed in the rest of the North East has increased by over 60% over the period and in contrast, the number of graduates finding employment outside of the region has increased by only 38% over the same period.

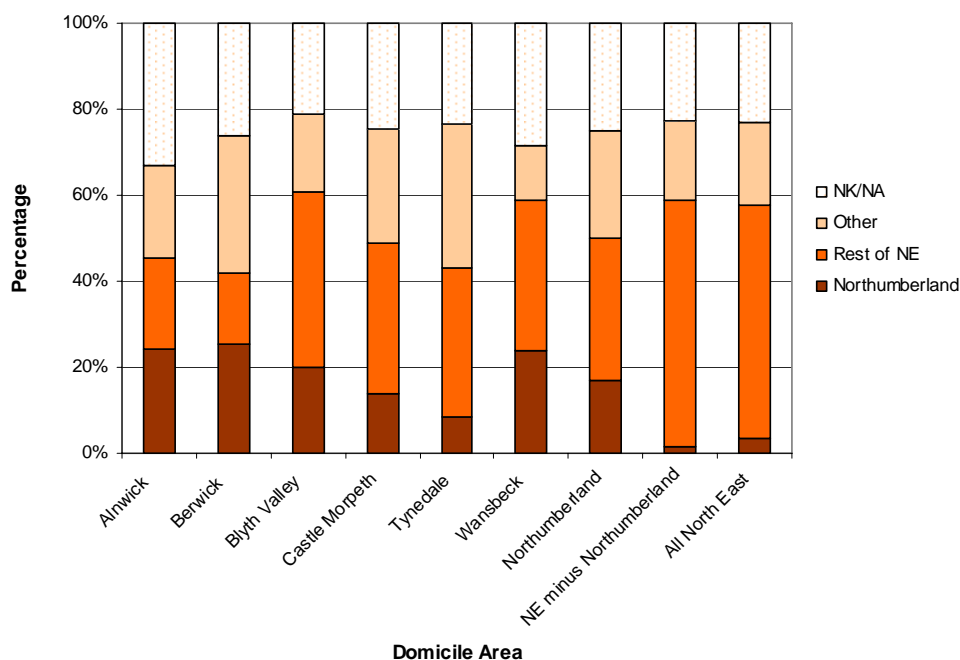
Figure 4: The percentage change in graduate employment by place of work and domicile location

Place of work	Domicile location						
	Northumberland						
	1996	2000	2001	2004/5	% change 1996 – 2001	% change 2000 - 2001	% change 2001- 2005
Northumberland	100	150	220	290	+122.2	+48.6	+31.8
North East (ex.N'land)	225	305	360	577	+62.3	+19.1	+62.3
England (ex. N'land and NE)	450	290	305	429*	-31.6	+5.5	+38.0

Source: HESA (2002 and 2004/2005)
 Info does not include figures for graduates where first destination is Not Known/Not Available – this is stated as 436
 N.B. Figures may not add due to rounding

This data does not include graduates who have studied at FEC's and although these figures are relatively small, percentages would change slightly if the information was available. Figure 5 shows first destinations for graduates broken down by domicile district.

Figure 5: First Destination for Graduates by District, County and North East



It can be seen that, of graduates domiciled in the six Northumberland districts, the largest percentage that find employment within Northumberland are those in Alnwick, Berwick upon Tweed and Wansbeck. Tynedale shows the smallest percentage of graduates staying within Northumberland to work. It also clearly shows that there are a very small percentage of graduates from the North East who do not live in the county, taking up employment within Northumberland. See Figure 15 in Appendix for figures relating to this chart.

Figure 6: First destination by district of Graduates domiciled in Northumberland

First destination District	First destination				Total
	Northumberland	NE ex N/Land	Other	NK/NA	
Alnwick	48	42	43	66	199
Berwick	26	17	33	27	103
Blyth Valley	69	139	63	72	343
Castle Morpeth	54	135	104	95	388
Tynedale	40	165	158	112	475
Wansbeck	53	79	28	64	224
Northumberland	290	577	429	436	1,732

Source : HESA (2004/2005)

2.4 The North East and graduate employment

Figure 7: Percentage change in graduate employment by place of work and domicile location

Place of work	Domicile location				
	North East (ex. N'land)				
	1995/ 1996	1999/ 2000	2000/ 2001	2004/ 2005*	% change 1995/1996 – 2004/2005
Northumberland	70	90	105	163	+232
North East (ex.N'land)	1,470	3,000	3,385	6,551	+445
England (ex. N'land and NE)	2,080	1,605	1,465	2,133	+2

Source: HESA (2002, 2004/05)

* 2004/05 figures do not include numbers of students where first destination is not available/not known

N.B. May not sum due to rounding.

Figure 7 shows, from the beginning of the time series (1995/1996) the number of graduates domiciled in the North East (excl Northumberland) and employed in the same area has increased from 1,470 to 6,551, an increase of over 400%!. The growth in North East domiciled graduates employed in Northumberland has been steadier but has still increased by more than 200% since 1996, although actual figures are low. In contrast, the number of graduates finding employment outside of the region has risen by only 2% over the same period, showing a high percentage of graduates are staying within their domicile region for their first place of employment. On a national scale, the North East has a high level of graduate retention with almost 60% of graduates remaining in the region 6 months after graduation. This figure is only marginally below the national average and higher than the average across half the regions in England⁴. These figures include all graduates on higher education courses, not just those following full time first degree courses.

2.5 Section Comment

In all, of the 950 new graduates domiciled in Northumberland that found work in 2001, 580 or 61% were employed in Northumberland or elsewhere in the North East. This figure rose to 1,732 graduates domicile in Northumberland in 2005, of which 867 or 50% were employed in the North East including Northumberland. For the rest of the North East, the equivalent figure is 59%, dropping from 69% in 2001, suggesting that new graduates from Northumberland are even more likely to seek career opportunities outside of the region.

From the analysis it is apparent that Northumberland is a net exporter of graduates, with only 17% staying within the county to find employment. The North East is neither a net importer nor exporter as it seems to create as many graduate jobs as North East graduates find jobs.

Out of the 11,422 employed graduates domiciled in the rest of the North East only 1.4% found employment in Northumberland. This is a reduction of 0.5% from 2001.

⁴ Nerip Quarterly Economic Survey May 06

3. LOCATION OF STUDY AND EMPLOYMENT DESTINATION

3.1 Employment destination

The analysis in the previous section reports that Northumberland is a net exporter of graduates. This section relates graduate employment to place of study, and in particular the extent to which graduates that studied in the North East region remain in the region to find employment. Information provided by HESA shows that 57%⁵ of full time first degree graduates from North East HEIs, who find employment, do so within the region. As only 33% of students at North East HEIs are domiciled in the North East, this shows that 24% of those who graduate, who are not domiciled within the NE, stay in the region to work. London has the second highest figure (10%) for full time first degree students finding employment, with Yorkshire and the Humber third with 9%. This indicates that where a graduate chooses to study has a strong bearing on their first destination of employment. Figures for 2003, showed a similar trend⁶

There is evidently a net movement of graduates into the capital. Taking each region individually, every part of the country retains at least 40% of graduates from their institutions in their region and most keep at least half, but all export some to London. Generally the further a region lies from London, the more graduates it keeps. Furthermore, for most regions (Yorkshire, Wales and Northern Ireland being the exceptions), London is the next most likely destination, after their region of study, for graduates to be working six months after they completed their degree.

When the figures for migration from outside a region are examined, it seems that many graduates from 2003 opted to move to areas neighbouring their own, rather than travel further afield, to the capital for example. Put together, this points to an assumption that many graduates feel a loyalty to their home and study regions, and that if the opportunities are available to them to gravitate to those areas, they are likely to take them. It also suggests that the financial rewards available in London may not be sufficient to sway a substantial proportion of the talent pool to move there when they can find employment nearer to 'home'.

⁵ HEFCE Regional Profile 2006

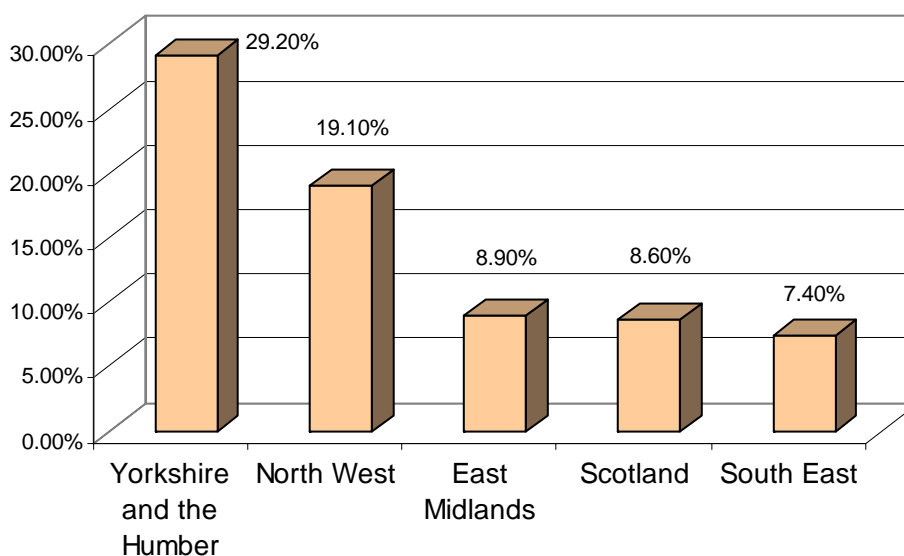
⁶ According to Graduate Prospects, 59.3% of all graduates from institutions in the North East went on to work in the region, with 8.7% going to London and 8.3% moving to Yorkshire and the Humber

3.2 Graduate Attraction

As well as retention, the subject of graduate attraction is also important. This comprises of graduates who are resident in the region, but studied outside the North East and returned to find employment in the North East, as well as those who are resident outside the North East, studied outside the North East but find employment in the region.

Nearly a third of graduates (29.2%) who come from outside the region to work in the North East hail from Yorkshire and the Humber, and another 19.1% come from the North West (see Figure 8).

Figure 8: Home regions of graduates from 2003 who moved to work in the North East



In 2004/05, there were 6,316 students domiciled in the North East who studied in the North East, who were also employed in the North East (48.4% of total NE students). A total of 5,529 students domicile in the North East left the region to study and did not return to find employment (42.4% of total NE students). The region should be actively attracting graduates back to the region and HESA data shows that there were 1,192 students who studied outside the North East but who found employment in the region (9.1% of total NE students), and 91 of these students returned to Northumberland to take up employment. This was only 1.9% of total students who studied outside the region. Unfortunately information was not known or not available for 25% of respondents.

3.3 Section Comment

- The Eastern Region, London and Northern Ireland are the only three regions that import more graduates than they export.
- All UK regions retain at least 40% of graduates from institutions in their region. A basic approximation is that the further a region lies from London, the more graduates it keeps.
- London is the most popular location for graduate employment, with one in six employed 2003 graduates working there⁷.

⁷ Data from HECFU

4. GRADUATE JOBS

4.1 Background

In 2003, the CBI⁸ ‘suggested that there were insufficient graduate level jobs to meet the supply of new graduates’. This section looks at the extent to which new graduates are finding graduate-level jobs after leaving Higher Education.

4.2 Methodology

As part of the HESA First Destination Survey, new graduates are asked to provide details of the job they have secured, to which HESA have assigned a Standard Occupational Classification code (SOC).

4.3 North East domiciled graduates and employment

Figure 9 shows the top employment sectors for graduates working in the North East in 2003. The public sector dominates, with health and social work, education and public administration positions accounting for half of all jobs obtained by graduates in the region.

**Figure 9: Destinations of first degree graduates:¹ by sex and occupation, 2003
United Kingdom**

	Percentages		
	Males	Females	All
Managers and senior officials	12	8	9
Professional	28	23	25
Associate professional and technical	24	30	28
Administrative and secretarial	14	19	17
Skilled trades	2	-	1
Personal service	2	6	4
Sales and customer service	10	10	10
Process, plant and machine operatives	1	-	1
Elementary	6	3	5
All occupations	100	100	100
<small>¹ Occupations of UK domiciled full- and part-time first degree graduates in employment about six months after completion of their degree. Source: Department for Education and Skills; Higher Education Statistics Agency Social Trends 35 (ONS)</small>			

4.4 Graduate jobs by SOC (Standard Occupational Classification)

The largest percentages of graduates who both live and work in Northumberland are those who are employed in Professional occupations (5.1%) with 4.5% employed in associate Professional and Technical occupations. This figure is lower than

⁸ Source: New Start (Jan 03)

graduates domiciled in Northumberland who work in the rest of the region with 9.2% working in Professional Occupations and 9.3% in Associate Professional and Technical occupations. A total of 15.2% of graduates domiciled in Northumberland, travel outside the region to find work in these two categories. Key employment sectors within the North East region are manufacturing, construction and the public sector⁹.

Figure 10: Percentage of Graduates domiciled in Northumberland by place of work and SOC

		NE minus Nland	Nland	Other	NA/NK
1	Managers & senior officials	3.8	1.6	2.6	0.0
2	Professional occupations	9.2	5.1	9.9	0.0
3	Associate professional & technical occupations	9.6	4.5	5.3	0.0
4	Administrative & secretarial occupations	5.9	1.9	2.8	0.0
5	Skilled trades occupations	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
6	Personal service occupations	0.8	1.2	1.0	0.0
7	Sales & customer service occupations	2.9	1.3	1.5	0.0
8	Process, plant & machine operatives	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0
9	Elementary occupations	1.0	0.8	1.2	0.0
A	Not known/not applicable	0.1	0.0	0.1	25.1
Total %		33.3	16.7	24.8	25.2

N.B. May not sum due to rounding.

Figure 11 compares data of employed graduates for 2002 and 2005. Looking at the figures, for the 7,581 graduates who are domiciled in the North East, 4,606 (60%) found jobs in Professional and Associate Professional positions within the region with 301 of those finding employment in Northumberland. This is a slight decrease on the percentage for 2002 which was 61.1%. There are only 4.9% of graduates domiciled in Northumberland who have found employment in Sales Occupations, less than the North East rate of 9.1%. This percentage has increased in the North East area but decreased in Northumberland since 2002. There is also a distinct difference between the number of graduates employed in Clerical and Secretarial Occupations, with a figure of 8.8% within Northumberland but 11.6% in the North East as a whole.

⁹ Regional perspectives on graduate destinations (Spring 05) - Graduate Prospects

Figure 11: Employed graduates by Domicile Grouping and SOC Major Categories (No. & %)

SOC 90 Major	Description	Northumberland		NE		NE excluding Northumberland	
		2002	2005	2002	2005	2002	2005
1	Managers and Administrators	10.7% 105	9.3% 42	10.8% 670	9.5% 721	10.9% 565	9.5% 679
2	Professional Occupations	32.3% 320	35.8% 162	33.1% 2050	31.7% 2405	33.3% 1,730	31.5% 2243
3	Associate Professionals and Technical Occupations	25.7% 255	30.7% 139	28.0% 1730	29.0% 2201	28.4% 1,480	28.9% 2062
4	Clerical, Secretarial Occupations	15.3% 150	8.8% 40	13.3% 825	11.6% 879	12.9% 675	11.8% 839
5	Craft and Related Occupations	0.3% 5	0.7% 3	0.5% 30	0.8% 58	0.5% 25	0.8% 55
6	Personal, Protective Occupations	6.1% 60	6.0% 27	5.6% 345	4.5% 342	5.5% 285	4.4% 315
7	Sales Occupations	7.0% 70	4.9% 22	6.4% 400	9.1% 691	6.3% 330	9.4% 669
8	Plant and Machine Operators	0.4% 5	0.7% 3	0.3% 20	0.4% 30	0.3% 15	0.4% 27
9	Other Occupations	1.7% 15	3.3% 15	1.2% 75	3.3% 250	1.2% 60	3.3% 235
	Unknown	0.5% 5	0 0	0.8% 45	0.1% 4	0.8% 40	0.1% 4
	Total	100.0% 990	100% 453	100% 6190	100% 7581	100.0% 5,205	100% 7128

Source: adapted from HESA (2002 and 2004/05)
N.B. Numbers may not sum due to rounding

4.5 Northumberland domiciled graduates and employment

Figure 12 shows the number and percentage of graduates by domicile district by area of first employment. It is clear to see that more than one fifth of graduates within 4 of the districts have chosen employment within the county. The figures for Tynedale (8.4%) and Castle Morpeth (13.9%) show that graduates domicile in these districts travel further afield for employment. In total, 16.4% of graduates domicile in Northumberland, stay in the county to work.

Figure 12: District of domicile and First Destination of Graduates

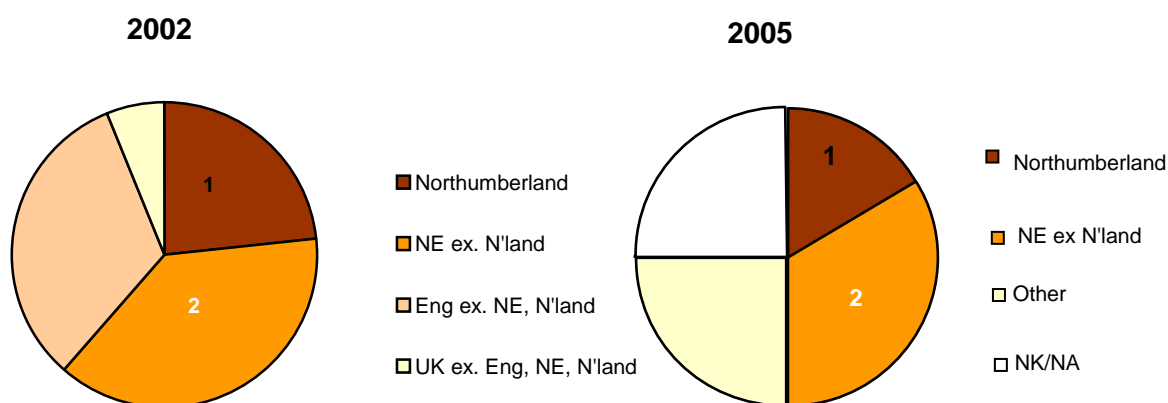
From Domicile District	To	First destination Northumberland	
		No.	%
Alnwick		48	24.1
Berwick		26	25.2
Blyth Valley		69	20.
Castle Morpeth		54	13.9
Tynedale		40	8.4
Wansbeck		53	23.7
Northumberland		290	16.7
NE minus Northumberland		163	1.4
North East inc Northumberland		453	3.4

N.B. May not sum due to rounding.

Figure 16 in the Appendix shows both Northumberland and Tyne and Wear as the first destination of graduates, using their home wards, and plotted digitally. This highlights the attraction of the Tyne and Wear metropolitan area for new graduates finding employment.

Figure 13 below shows the distribution of Northumberland domiciled graduates in terms of where they are employed. Looking at 2002 data, and taking the region a whole (segments 1 and 2); nearly two thirds of Northumberland's employed domiciled graduates find jobs in the North East. This has reduced to just over half for 2005.

Figure 13: Location of Employment of Northumberland domiciled Graduates:



4.6 Occupation of Graduates

Figure 14 illustrates the top 5 occupations for graduates domiciled in the North East, showing Standard Occupational Classification by county and region.

Figure 14: Top 5 occupations of graduates in their first destination

Northumberland		North East inc Northumberland	
No	SOC classification	No	SOC classification
48	Teaching and research professionals	114	Teaching and research professionals
45	Health and social welfare	111	Health and social welfare
28	Business and public service professionals	109	Administrative occupations
23	Administrative occupations	84	Business and public service professionals
21	Corporate managers	77	Business and public service associate professionals
57%		57%	

It can be seen that for both areas, 57% of graduates are employed in the top 5 occupations with the only variation being Corporate Managers who appear in the county top 5 but not in the region figures. It must be noted that there were 453 graduates for whom information was not known or not available.

The most popular principal subjects of first degree graduates in Northumberland are Social Studies and Business and Administrative Studies followed by Education, and this is mirrored in those graduates domiciled in the North East. The North East figure also shows a high percentage of graduates gaining first degrees in Subjects allied to Medicine (see Figure 17 in Appendix). This reflects the SOC of graduates in the area, where positions in teaching and research, business and public service, and Health and Social Welfare are among the highest areas of employment for both Northumberland and the North East. (See Figure 18 in the Appendix for a further breakdown)

4.7 Section Comment

Employment for graduates working in the North East is dominated by the public sector, with health and social work, education and public administration positions accounting for half of all jobs obtained by graduates in the region.

More than one fifth of graduates in 4 of the districts within the county have chosen employment in Northumberland.

Nearly two thirds of Northumberland's employed domiciled graduates found jobs in the North East in 2002, which has slipped to just over half for 2005.

5.0 CONCLUSION

Improvements in access to learning and removal of barriers to employment are major issues and the monitoring of graduates is one way of presenting any changes which are taking place. The Regional Economic Strategy highlights the importance of improving graduate retention within the region (i.e. the number of graduates that remain in the North East to find employment).

Organisations such as ASPIRE and NRAIS have found that regional employers are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit the appropriately skilled and motivated employees they need. The region needs its young people to stay, develop and contribute to the local economy. Business needs a steady supply of quality young people that it can call upon as it seeks to compete on a regional, national and international level. The differences in skills levels and the type of jobs available to highly skilled workers accounts for a major part of the gap in economic performance between English regions.

Overall, Northumberland is a net exporter of graduates with more than half of new graduates domiciled in the county finding employment outside the county boundary. This is partly because the county does not have the capacity to employ all the graduates it generates, and also the fact that there are more job opportunities in the rest of the North East.

Employment for graduates working in the North East is dominated by the public sector, with health and social work, education and public administration positions accounting for half of all jobs obtained by graduates in the region. This is mirrored by the subjects which are studied, and also the variety of major employers within the area.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Data Sources and Definitions

Higher Education Statistics Agency Services LTD	18 Royal Crescent Cheltenham GL50 3DA	www.hesa.ac.uk
Learning Skills Council North East Region	Moongate House 5th Avenue Business Park Team Valley Gateshead Tyne and Wear NE 11 0HF	tyneandwearinfo@lsc.gov.uk
NOMIS		www.nomisweb.co.uk
The Office for National Statistics		www.statistics.gov.uk
Department for Education and Skills	Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street London SW1P 3BT	info@dfes.gsi.gov.uk
Aimhigher		

Definitions

Higher education Higher education (HE) is defined as courses that are of a standard that is higher than GCE A level, the Higher Grade of the Scottish Certificate of Education/National Qualification, GNVQ/NVQ level 3 or the Edexcel (formerly BTEC) or SQA National Certificate/Diploma. There are three main levels of HE courses:

1. Postgraduate courses leading to higher degrees, diplomas and certificates (including postgraduate certificates of education and professional qualifications) that usually require a first degree as entry qualification.
2. Undergraduate courses, which include first degrees, first degrees with qualified teacher status, enhanced first degrees, first degrees obtained concurrently with a diploma, and intercalated first degrees.
3. Other undergraduate courses which include all other HE courses, for example HNDs and Diplomas in HE.

Provision of HE courses Higher education courses are generally above the standard of GCE A-levels or National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 3. They

include foundation and first degree courses, Higher National Diplomas and Certificates, and are provided in a variety of ways:

- Publicly funded universities and higher education colleges carry out teaching, research and a wide range of other activities. These institutions are referred to as 'higher education institutions' (HEIs)
- The Open University provides distance-learning courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level throughout the UK. It is by far the largest provider of distance-learning courses, but it is not the only one as campus-based institutions also provide some distance learning.
- Further education colleges provide courses, generally up to the standard of GCE A-levels or NVQ Level 3, but also higher education courses. Many FECs teach students registered at HEIs with whom they have a collaborative arrangement.
- Students taught by a franchise arrangement when they are registered at one institution but taught by another institution. Most franchise arrangements are between an HEI and an FEC, where the HEI receives funding for the students and is responsible for quality assurance, and the FEC teaches the students.

HESA Data The majority of data analysed in this report has been provided by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). Through their First Destination Survey, HESA are able to track inflows of graduates to and outflows from Northumberland and the North East.

However it must be remembered that this data (where first destination is employment) is generated through a survey conducted 6 months after graduation, which may not allow graduates sufficient time to determine their preferred first destination (North East Graduate Labour Market Report 1999/2000). The data itself is collected by individual careers services and is collated by HESA.

FE data from the ISR file Studying for a Higher Education qualification does not necessarily require attending a University and so using the Northumberland Individual Student Record File, this paper shows how important the FE sector is in HE provision for Northumberland residents.

Open University Data The Open University (OU) is Britain's largest University, with more than 200,000 people participating each year; and since 1969 around 2 million people have completed OU higher education courses. Although Open University data is included in the HESA statistics, it is important to consider the Open University as a separate institution especially in Northumberland where some settlements can

be up to 70 miles away from the nearest North East HEI. The data has been aggregated to district and County level for dissemination.

Ordnance Survey Data The Ordnance Survey mapping data included in this publication is provided by Northumberland County Council under licence from the Ordnance Survey. Persons should contact Ordnance Survey copyright for advice if they wish to use this mapping data for their own use.

NOMIS Office of National Statistics Population Estimates and Labour Force Survey

ONS The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is the government department that provides UK statistical and registration services. It is responsible for producing a wide range of key economic and social statistics.

Super Output Areas Super Output Areas (SOAs) are a new geography devised by ONS and designed for the collection and publication of small area statistics. They will give an improved basis for evaluation as they are intended to be highly stable, enabling improved comparison and monitoring of policy over time, and geographical area, with units of a similar in size than, for example, electoral wards. The Index of Multiple Deprivation was previously provided at ward level, meaning that direct historical comparisons cannot be made

Data Limitations

The study aims to look at graduate supply in the North East region as a whole, including all forms of higher education provision, participation and as far as possible graduate outcomes. In undertaking the analysis it is acknowledged that limitations exist in the data, and that lack of coverage in some areas causes a variation in the quality of the analysis.

Regional comparators have been provided where possible; however, the extent to which such comparisons could be made is limited by the ways in which national HESA data is published. HESA student data provides a picture of where and what students study related to their origin and first destination data provides a picture of where and how graduates from each region's universities are employed but does not provide a linkage between the two data sets.

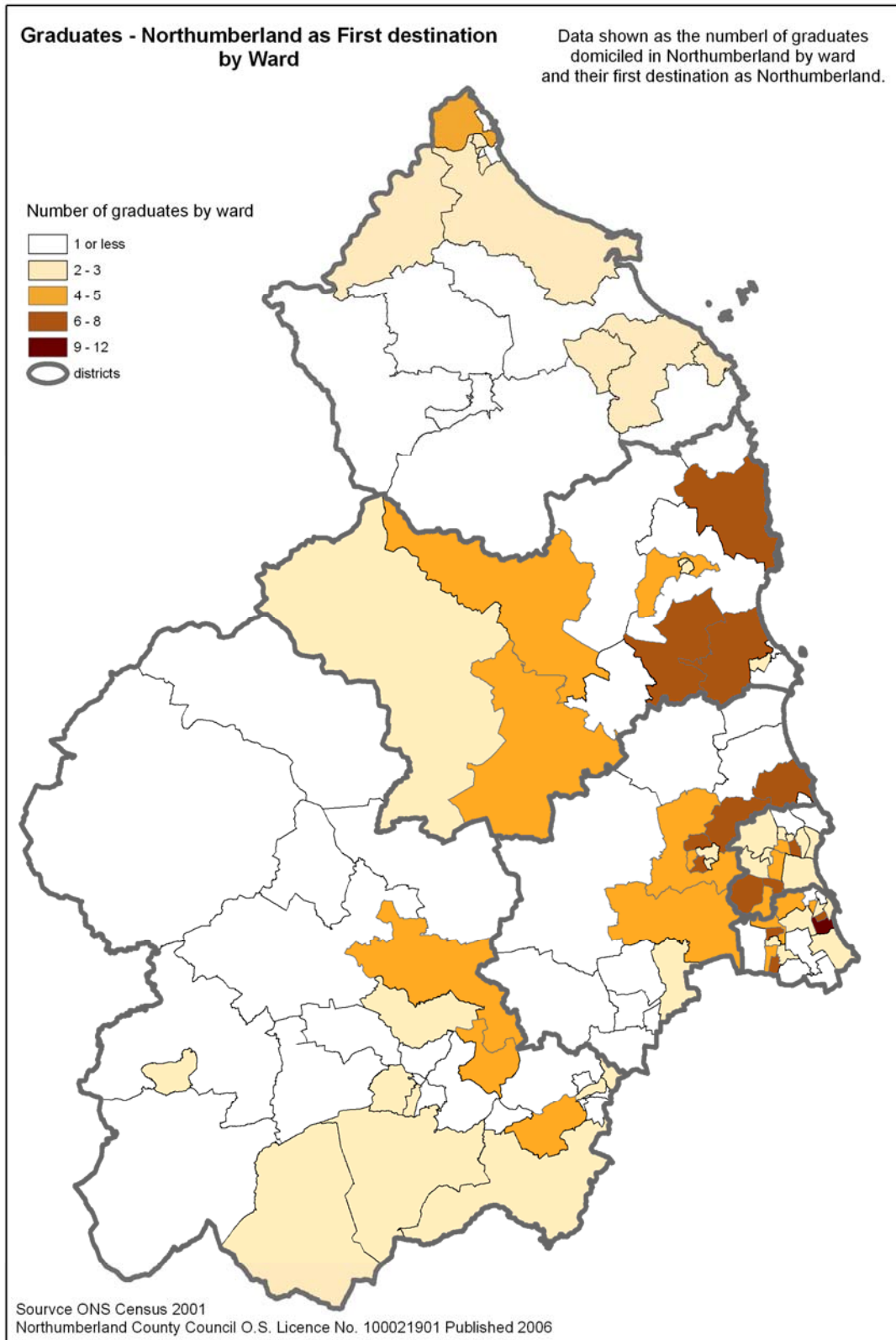
The HESA First Destination Survey has been extended to cover graduates registered on part time university courses as from the 2002/03. The report does not therefore provide destination information for graduates from HEFCE or LSC directly funded FE college higher education courses.

Appendix 2

Figure 15: District of domicile and First Destination of Graduates

District	Northumberland	Rest of NE	Other	NK/NA	Total
Alnwick	48	42	43	66	199
Berwick	26	17	33	27	103
Blyth Valley	69	139	63	72	343
Castle Morpeth	54	135	104	95	388
Tynedale	40	165	158	112	475
Wansbeck	53	79	28	64	224
Northumberland	290	577	429	436	1,732
NE minus Northumberland	163	6,551	2,133	2,575	11,422
All North East	453	7,128	2,562	3,011	13,154

Figure 16:
Northumberland as First destination of Graduates using domicile ward



Tyne and Wear as First destination of Graduates using domicile ward

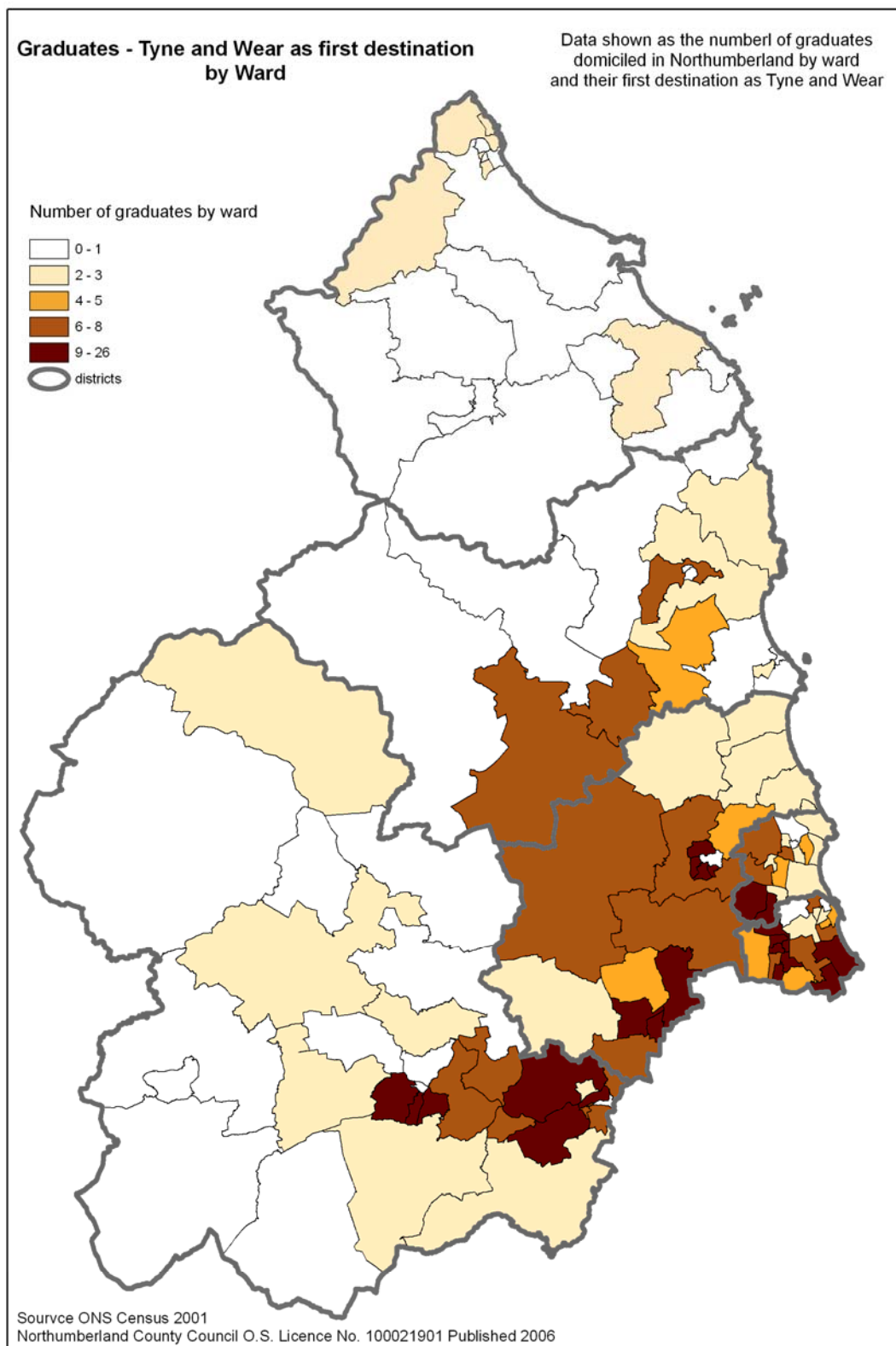


Figure 17: Principal subjects of First degree Graduates

	Domicile Northumberland	Domicile North East
Medicine & dentistry	1.91	1.85
Subjects allied to medicine	8.72	11.32
Biological sciences	7.91	7.59
Veterinary science	0.46	0.20
Agriculture & related subjects	1.50	0.65
Physical sciences	5.77	5.03
Mathematical sciences	1.85	1.77
Computer science	4.97	7.35
Engineering & technology	4.68	4.81
Architecture, building & planning	1.79	2.35
Social studies	12.76	11.15
Law	3.64	3.71
Business & administrative studies	12.12	11.82
Mass communications & documentation	2.19	2.33
Languages	6.87	6.95
Historical & philosophical studies	5.83	3.99
Creative arts & design	5.95	6.14
Education	9.87	10.25
Combined	1.21	0.74

Figure 18: First destination of graduates domicile in Northumberland by SOC

Area		Other	Northumberland	County Durham	Tees Valley	Tyne and Wear	NE
11	Corporate managers	32	21	1	2	46	70
12	Managers and Proprietors in agriculture and services	13	6		0	17	23
21	Science and technology professionals	35	8	2	2	26	38
22	Health professionals	32	5		1	7	13
23	Teaching and research professionals	75	48	10	0	56	114
24	Business and public service professionals	30	28	2	0	54	84
31	Science and technology associate professionals	6	9	1	0	13	23
32	health and social welfare associate professionals	19	45	2	5	59	111
33	Protective services occupations	1	0			1	1
34	Culture, media and sports occupations	19	6	1	1	20	28
35	Business and public service associate professionals	47	18	3		56	77
41	Administrative occupations	38	23	1		85	109
42	Secretarial and related occupations	11	10			16	26
51	Skilled agricultural trades	0	1			0	1
52	Skilled metal and electrical trades	3	0			1	1
54	Textiles, printing and other skilled trades	1	2	1		2	5
61	Caring personal services occupations	15	18			12	30
62	Leisure and other personal service occupations	2	3	1		1	5
71	Sales occupations	20	20			32	52
72	Customer service occupations	6	2	1	1	16	20
81	Process, plant and machine operatives	2	3			0	3
82	Transport and mobile machine drivers and operatives					1	1
91	Elementary trades, plant and storage related occupations	3	4			2	6
92	Elementary administration and service occupations	18	10	1		14	25
	Total	428	290	27	12	537	866
	Not known/Not available	453					



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