

Extending Working Life

**Older Workers Statistical
Information Booklet**

Quarter Two 2009

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Older workers statistical information booklet quarter two 2009

The older worker statistical information booklet (OWSIB) is intended as a vehicle to present developments within the labour market focusing on older workers. The term older worker has many different definitions. For this booklet it refers to those aged 50 to State Pension Age and those aged 50 to 69. Within these pages there is a range of labour market statistics covering both older and younger workers.

The main data splits presented consist of 16-state pension age (SPA), 16-24, 25-49, 50-SPA and over SPA. This split enables you to compare how older workers are doing compared to other groups within the labour market. The other split presented is 50-69 year olds split in 5 year age bands. This split is motivated by the governments public service agreement (PSA) target to increase the employment rate of those 50-69 and reduce the gap with the overall rate, defined as 16-SPA.

The booklet starts by looking at employment statistics at Great Britain level, and then moves to look at the constituent countries, England, Scotland, and Wales. It then moves onto looking at industries, employment types and qualifications.

The final section now contains some supplementary statistics on the impact of the recession on older workers. Since the last publication of OWSIB, the landscape of the economy has changed significantly, officially falling into successive quarters of negative growth. Older workers have been negatively affected by the recession and the three tables seek to show the impact seen in employment, unemployment and inactivity levels in the last year.

Re-weighting for 2006 population estimates

To keep the LFS accurate the data is regularly updated with the latest population figures and projections. Prior to this release the LFS was re-weighted with 2006 based population projections. This helps to ensure accuracy, however it makes the data presented in this booklet incomparable with previous editions.

Key facts and figures on older workers quarter two 2009

Source: Labour Force Survey (1) (Q2 2009 Great Britain)

There are 20.2 million people aged 50 and over in Great Britain. Of these 9.0 million are aged between 50 and State Pension Age⁴ (SPA), accounting for 24.4% of people age 16-SPA

71.8% of those aged 50-SPA are in employment. This is lower than the employment rate for people aged 25 to 49 (80.1%) but higher than for those age 16-24 (52.2%).

Looking at the PSA target; the gap between the 50-69 employment rate and the 16-SPA employment rate is 16.8 percentage points, a reduction of 1.6 percentage point on the previous year.

Older workers are more likely to work part time than their younger counterparts. 24.6% of those in work aged 50-SPA compared with 21.0% for 25-49 year olds.

Employment rates vary by English government office region and country, from 77.6% in the South East to 63.2% in the North East.

Self employment is more common amongst those aged 50-SPA compared to younger workers. 17.3% of employed 50-SPA people are self-employed compared to 12.7% of employed 25-49 year olds and only 3.9% of 16-24 year olds.

People aged 50-SPA have spent on average 13.4 years in their current employment, compared with those below 50 with an average of 6.1 years.

50-SPA group has a high level of people with no qualifications. 17.6% those aged 50-SPA report no qualifications, compared with 9.6% of those under 50.

ILO unemployment² is lower amongst those aged 50-SPA (4.8%) compared to those younger than 50 (8.9%)

People aged 50-SPA are more likely to be long-term unemployed. 30.7% of those unemployed aged 50-SPA compared with 21.0% of those under 50

Inactivity³ rates of those aged 50-SPA are higher than that of those below 50. 24.6% of the 50-SPA age group are inactive compared to 19.9% of those below 50

Of those claiming Incapacity Benefit (IB) or Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) 47.0% are aged over 50

In the last year, workers aged 50-SPA have been negatively affected by the recession. There has been a 0.6 percentage point drop in the employment rate and a 1.3 percentage point rise in the ILO unemployment rate.

Statistics at the Great Britain level

TABLE 1: HISTORICAL SERIES QUARTER 2 BROAD LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS OF PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET (BY AGE)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

	1997	2003	2009
In Employment			
Number of people (000s):			
16-SPA	24,970	26,490	26,780
16-24	3,741	3,850	3,713
25-49	16,140	16,516	16,625
50-SPA	5,089	6,124	6,443
SPA+	794	906	1,345
Employment rate:			
16-SPA	72.8%	74.7%	72.7%
16-24	61.4%	59.9%	52.2%
25-49	79.2%	81.3%	80.1%
50-SPA	64.9%	70.4%	71.8%
SPA+	8.0%	8.8%	12.0%

ILO unemployed:			
Number of people (000s):			
16-SPA	1,947	1,365	2,322
16-24	622	512	871
25-49	1,013	649	1,124
50-SPA	312	204	328
SPA+	19	17	33
ILO unemployment rate:			
16-SPA	7.2%	4.9%	8.0%
16-24	14.3%	11.7%	19.0%
25-49	5.9%	3.8%	6.3%
50-SPA	5.8%	3.2%	4.8%
SPA+	2.3%	1.8%	2.4%

Inactive:			
Total (000s):			
16-SPA	7,390	7,593	7,759
16-24	1,731	2,067	2,535
25-49	3,216	3,153	3,015
50-SPA	2,444	2,373	2,208
SPA+	9,169	9,379	9,831
Inactivity rate:			
16-SPA	21.5%	21.4%	21.0%
16-24	28.4%	32.1%	35.6%
25-49	15.8%	15.5%	14.5%
50-SPA	31.2%	27.3%	24.6%
SPA+	91.9%	91.0%	87.7%

TABLE 1A: HISTORICAL SERIES QUARTER 2 BROAD LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS OF PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET (BY AGE AND GENDER)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

	1997	2003	2009	1997	2003	2009
	Male			Female		
In Employment						
Number of people (000s):						
16-SPA	13,763	14,525	14,605	11,206	11,965	12,174
16-24	1,934	2,009	1,920	1,806	1,841	1,793
25-49	8,750	8,894	8,851	7,390	7,622	7,773
50-SPA	3,078	3,622	3,834	2,011	2,502	2,609
SPA+	263	323	425	531	584	920
Employment rate:						
16-SPA	77.8%	79.3%	75.9%	67.5%	69.8%	69.1%
16-24	63.3%	61.9%	52.8%	59.5%	57.8%	51.4%
25-49	86.7%	88.4%	86.0%	71.9%	74.3%	74.2%
50-SPA	67.6%	72.4%	72.2%	61.1%	67.6%	71.1%
SPA+	7.3%	8.4%	10.2%	8.3%	9.0%	13.1%

ILO unemployed:						
Number of people (000s):						
16-SPA	1,208	833	1,432	740	532	891
16-24	373	305	531	249	207	340
25-49	612	386	655	401	263	468
50-SPA	223	142	245	90	61	83
SPA+	9	9	15	10	8	19
ILO unemployment rate:						
16-SPA	8.1%	5.4%	8.9%	6.2%	4.3%	6.8%
16-24	16.2%	13.2%	21.7%	12.1%	10.1%	15.9%
25-49	6.5%	4.2%	6.9%	5.1%	3.3%	5.7%
50-SPA	6.7%	3.8%	6.0%	4.3%	2.4%	3.1%
SPA+	3.3%	2.7%	3.4%	1.9%	1.4%	2.0%

Inactive:						
Total (000s):						
16-SPA	2,730	2,947	3,201	4,660	4,646	4,557
16-24	748	933	1,183	983	1,134	1,352
25-49	726	777	786	2,489	2,376	2,229
50-SPA	1,256	1,238	1,232	1,188	1,136	976
SPA+	3,327	3,491	3,745	5,842	5,888	6,087
Inactivity rate:						
16-SPA	15.4%	16.1%	16.6%	28.1%	27.1%	25.9%
16-24	24.5%	28.7%	32.5%	32.3%	35.6%	38.8%
25-49	7.2%	7.7%	7.6%	24.2%	23.2%	21.3%
50-SPA	27.6%	24.7%	23.2%	36.1%	30.7%	26.6%
SPA+	92.4%	91.3%	89.5%	91.5%	90.9%	86.6%

TABLE 2: CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET (BY AGE)Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	All aged between 16-SPA	16-24	25-49	50-59/64 (SPA)	SPA and over
Total population (000s)	36,861	7,119	20,764	8,978	11,210
per cent of all 16+ population	76.7%	14.8%	43.2%	18.7%	23.3%
per cent from ethnic minorities	11.9%	61.5%	13.5%	5.9%	3.6%
per cent women	47.8%	49.0%	50.4%	40.8%	62.7%
per cent with no qualifications	11.5%	11.6%	8.9%	17.6%	13.9%

In employment:					
Total (000s)	26,780	3,713	16,625	6,443	1,345
per cent of age band	72.7%	52.2%	80.1%	71.8%	12.0%
per cent of all in employment who are:					
- self-employed	12.6%	3.9%	12.7%	17.3%	22.8%
- working part-time	24.3%	38.9%	21.0%	24.6%	66.2%
- in a permanent job	82.0%	83.2%	82.9%	78.8%	66.6%
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment	7.1%	5.2%	5.4%	12.5%	22.7%
average time in current job (yrs)	7.9	1.9	7.1	13.4	15.5
average gross hourly wage (£)	£11.85	£7.16	£13.33	£13.08	£10.25

ILO unemployed:					
Total (000s)	2,322	871	1,124	328	33
per cent of age band	6.3%	12.2%	5.4%	3.7%	0.3%
ILO unemployment rate	8.0%	19.0%	6.3%	4.8%	2.4%
per cent of all ILO unemployed who are unemployed for a year or more	22.4%	18.3%	23.1%	30.7%	32.7%

Inactive:					
Total (000s)	7,759	2,535	3,015	2,208	9,831
per cent of age band	21.0%	35.6%	14.5%	24.6%	87.7%
would like work (000s)	1,831	511	848	472	186
per cent of population	5.0%	7.2%	4.1%	5.3%	1.7%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	669	227	277	166	107
per cent of age band	1.8%	3.2%	1.3%	1.8%	1.0%
retired (000s)	524	^	7	517	9,152
per cent of age band	1.4%	^	0.0%	5.8%	81.6%
per cent claiming IB or SDA	5.1%	1.9%	5.6%	12.4%	0.4%

^ Data below sample variance

TABLE 2A: CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE AGED 50 TO 69 IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET (BY AGE)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

Background					
Details:	50-69	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69
Total population (000s)	13,545	3,747	3,483	3,585	2,729
per cent of all 16+ population	28.2%	7.8%	7.2%	7.5%	5.7%
per cent from ethnic minorities	5.4%	7.7%	5.5%	3.7%	4.2%
per cent women	51.1%	50.6%	50.8%	51.2%	51.8%
per cent with no qualifications	22.6%	16.0%	18.5%	24.9%	33.7%

In employment:					
Total (000s)	7,560	2,982	2,475	1,618	485
per cent of age band	55.8%	79.6%	71.0%	45.1%	17.8%
per cent of all in employment who are:					
- self-employed	17.6%	15.2%	16.2%	20.8%	29.3%
- working part-time	30.4%	23.2%	26.8%	39.5%	62.8%
- in a permanent job	77.6%	81.2%	79.9%	73.6%	57.1%
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment	13.6%	10.9%	13.2%	16.9%	20.9%
average time in current job (yrs)	13.5	12.4	13.9	14.6	14.7
average gross hourly wage (£)	£12.68	£13.34	£12.85	£11.67	£10.26

ILO unemployed:					
Total (000s)	359	143	129	70	17
per cent of age band	2.6%	3.8%	3.7%	1.9%	0.6%
ILO unemployment rate	4.5%	4.6%	5.0%	4.1%	3.4%
per cent of all ILO unemployed who are unemployed for a year or more	30.9%	28.5%	29.9%	37.1%	32.6%

Inactive:					
Total (000s)	5,626	622	879	1,897	2,227
per cent of age band	41.5%	16.6%	25.2%	52.9%	81.6%
would like work (000s)	658	173	180	190	115
per cent of population	4.9%	4.6%	5.2%	5.3%	4.2%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	273	51	64	87	70
per cent of age band	2.0%	1.4%	1.8%	2.4%	2.6%
retired (000s)	3,257	29	172	1,201	1,854
per cent of age band	24.0%	0.8%	4.9%	33.5%	67.9%
per cent claiming IB or SDA	n/a	10.1%	12.8%	8.5%	n/a

TABLE 3: CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET (BY AGE AND GENDER)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

	16-24		25-49		50-(SPA)		over SPA	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total population (000s)	3,634	3,485	10,293	10,471	5,311	3,667	4,184	7,025
per cent of all 16+ population	15.5%	14.1%	43.9%	42.5%	22.7%	14.9%	17.9%	28.5%
per cent from ethnic minorities	14.4%	14.7%	13.4%	13.7%	5.4%	6.7%	3.9%	3.5%
per cent with no qualifications	12.3%	10.9%	8.7%	9.0%	16.2%	19.6%	25.7%*	35.0%*

In employment:								
Total (000s)	1,920	1,793	8,851	7,773	3,834	2,609	425	920
per cent of age band	52.8%	51.4%	86.0%	74.2%	72.2%	71.1%	10.2%	13.1%
per cent of all in employment who are:								
- self-employed	5.6%	2.0%	16.6%	8.3%	22.8%	9.4%	40.1%	14.8%
- working part-time	31.8%	46.5%	5.6%	38.5%	12.9%	41.8%	58.5%	69.7%
- in a permanent job	80.8%	85.8%	79.9%	86.4%	73.7%	86.4%	48.2%	75.0%
- have no qualifications	6.2%	4.1%	6.3%	4.4%	12.4%	12.7%	24.4%	21.9%
average time in current job (yrs)	1.9	1.8	7.5	6.6	14.5	11.8	18.4	11.2
average gross hourly wage (£)	£7.23	£7.08	£14.93	£11.69	£14.11	£11.77	£11.66	£9.81

ILO unemployed:								
Total (000s)	531	340	655	468	245	83	15	19
per cent of age band	14.6%	9.7%	6.4%	4.5%	4.6%	2.3%	0.4%	0.3%
ILO unemployment rate	21.7%	15.9%	6.9%	5.7%	6.0%	3.1%	3.4%	2.0%
per cent who are unemployed for a year or more	19.8%	16.0%	23.4%	22.6%	32.8%	24.5%	31.1%	34.0%

Inactive:								
Total (000s)	1,183	1,352	786	2,229	1,232	976	3,745	6,087
per cent of age band	32.5%	38.8%	7.6%	21.3%	23.2%	26.6%	89.5%	86.6%
would like work (000s)	241	271	269	579	281	191	64	122
per cent of population	6.6%	7.8%	2.6%	5.5%	5.3%	5.2%	1.5%	1.7%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	115	111	82	194	107	59	40	67
per cent of age band	3.2%	3.2%	0.8%	1.9%	2.0%	1.6%	1.0%	1.0%
retired (000s)	^	^	3	4	385	131	3,554	5,598
per cent of age band	^	^	0.0%	0.0%	7.3%	3.6%	84.9%	79.7%
per cent claiming IB or SDA	2.0%	1.8%	6.1%	5.1%	13.0%	11.5%	0.2%	0.5%

^ Data below sample variance

* Respondents over the age of 70 who are not in employment are *not* asked about their qualifications therefore this cell only calculates proportion of age SPA to 69 with no qualification.

**TABLE 3A: CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE AGED 50 TO 69 IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET
(BY AGE AND GENDER)**

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

	50-54		55-59		60-64		65-69	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total population (000s)	1,851	1,896	1,713	1,771	1,748	1,837	1,316	1,413
per cent of all 16+ population	7.9%	7.7%	7.3%	7.2%	7.5%	7.5%	5.6%	5.7%
per cent from ethnic minorities	7.8%	7.6%	5.2%	5.7%	3.1%	4.2%	4.1%	4.3%
per cent with no qualifications	14.8%	17.1%	14.7%	22.2%	19.2%	30.3%	25.7%	41.1%

In employment								
Total (000s)	1,534	1,448	1,314	1,160	985	632	280	205
per cent of age band	82.9%	76.4%	76.7%	65.5%	56.4%	34.4%	21.3%	14.5%
per cent of all in employment who are:								
- self-employed	20.9%	9.1%	22.0%	9.7%	26.7%	11.7%	37.2%	18.7%
- working part-time	7.0%	40.4%	12.0%	43.6%	23.2%	64.8%	51.4%	78.4%
- in a permanent job	76.1%	86.5%	74.2%	86.3%	69.1%	80.7%	51.3%	65.2%
- have no qualifications	11.4%	10.4%	11.2%	15.5%	15.4%	19.1%	17.4%	25.8%
average time in current job (yrs)	13.7	11.0	14.9	12.8	15.1	13.7	15.6	13.6
average gross hourly wage (£)	£14.93	£11.85	£14.04	£11.66	£12.82	£10.15	£12.00	£8.71

ILO Unemployed								
Total (000s)	98	44	91	39	56	14	13	4
per cent of age band	5.3%	2.3%	5.3%	2.2%	3.2%	0.7%	1.0%	0.3%
ILO unemployment rate	6.0%	3.0%	6.4%	3.2%	5.4%	2.1%	4.6%	1.7%
per cent who are unemployed for a year or more	29.7%	26.0%	32.9%	22.8%	38.1%	33.1%	34.2%	26.5%

Inactive:								
Total (000s)	218	404	308	572	706	1,191	1,022	1,205
per cent of age band	11.8%	21.3%	18.0%	32.3%	40.4%	64.8%	77.7%	85.2%
would like work (000s)	78	95	84	96	119	71	64	51
per cent of population	4.2%	5.0%	4.9%	5.4%	6.8%	3.8%	4.8%	3.6%
...able to start work in a fortnight (000s)	22	29	35	29	51	37	40	30
per cent of age band	1.2%	1.6%	2.0%	1.6%	2.9%	2.0%	3.0%	2.1%
retired (000s)	11	18	58	114	315	886	832	1,022
per cent of age band	0.6%	0.9%	3.4%	6.4%	18.0%	48.2%	63.2%	72.3%
per cent claiming IB or SDA	10.0%	10.3%	12.7%	13.0%	16.9%	0.6%	n/a	n/a

^ Data below sample variance

TABLE 4: CHARACTERISTICS OF SELECTED DISADVANTAGED GROUPS (BY AGE AND GENDER)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	Disabled				Ethnic minorities			
	16-SPA		50-SPA		16-SPA		50-SPA	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total population (000s)	2,952	2,785	1,510	1,019	2,191	2,189	288	245
per cent of all 16+ population	61.1%	47.8%	31.2%	17.5%	93.1%	89.9%	12.2%	10.0%
per cent with no qualifications	23.2%	22.9%	24.5%	30.4%	15.1%	17.3%	24.6%	27.0%

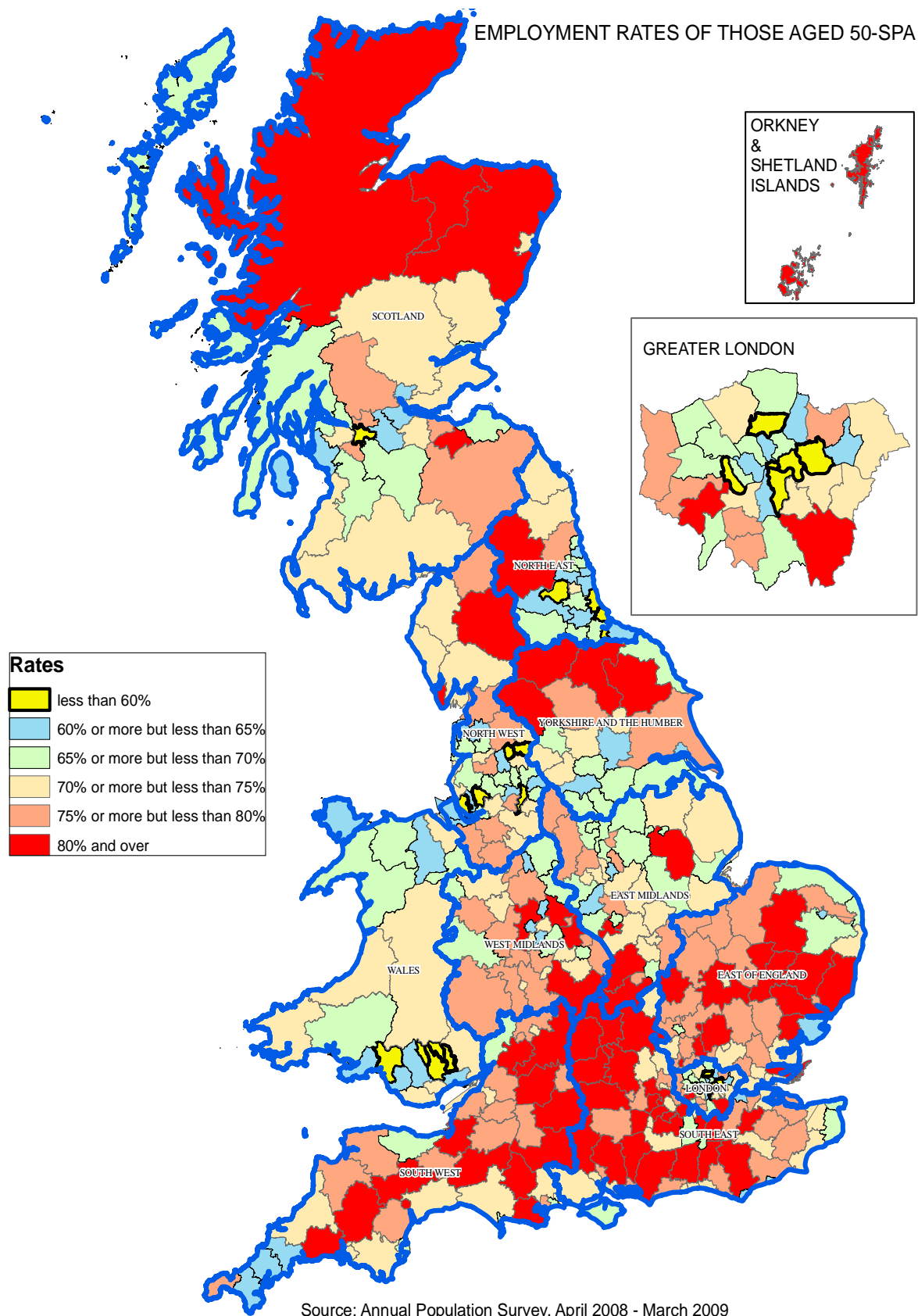
In employment:								
Total (000s)	1,417	1,307	683	463	1,471	1,106	190	142
per cent of age band	48.0%	46.9%	45.3%	45.5%	67.2%	50.5%	65.8%	57.9%
per cent of all in employment who are:								
- self-employed	19.2%	8.1%	22.6%	9.4%	17.5%	7.0%	26.9%	11.3%
- working part-time	17.0%	44.6%	19.5%	46.4%	18.8%	36.0%	14.5%	35.3%
- in a permanent job	76.0%	85.6%	73.5%	85.9%	74.4%	83.8%	69.7%	85.6%
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment	10.3%	8.2%	13.4%	13.8%	11.0%	6.5%	16.5%	12.7%
average time in current job (yrs)	10.9	8.0	14.5	11.3	5.4	5.2	11.4	11.6
average gross hourly wage (£)	£12.46	£10.49	£13.35	£10.82	£12.82	£11.55	£12.59	£11.45

ILO unemployed:								
Total (000s)	178	127	57	21	218	169	27	10
per cent of age band	6.0%	4.6%	3.8%	2.0%	9.9%	7.7%	9.3%	4.0%
ILO unemployment rate	11.2%	8.9%	7.7%	4.3%	12.9%	13.2%	12.4%	6.5%
per cent of all ILO unemployed who are unemployed for a year or more	4.2%	2.9%	3.1%	1.1%	3.5%	2.6%	4.0%	2.7%

Inactive:								
Total (000s)	1,357	1,350	769	535	502	914	72	93
per cent of age band	46.0%	48.5%	51.0%	52.5%	22.9%	41.7%	24.8%	38.1%
would like work (000s)	418	372	215	122	100	175	20	17
per cent of population	14.2%	13.3%	14.2%	12.0%	4.5%	8.0%	7.0%	6.9%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	112	85	59	24	25	62	6	5
per cent of age band	3.8%	3.1%	3.9%	2.4%	1.1%	2.8%	2.2%	1.9%
retired (000s)	118	30	117	30	15	5	14	4
per cent of age band	4.0%	1.1%	7.7%	2.9%	0.7%	0.2%	4.9%	1.7%

^Data below sample variance

Statistics by Country and Government Office Region¹



¹ The Labour Force Survey has not yet been setup to reflect the changes made in local authority boundaries that came into effect on 1st April 2009. The changes in full can be found using the following link.
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/doc/1226948.doc>

TABLE 5: CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET (BY age and COUNTRY)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

	Great Britain		Scotland		Wales		England	
	16-SPA	50-69	16-SPA	50-69	16-SPA	50-69	16-SPA	50-69
Total population (000s)	36,861	13,545	3,212	1,244	1,791	730	31,858	11,570
per cent of all 16+	76.7%	28.2%	76.4%	29.6%	74.4%	30.3%	76.8%	27.9%
per cent from ethnic minorities	11.9%	5.4%	3.5%	0.8%	3.3%	1.3%	13.2%	6.1%
per cent women	47.8%	51.1%	48.6%	51.7%	47.8%	51.0%	47.7%	51.0%
per cent with no qualifications	11.5%	22.6%	13.0%	25.2%	14.3%	25.4%	11.2%	22.1%

In employment:								
Total (000s)	26,780	7,560	2,371	689	1,249	377	23,161	6,494
per cent of age band	72.7%	55.8%	73.8%	55.4%	69.7%	51.6%	72.7%	56.1%
per cent of all in employment who are:								
- self-employed	12.6%	17.6%	10.1%	16.3%	13.9%	18.8%	12.8%	17.7%
- working part-time	24.3%	30.4%	24.4%	27.9%	24.3%	31.3%	24.3%	30.6%
- in a permanent job	82.0%	77.6%	84.4%	78.9%	80.7%	77.7%	81.8%	77.4%
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment	7.1%	13.6%	8.9%	17.0%	9.1%	15.2%	6.8%	13.1%
Average time in current job (yrs)	7.9	13.5	8.5	14.4	8.5	14.1	7.8	13.4
Average gross hourly wage (£)	£12.58	£12.88	£11.80	£11.64	£10.98	£11.84	£12.75	£13.06

ILO unemployed:								
Total (000s)	2,322	359	187	36	104	22	2,031	301
per cent in age band	6.3%	2.6%	5.8%	2.9%	5.8%	3.1%	6.4%	2.6%
ILO unemployment rate	8.0%	4.5%	7.3%	4.9%	7.7%	5.6%	8.1%	4.4%
per cent who are unemployed for a year or more	22.4%	30.9%	20.4%	36.5%	23.2%	27.9%	22.5%	30.3%

Inactive:								
Total (000s)	7,759	5,626	654	519	438	331	6,667	4,776
per cent of age band	21.0%	41.5%	20.4%	41.7%	24.4%	45.3%	20.9%	41.3%
would like work (000s)	1,831	658	153	67	101	36	1,577	554
per cent of age band	5.0%	4.9%	4.8%	5.4%	5.6%	4.9%	5.0%	4.8%
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	669	273	60	27	34	12	576	234
per cent of age band	1.8%	2.0%	1.9%	2.1%	1.9%	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%
retired (000s)	524	3,257	45	303	25	174	453	2,779
per cent of age band	1.4%	24.0%	1.4%	24.4%	1.4%	23.8%	1.4%	24.0%
per cent claiming IB or SDA	6.5%	12.4%	8.4%	15.2%	9.7%	18.3%	6.2%	11.7%

TABLE 6: INACTIVITY OF THOSE AGED 50-SPA IN THE GB LABOUR MARKET (BY COUNTRY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE REGION)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, row per cent) and Work and Pensions longitudinal study February 2009 provided by the DWP Information Directorate

	Total number of people aged 50-59/64 SPA (000s)	50-SPA employment rate %	50-SPA Unemployment rate %	Numbers of Inactive	Inactive as a proportion of the population	Numbers on IB/SDA	Those on IB and/or SDA as a proportion of the population	Proportion of 50-SPA Retired.
Great Britain	8,978	71.8%	4.8%	2,208	24.6%	1,112	12.4%	5.8%
Wales	478	66.2%	6.3%	140	29.3%	88	18.3%	5.3%
Scotland	831	71.1%	5.2%	207	25.0%	126	15.2%	5.4%
England	7,670	72.2%	4.7%	1,860	24.3%	899	11.7%	5.8%
North East	409	63.2%	6.8%	132	32.2%	72	17.4%	5.1%
North West and Merseyside	1,052	70.1%	4.5%	279	26.6%	174	16.6%	5.7%
Yorkshire and the Humber	795	68.3%	5.0%	224	28.1%	104	13.2%	8.0%
East Midlands	697	72.5%	4.9%	166	23.8%	79	11.5%	5.3%
West Midlands	813	70.6%	6.3%	200	24.6%	103	12.6%	5.6%
Eastern	883	76.2%	3.9%	183	20.7%	74	8.5%	5.8%
South East	1,285	77.6%	3.0%	257	20.0%	96	7.5%	5.5%
South West	839	74.4%	3.8%	190	22.6%	78	9.4%	6.4%
Greater London	897	69.3%	6.6%	231	25.7%	117	12.8%	4.9%
Inner London	301	64.1%	7.5%	93	30.8%	54	17.3%	3.7%
Outer London	596	72.0%	6.3%	138	23.2%	64	10.5%	5.6%

Labour market segmentation statistics

TABLE 7: GB WORKFORCE BY INDUSTRY (INDSECT) (by AGE AND GENDER)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, row per cent)

	All in industry (000's)	16 - 24			25 - 49			50 - 59/64 SPA			SPA +		
		All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
Agriculture and Fishing	428	1.2%	1.9%	0.4%	1.4%	2.1%	0.6%	1.8%	2.5%	0.7%	3.4%	7.0%	1.8%
Energy and Water	357	1.0%	1.3%	0.6%	1.3%	1.8%	0.7%	1.5%	2.2%	0.4%	0.5%	0.9%	0.3%
Manufacturing	2,931	6.8%	9.0%	4.4%	11.0%	15.4%	6.0%	12.1%	16.0%	6.4%	7.2%	11.3%	5.3%
Construction	2,214	7.4%	13.1%	1.3%	8.0%	13.4%	1.9%	8.8%	13.7%	1.7%	4.2%	8.2%	2.3%
Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants	5,252	40.0%	39.0%	41.1%	15.7%	15.2%	16.2%	14.8%	13.5%	16.6%	19.4%	17.3%	20.4%
Transport and Communication	1,832	3.9%	4.9%	2.8%	6.9%	9.6%	3.8%	7.6%	10.8%	3.0%	4.7%	8.5%	3.0%
Banking, Finance and Insurance	4,784	13.4%	13.3%	13.5%	18.7%	20.1%	17.1%	15.6%	17.0%	13.5%	15.9%	23.4%	12.4%
Public administration, Education and Health	8,397	16.9%	9.8%	24.4%	31.5%	17.7%	47.4%	32.6%	19.3%	52.1%	36.1%	13.9%	46.4%
Other services	1,712	9.5%	7.7%	11.4%	5.5%	4.8%	6.4%	5.2%	5.1%	5.5%	8.5%	9.5%	8.1%

^ Data below sample variance

TABLE 7A: GB WORKFORCE BY OCCUPATION TYPE (BY AGE AND GENDER)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, row per cent)

	All in Occupation (000's)	16 - 24			25 - 49			50 - 59/64 SPA			SPA +		
		All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
Managers and Senior Officials	4,402	3.7%	4.0%	3.3%	17.9%	21.2%	14.0%	17.2%	20.9%	11.9%	14.2%	20.0%	11.5%
Professional	3,828	4.9%	5.1%	4.8%	15.2%	16.2%	14.1%	15.0%	15.4%	14.4%	11.9%	16.2%	9.8%
Associate Professional and Technical	4,140	10.6%	11.4%	9.7%	17.0%	15.5%	18.7%	12.3%	11.7%	13.1%	10.7%	11.1%	10.5%
Administrative and Secretarial	3,169	11.1%	6.6%	15.8%	10.7%	4.0%	18.2%	11.3%	4.4%	21.5%	19.5%	5.5%	26.0%
Skilled Trades	2,927	11.0%	20.4%	1.1%	9.9%	17.2%	1.6%	12.3%	19.2%	2.2%	6.6%	15.2%	2.7%
Personal Service Occupations	2,433	10.9%	3.6%	18.6%	8.4%	2.3%	15.4%	7.5%	2.6%	14.6%	11.1%	3.8%	14.5%
Sales and Customer Service	2,055	21.4%	17.3%	25.9%	5.2%	2.9%	7.7%	4.8%	2.2%	8.6%	7.3%	2.5%	9.5%
Process, Plant and Machine Operators	1,928	4.0%	6.6%	1.1%	6.8%	11.3%	1.6%	9.2%	13.9%	2.4%	4.6%	11.7%	1.4%
Elementary Occupations	3,170	22.4%	25.1%	19.6%	9.0%	9.4%	8.5%	10.3%	9.7%	11.3%	14.1%	14.1%	14.1%

TABLE 7B: GB WORKFORCE BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT⁶, (BY AGE AND GENDER)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

	16 - 24			25 - 49			50 - 59/64 SPA			SPA +		
	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
All in Employment thousands=100%	3,713	1,920	1,793	16,625	8,851	7,773	6,443	3,834	2,609	1,345	425	920
Split by Educational Attainment:												
Degree or equivalent (NVQ Level 5)	13.6%	11.8%	15.4%	29.9%	29.1%	30.8%	20.5%	21.2%	19.5%	15.6%	19.7%	13.7%
Higher education (NVQ Level 4)	4.5%	4.3%	4.8%	10.0%	8.5%	11.8%	12.3%	10.4%	15.1%	11.1%	7.7%	12.7%
GCE A level or equivalent (NVQ Level 3)	35.5%	34.9%	36.2%	20.6%	22.7%	18.3%	23.5%	29.7%	14.3%	12.9%	19.3%	9.9%
GCSE grades A-C or equivalent (NVQ Level 2)	32.2%	32.5%	31.9%	21.5%	18.7%	24.7%	17.4%	12.3%	24.8%	17.8%	10.5%	21.1%
Other qualifications	8.4%	9.8%	6.9%	11.6%	13.5%	9.6%	13.1%	13.0%	13.1%	19.2%	17.5%	19.9%
No qualifications	5.2%	6.2%	4.1%	5.4%	6.3%	4.4%	12.5%	12.4%	12.7%	22.7%	24.4%	21.9%
Don't know	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	1.3%	0.6%	0.8%	1.0%	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%

EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES

TABLE 8: STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON SELECTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES (BY AGE)

Source: DWP Information Directorate, March 2008 to February 2009

	Total		Those aged under 50		Those aged over 50	
	Individual starts	Individual jobs	Individual starts	Individual jobs	Individual starts	Individual jobs
New Deal 25 plus Enhanced	101.43	32.8	78.06	26.06	23.35	6.70
New Deal for Lone Parents	169.67	65.12	163.79	62.44	4.56	1.89
New Deal for Disabled People	32.37	29.78	23.92	21.73	8.44	8.03
New Deal for Partners	2.13	1.21	1.62	0.86	0.08	0.02
Employment Zones	45.27	14.3	40.72	13.29	4.11	0.93
New Deal 50 plus	9.13	12.28	N/A	N/A	9.16	12.25

Information on Pathways to Work performance can be found at:
<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2007-2008/rep435.pdf>

Impact of recession statistics

TABLE 9: IMPACT OF RECESSION ON GB LABOUR MARKET (BY AGE)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

	2008	2009	Percentage point change 2008-2009
In Employment			
Number of people (000s):			
16-SPA	27,387	26,780	
16-24	4,000	3,713	
25-49	16,930	16,625	
50-SPA	6,457	6,443	
SPA+	1,297	1,345	
Employment rate:			
16-SPA	74.7%	72.7%	-2.0
16-24	56.5%	52.2%	-4.4
25-49	81.9%	80.1%	-1.8
50-SPA	72.4%	71.8%	-0.6
SPA+	11.8%	12.0%	0.2

ILO unemployed:			
Number of people (000s):			
16-SPA	1,589	2,322	
16-24	661	871	
25-49	720	1,124	
50-SPA	207	328	
SPA+	22	33	
ILO unemployment rate:			
16-SPA	5.5%	8.0%	2.5
16-24	14.2%	19.0%	4.8
25-49	4.1%	6.3%	2.2
50-SPA	3.1%	4.8%	1.7
SPA+	1.7%	2.4%	0.7

Inactive:			
Total (000s):			
16-SPA	7,694	7,759	
16-24	2,414	2,535	
25-49	3,023	3,015	
50-SPA	2,258	2,208	
SPA+	9,696	9,831	
Inactivity rate:			
16-SPA	21.0%	21.0%	0.1
16-24	34.1%	35.6%	1.5
25-49	14.6%	14.5%	-0.1
50-SPA	25.3%	24.6%	-0.7
SPA+	88.0%	87.7%	-0.3

TABLE 9A IMPACT OF RECESSION ON GB LABOUR MARKET (BY AGE AND GENDER)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

	2008	2009	Change 2008- 2009	2008	2009	Change 2008- 2009
	Male			Female		
In Employment						
Number of people (000s):						
16-SPA	15,035	14,605		12,352	12,174	
16-24	2,081	1,920		1,919	1,793	
25-49	9,080	8,851		7,850	7,773	
50-SPA	3,875	3,834		2,583	2,609	
SPA+	439	425		859	920	
Employment rate:						
16-SPA	78.6%	75.9%	-2.7	70.4%	69.1%	-1.3
16-24	57.7%	52.8%	-4.8	55.4%	51.4%	-3.9
25-49	88.7%	86.0%	-2.7	75.3%	74.2%	-1.0
50-SPA	73.6%	72.2%	-1.4	70.6%	71.1%	0.5
SPA+	10.7%	10.2%	-0.6	12.4%	13.1%	0.7
ILO unemployed:						
Number of people (000s):						
16-SPA	936	1,432		653	891	
16-24	397	531		264	340	
25-49	394	655		326	468	
50-SPA	144	245		63	83	
SPA+	11	15		12	19	
ILO unemployment rate:						
16-SPA	5.9%	8.9%	3.1	5.0%	6.8%	1.8
16-24	16.0%	21.7%	5.6	12.1%	15.9%	3.8
25-49	4.2%	6.9%	2.7	4.0%	5.7%	1.7
50-SPA	3.6%	6.0%	2.4	2.4%	3.1%	0.7
SPA+	2.4%	3.4%	1.0	1.4%	2.0%	0.6
Inactive:						
Total (000s):						
16-SPA	3,147	3,201		4,547	4,557	
16-24	1,131	1,183		1,283	1,352	
25-49	768	786		2,255	2,229	
50-SPA	1,248	1,232		1,010	976	
SPA+	3,642	3,745		6,054	6,087	
Inactivity rate:						
16-SPA	16.5%	16.6%	0.2	25.9%	25.9%	0.0
16-24	31.3%	32.5%	1.2	37.0%	38.8%	1.8
25-49	7.5%	7.6%	0.1	21.6%	21.3%	-0.3
50-SPA	23.7%	23.2%	-0.5	27.6%	26.6%	-1.0
SPA+	89.0%	89.5%	0.5	87.4%	86.6%	-0.8

TABLE 10 IMPACT OF RECESSION ON GB LABOUR MARKET (BY AGE AND GENDER)

Source ONS Labour Force Survey¹ (2nd Quarter 2009, GB, thousands, column per cent)

Background Details:	2008		2009		Percentage point change	
	All aged between 16-SPA	50- 59/64 (SPA)	All aged between 16-SPA	50-59/64 (SPA)	All aged between 16-SPA	50-59/64 (SPA)
Total population (000s)	36,669	8,922	36,861	8,978		
per cent of all 16+	76.9%	18.7%	76.7%	18.7%	-0.2	-0.0
per cent from ethnic minorities	11.2%	6.0%	11.9%	5.9%	0.6	-0.1
per cent women	47.9%	41.0%	47.8%	40.8%	-0.1	-0.1
per cent with no qualifications	12.2%	18.6%	11.5%	17.6%	-0.7	-1.1

In employment:						
Total (000s)	27,387	6,457	26,780	6,443		
per cent of age band	74.7%	72.4%	72.7%	71.8%	-2.0	-0.6
per cent of all in employment who are:						
- self-employed	12.4%	17.3%	12.6%	17.3%	0.2	0.1
- working part-time	23.5%	24.0%	24.3%	24.6%	0.8	0.6
- in a permanent job	82.4%	78.9%	82.0%	78.8%	-0.4	-0.1
proportion of those with no qualifications who are in employment	7.6%	13.1%	7.1%	12.5%	-0.5	-0.7
average time in current job (yrs)	7.7	13.2	7.9	13.4	0.2	0.1
average gross hourly wage (£)	£11.41	£12.62	£11.85	£13.08	£0.43	£0.47

ILO unemployed:						
Total (000s)	1,589	207	2,322	328		
per cent of age band	4.3%	2.3%	6.3%	3.7%	2.0	1.3
ILO unemployment rate	5.5%	3.1%	8.0%	4.8%	2.5	1.7
per cent of all ILO unemployed who are unemployed for a year or more	25.1%	39.7%	22.4%	30.7%	-2.7	-9.0

Inactive:						
Total (000s)	7,694	2,258	7,759	2,208		
per cent of age band	21.0%	25.3%	21.0%	24.6%	0.1	-0.7
would like work (000s)	1,889	461	1,831	472		
per cent of population	5.2%	5.2%	5.0%	5.3%	-0.2	0.1
... and available to start work in a fortnight (000s)	636	140	669	166		
per cent of age band	1.7%	1.6%	1.8%	1.8%	0.1	0.3
retired (000s)	552	544	524	517		
per cent of age band	1.5%	6.1%	1.4%	5.8%	-0.1	-0.3
per cent claiming IB or SDA	5.4%	12.7%	5.1%	12.4%	-0.3	-0.3

Notes to tables

1. LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

The majority of the results presented in this booklet are based on Labour Force Survey (LFS) data for Great Britain in Quarter 2 (April-June) 2009. The LFS is a representative sample survey of 60,000 private households in Great Britain & Northern Ireland. Some of the results in the tables have been omitted where the sample on which they are based is small and the estimates derived are likely to vary considerably from one quarter to another because of sampling variability. None of the estimates presented here are seasonally adjusted, comparisons should be made with the same quarter of previous years. For this please note that due to the re-weighting in with 2007 population figures, comparisons can only be made from quarter two 2009.

For more detailed information the LFS please visit

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Source.asp?vlnk=358&More=Y>

2. ILO UNEMPLOYMENT

ILO unemployment is the internationally agreed definition of unemployment, defined by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) – an agency of the United Nations. Under ILO guidelines, all people aged 16 and over can be classified into one of three states: in employment, ILO unemployed, or economically inactive.

ILO unemployed people are:

- Out of work, want a job and have actively sought work in the last four weeks and are available to start work in the next 2 weeks or,
- Out of work, have found a job and are waiting to start it in the next two weeks.

The ILO unemployment rate is the number of ILO unemployed divided by the total number of people who are employed or seeking work (e.g. the total ILO employed plus the total ILO unemployed).

3. Inactive

Not in employment and either not seeking work or not available for work.

4. State Pension Age (SPA)

SPA is currently 60 for women and 65 for men. From 2010 the female SPA will be gradually increased to 65 by 2020.

5. People over SPA

Just over 5% of those people who are SPA and over live in medical and care institutions. They are not included in these estimates

6. People over SPA and qualifications

Of those over SPA, only those in employment are asked to provide information about their qualifications.

This information is in the public domain and may be used and copied without prior clearance.

These statistics are compiled by the Department for Work and Pensions, Extending Working Life Unit's Economist Team, and as part of the Government's commitment to provide information on the position of Older Workers in the Labour Market.

Information is from the ONS (Office for National Statistics) Labour Force Survey data for Quarter 2 (Apr- Jun) 2009.

If you require further information, please write to:

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Or visit the Age Positive website at: www.agepositive.gov.uk

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