



Employment



Key Labour Market Trends

(Q3 2019 - Q3 2021)

Employment





Gender



Employment increased for both females and males. The increase in employment was almost equally divided across genders, with females observing an increase of 10% or 14,900 persons and males observing an increase of 9% or 15,200 persons.

Participation rate



At 65.1%, the South West region had the third highest labour force participation rate, which was on a par with that of the overall participation rate for the State having observed an increase of 3.8 percentage points for the time period.

Sector

Wholesale and retail saw the largest absolute increase in employment (7,500 persons or an 18% increase). Public administration (PAD) observed a decrease of 2,800 persons (or a 22% decrease), the only sector to experience a decline over the period.





Wholesale & retail

PAD

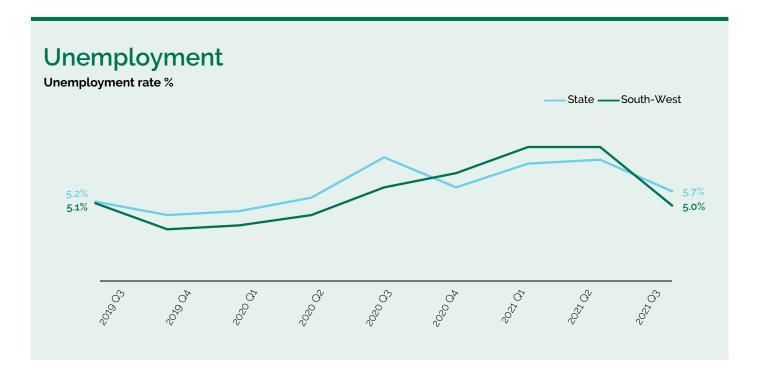
Selected employers in this region

Sanmina Musgrave ABTRAN DePuy Boston Scientific Stryker Orthopaedics Liebherr McKechnie Cleaning Services VMWare Apple Kepak Garvey Pfizer Sodexo Merck Miillipore Gas Networks Munster Joinery FEXCO ALPS Electric Eli Lilly

Business Demography (2019)

There were 36,797 active enterprises in the South West region in 2019 with Cork accounting for the highest share at 77%.

	Cork	Kerry
Active Enterprise	28,377	8,420
Persons Engaged	171,144	41.353



Note: Employment and unemployment numbers relate to those aged 15 years and over; unemployment rates refer to those aged 15-74 years; the number of persons engaged in the Business Demography data refers to the private business economy only.



Pandemic Unemployment Payments



In November 2021, there were 6,431 people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment in the South West region representing 1.8% of persons in the labour force (based on Q3 2021).

Overall Comments

- The South West region saw a significant increase in employment over the two-year period, particularly relating to the wholesale and retail sector. This sector observed its greatest increase in employment in the South West region when compared to all other regions. Unemployment levels were below the national average with the South West region observing the second lowest unemployment rate when compared to all other regions. New opportunities were arising across a variety of sectors as seen in the job announcements.

Companies with recent job announcements in the South East region

