**West Region**

**Current and Future Skills Demand**

Regional Skills Assessments (RSAs) are a single, agreed evidence base created to inform future investment in skills. This infographic is for the West Region, and supplements the region’s RSA Summary report. It uses Oxford Economics forecasts* for the 2019-2029 period to show current and future economic contribution, as well as current and future demand for skills.

### The Economy

**Gross Value Added (GVA) in 2019**

- **Total regional GVA is:** £8,488m
- **Regional productivity is:** £47,000

**Forecast annual growth (2019-2029):**
- West Region: 1.5%
- Scotland: 1.7%
- United Kingdom: 2.0%

**Productivity (GVA per job) in 2019**

- **Regional productivity is:** £47,000
- **Scottish productivity is:** £50,400

**Forecast annual growth (2019-2029):**
- West Region: 1.3%
- Scotland: 1.4%
- United Kingdom: 1.5%

### Current Demand for Skills

**Total Employment in 2019**

180,700 jobs

From 2009-2019, Total Employment:

up by 3% or 5,000 jobs

Compared to a Scottish increase of 1%

### Sectoral Employment

**Top 3 employing sectors in 2019:**

- **Human health & social work** (28,400 jobs)
- **Wholesale & retail** (27,900 jobs)
- **Admin & support services** (16,300 jobs)

### Employment by Occupation (people)

**Occupational structure 2019:**

- **40%** Higher level occupations
- **32%** Mid-level occupations
- **28%** Lower level occupations

### Skills Shortages and Gaps

**The percentage of skills shortage vacancies and skills gaps in the West region are:**

- **Skills Shortage Vacancies**
  - West Region: 31%
  - 3 ppt increase from 2015
  - Compared to Scotland: 24%

- **Skills Gaps**
  - West Region: 6.7%
  - 3.4 ppt increase from 2015
  - Compared to Scotland: 5.0%

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*As with all forecasts, certain caveats need to be applied. They are based on what we know now and include past and present trends projected into the future. Their value is in identifying likely directions of travel rather than predicting exact figures. It is recommended therefore that users examine trends over time rather than focusing on changes in individual years. Finally, the more disaggregated they become, especially at smaller geographical units, the less reliable they are likely to be."

1. GVA is the measure of the value of goods and services produced within the economy.
2. Forecasts by Oxford Economics (unless otherwise stated).
3. Measured by total number of jobs.
4. ‘Higher level occupations’ are defined as Managers, directors & senior officials; Professional occupations; and Associate professional & technical occupations.
5. ‘Mid-level occupations’ defined as Administrative & secretarial occupations; Skilled trades occupations; Caring, leisure and other service occupations; and Lower level occupations defined as Sales & customer service occupations; Process, plant & machine operatives; Elementary occupations. Data shown is workplace based.
7. Base: All establishments with vacancies (only 2017 shown). Skill shortage vacancies as a proportion of all vacancies. This may be due to a lack of skills, qualifications or experience amongst applicants.

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Evidence Base Team
West Region
Current and Future Skills Demand

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Future Supply

Population 2016-2041

Total population: up by 2% or 10,100 people

Forecast change:
West Region: 2%
Scotland: 5%
United Kingdom: 11%

Working age population (16-64):
down by 8% or 23,000 people

Forecast change:
West Region: -8%
Scotland: -4%
United Kingdom: 8%

Future Job Openings

From 2019 to 2029 there will be a requirement for:

64,400 people to fill Job Openings

62,000 people Replacement Demand

2,400 people Expansion Demand

Future Demand for Skills

From 2019-2029, Total Employment:

up by 2% or 4,000 jobs

Forecast average annual change:
West Region: 0.2%
Scotland: 0.3%
United Kingdom: 0.4%

Top 3 employing sectors in 2029 are forecast to be:

- Human health & social work (29,300 jobs)
- Wholesale & retail (28,300 jobs)
- Admin & support services (18,600 jobs)

From 2019 to 2029
The largest employment growth is forecast in:

- Admin & support services (14%)
- Professional, scientific & technical (12%)
- Arts, entertainment & recreation (12%)

The largest employment decreases are forecast in:

- Mining & quarrying (-28%)
- Manufacturing (-15%)
- Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning (-10%)