



WESTERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
COIMISIÚN FORBARTHA AN IARTHAIR



# Employment Trends in the Western Region

Roscommon Education & Training  
Fair, 13 Jan 2012

Pauline White, Policy Analyst,  
Western Development Commission

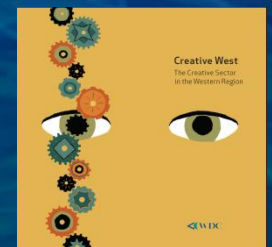
# WESTERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

- ▶ 7-county Western Region
- ▶ State body under the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government
- ▶ WDC Act 1998

*'... foster and promote the economic and social development of the Western Region'*

# What do we do?

1. Inform **policy**-making through data analysis (e.g. employment, infrastructure)
2. Support sustainable **development** based on region's resources (e.g. wood heat, creative)
3. Promote benefits of living, working & doing business in Western Region – **LookWest.ie**
4. Provide risk capital to SMEs & social enterprises through WDC Investment **Fund**





## West Living

We've got a lower cost of living, affordable property prices and great career options...

## West Enterprise

A flexible and highly skilled local workforce with strong business links to 3rd level institutions...

### Select a County



- Donegal
- Sligo
- Leitrim
- Mayo
- Roscommon
- Galway
- Clare

### Watch Case Studies

[See all Case Studies »](#)



### Latest News

[more »](#)

LookWest.ie Shortlisted for Eircom Spiders Awards  
We're delighted to announce that we have been shortlisted for... [more »](#)

### Jobs & Property Search



[Click Here](#) for Jobs and Homes in the West.

### Register Your Skills



[Help Us](#) attract employment to the region

### Company Directory



[Click Here](#) to search for Companies

### Newsletter Signup



Signup for our monthly newsletter

**GO**

### Upcoming Events

[more »](#)

- 11 Jan : [January's Mayo Open Coffee Club](#) (Mayo)
- 12 Jan : [Shannonside Winter Music Weekend](#) (Clare)
- 27 Jan : [Tommy Fleming at Glor](#) (Clare)
- 03 Feb : [Safety Direct Galway International Rally](#) (Galway)

### About LookWest

LookWest.ie is an initiative of the Western Development Commission: [more »](#)

Winner : IIA Net Visionary Awards 2010 e-Government Award



### Latest Tweets from LOOKWESTie

- [#Donegal](#) native Dermot Doherty of [@iSpaces](#) has been shortlisted for 'Developer of the Year'. Read more@ <http://t.co/2SJPKONR>
- Hi [@cronaessler](#), yes we have credited the [@WesternPeople](#) in our article, as you can see; <http://t.co/V95QLAi2>
- Good news on jobs front in [#Mayo](#) as potential multi-million euro project seeks application. Read more@ <http://t.co/v1gzkNN0>

# NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

- 1. Skill Shortages** – current & future vacancies that not enough people in Ireland have the skills / qualifications to fill
- 2. New FDI Jobs 2011** – skills needed for new FDI jobs created last year
- 3. Forecasts for Jobs Growth** – sectors predicted to increase employment in the longer term

# National Skill Shortages 2011

- ▶ **Information Technology:** software developers, network & security experts, web developers
- ▶ **Engineering:** mechanical (e.g. renewable energy), chemical, design (e.g. medical devices)
- ▶ **Science:** manufacturing technicians, laboratory analysts, chemists, nutritionists
- ▶ **Health & Social care:** care assistants, specialist nurses, senior therapists
- ▶ **Clerical:** multilingual debt collectors & accounts

# National Skill Shortages 2011

- ▶ **Sales & Marketing:** technical sales reps, telesales with foreign languages (German, Nordic), customer care & support
- ▶ **Craft:** meat cutters/de-boners
- ▶ **Transport & Logistics:** supply chain managers with foreign languages
- ▶ **Financial:** risk analysis, management & cost accounting, regulatory standards, financial software

# New FDI Jobs 2011

- ▶ **New FDI jobs in 2011** mainly in: ICT, life sciences, financial services, business services & digital media
- ▶ **Skills** needed for new FDI jobs in 2011
  - ▶ ICT, science & engineering skills (47%)
  - ▶ Business, financial & accounting skills (19%)
  - ▶ Manufacturing, distribution & logistics skills (14%)
  - ▶ Sales & marketing skills including languages (12%)



# Future Predicted Jobs Growth

- ▶ Sectors predicted to have **higher employment by 2015**
  - ▶ Business services (e.g. legal, translation, ICT)
  - ▶ Market services (e.g. personal services, arts)
  - ▶ Chemicals manufacturing
  - ▶ Machinery & equipment manufacturing
  - ▶ Metals manufacturing
  - ▶ Finance & insurance
  - ▶ Transport & communications

# WESTERN REGION EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

- 1. A Few Employment Facts**
- 2. Employment by sector** – sectors people work in & sectors that are growing jobs
- 3. Employment in exporting sectors** – exporting sectors people work in & exporting sectors that are growing jobs

# Western Region 2011: A Few Key Employment Facts

- ▶ 324,000 people working
  - ▶ 1 in 5 self-employed
  - ▶ 1 in 4 working part-time
- ▶ 55,000 people unemployed
- ▶ 80,352 on the Live Register (Dec 2011)
- ▶ 19% increase in no. of students (over 15 years) between 2007 & 2011

# What sectors employ people in the Western Region?

- ▶ The **biggest employment sectors** in the Western Region (2011)
  1. Industry (manufacturing)
  2. Wholesale & retail
  3. Health
  4. Education
  5. Agriculture, forestry & fishing
  6. Accommodation & food service
  7. Construction

# What sectors are growing employment in the Western Region?

- ▶ Employment has mainly grown in **smaller sectors** & those requiring **higher levels of education/skills**
- ▶ 2009-2011 employment grew in
  - ▶ Other activities (+4,000)
  - ▶ Education (+3,000)
  - ▶ Professional, scientific & technical activities (+2,300)
  - ▶ Information & communications (+1,700)
  - ▶ Transportation & storage (+900)
  - ▶ Health (+500)
  - ▶ Administrative & support services (+400)

# How many work in exporting sectors in the Western Region?

- ▶ A lot of focus on **growing exporting businesses**
- ▶ 45,666 permanent full-time jobs in assisted exporting companies in Western Region (2010)
- ▶ **Biggest employers in exporting sector (2010)**
  1. Medical devices
  2. ICT services
  3. Agri-food
  4. Metals, machinery & equipment manufacturing
  5. Wood, rubber, plastics & minerals manufacturing
  6. Chemicals

# What exporting sectors are growing employment in the Western Region?

- ▶ Growth in **high value manufacturing & ICT services**
- ▶ 2009-2010 employment in assisted companies grew in
  - ▶ Transport equipment (+158)
  - ▶ Computer programming activities (+144)
  - ▶ Medical devices (+85)
  - ▶ Rubber & plastics (+62)
  - ▶ Computer facilities management (+57)

# CO ROSCOMMON EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

- ▶ **9,319 people working in businesses** (exc. farming & public sector) in Co Roscommon (2009)
  1. Wholesale & Retail – 2,659
  2. Construction – 1,764
  3. Industry – 1,746
  4. Accommodation & Food Service – 1,326
  5. Administrative & Support service – 678
  6. Professional, Scientific & Technical – 591
  7. Transport & Storage – 259
  8. Financial, Insurance & Real Estate – 193
  9. Information & Communication – 103



# Employment in Exporting Companies & Unemployment in Co Roscommon

- ▶ **1,788 employed in exporting companies** in Co Roscommon (2010)
  1. Modern Manufacturing – 889
  2. Food – 497
  3. Traditional Manufacturing – 348
  4. Services – 54
- ▶ Large job losses in traditional manufacturing & food, but modern manufacturing performed better
- ▶ 3,980 on Live Register in Co Roscommon (Dec 2011)
  - ▶ 17.5% under 25 years – this is declining
  - ▶ 35.6% women – this is increasing

# WESTERN REGION GROWTH SECTORS

- ▶ **Green economy**
- ▶ **Food**
- ▶ **Tourism**
- ▶ **Caring**
- ▶ **Life Sciences**
- ▶ **Software, Financial & International services**
- ▶ **Creative sector**

# Western Region Growth Sectors (Companies in Co Roscommon)

- ▶ **Green economy** – wood energy, wind & ocean energy, retrofitting, energy efficiency
  - ▶ Green Grove Wood Energy, Eco Smart Designs, Beirne's Bins
- ▶ **Food** – higher value-added, organic, artisan, functional, marine, R&D
  - ▶ Connacht Gold, Oliver Carty, Roscommon Chocolate, Hooker Brewery, Hillcrest bakery
- ▶ **Tourism** – outdoor & adventure, cultural, festivals, events (e.g. triathlons), water-based
  - ▶ Lough Key Forest Park, Cruachan Ai, Hodson Bay Water Sports, Abbey Hotel, Shannon River Boat Hire
- ▶ **Caring** – elder care, residential & home care
  - ▶ Roscommon Home Services

# Western Region Growth Sectors (Companies in Co Roscommon)

- ▶ **Life Sciences (medical devices & pharmaceuticals)** – R&D, product development, 'super-operatives'
  - ▶ Ansamed, Harmac Medical, Athlone Pharmaceuticals, Alkermes, Innocoll Technologies
- ▶ **Software, Financial & International services** – call centres, back office, software development, computer programming
  - ▶ Flexible Contact Solutions, Trojan IT, myITDepartment, TMG Translation, Penta Networks
- ▶ **Creative sector** – gaming, digital media, film & TV, arts, crafts, increasing exports
  - ▶ Willow Design & Publishing, Creative Freedom Design, Bog Buddies

# FURTHER INFORMATION

- ▶ Expert Group on Future Skills Needs  
[www.skillsireland.ie](http://www.skillsireland.ie)
- ▶ Enterprise Ireland [www.enterprise-ireland.com](http://www.enterprise-ireland.com)
- ▶ IDA Ireland [www.idaireland.com](http://www.idaireland.com)
- ▶ Roscommon County Enterprise Board  
[www.roscommon.ie](http://www.roscommon.ie)
- ▶ Roscommon Business Network  
[www.roscommonbusinessnetwork.ie](http://www.roscommonbusinessnetwork.ie)
- ▶ LookWest [www.lookwest.ie](http://www.lookwest.ie)

# Thank You

Pauline White  
Policy Analyst

Western Development Commission

Tel: 094 986 1441

E-mail: [paulinewhite@wdc.ie](mailto:paulinewhite@wdc.ie)