Employment Trends in the Western Region
Roscommon Education & Training Fair, 13 Jan 2012
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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**
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
  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’sBins
► **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, CruachanAI, Hodson Bay Water Sports, AbbeyHotel, ShannonRiver Boat Hire
► **Caring** – elder care, residential & home care
  ► Roscommon Home Services

www.wdc.ie  LookWest.ie

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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, TrojanIT, myITDepartment, TMGTranslation, PentaNetworks
► **Creative sector** – gaming, digital media, film & TV, arts, crafts, increasing exports

www.wdc.ie  LookWest.ie
FURTHER INFORMATION

► Expert Group on Future Skills Needs
  www.skillsireland.ie
► Enterprise Ireland www.enterprise-ireland.com
► IDA Ireland www.idaireland.com
► Roscommon County Enterprise Board
  www.roscommon.ie
► Roscommon Business Network
  www.roscommonbusinessnetwork.ie
► LookWest www.lookwest.ie

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Thank You

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