

8.3 Trends in Agency Assisted Employment: Mayo¹

Summary

- In 2013 there were 8,310 people working in agency assisted jobs in county Mayo. Assisted employment as a share of total employment was third highest in the region but below the state average. While current employment is similar to 2006/2007, a lower share are now working in temporary/part-time jobs indicating an increased degree of permanent assisted employment.
- In the most recent year, total assisted employment in Mayo grew by +4.9%, second highest growth in the region.
- 45.9% of Mayo's permanent full-time employment is foreign owned and it is among the most evenly distributed ownership patterns in the region. While Irish owned employment grew very strongly during the boom it declined substantially from 2007 while foreign employment remaining quite stable. Since 2010 both foreign and Irish employment are showing signs of growth.
- Modern manufacturing is the largest assisted sector in county Mayo and performed very strongly throughout the ten year period. Its growth in 2013 (+7.7%) was well above the rest of state average (+2.5%).
- Agri-food is the county's second largest sector and has also performed reasonably well over the period. This is the sector where Mayo plays its largest national role and the county is home to 4.4% of national agri-food assisted employment.
- There was a drop of -40.6% in traditional manufacturing employment in county Mayo between its peak in 2006 and its low in 2010, considerably greater than the average decline in the Western Region (-26.7%). Since 2010 there are some signs of recovery.

8.3.1 Assisted jobs in county Mayo

In 2013 there were 8,310 people working in agency assisted jobs in county Mayo, about 1,000 in temporary/part-time jobs and the remainder in permanent employment (Fig. 40). Assisted employment as a share of total employment in Mayo is third highest in the region at 16.9%. This is just below the Western Region average and also below the state average.²

2013 saw the highest level of assisted employment in the county for the decade, except for the height of the economic boom. One of the differences between 2013 and 2006/2007 is that the number of temporary/part-time jobs is now lower and permanent full-time jobs is higher. The share of temporary/part-time employment in the county in 2013 (11.9%) is below the average for the Western Region (13.1%).

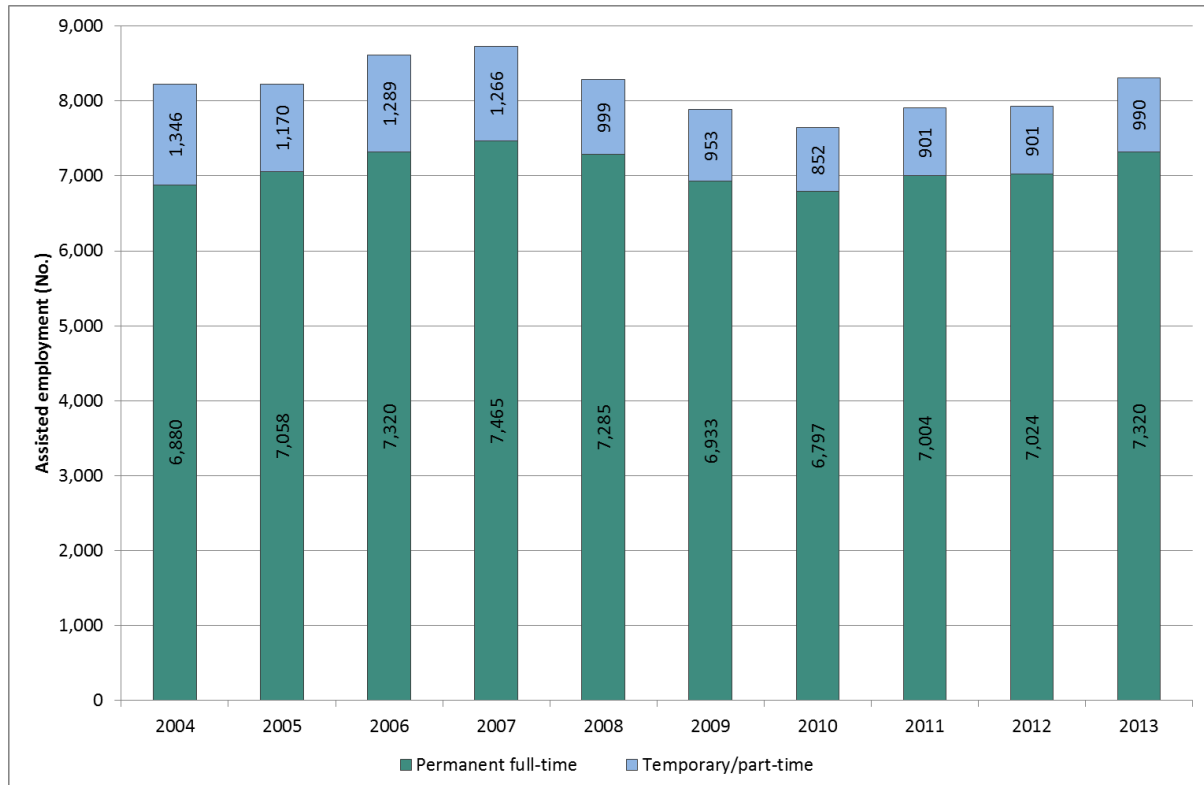
¹ Agency assisted employment is employment in companies which have received assistance from IDA Ireland, Enterprise Ireland or Údarás na Gaeltachta. This county profile is an extract from the Western Development Commission (WDC) report [Trends in Agency Assisted Employment in the Western Region](#), January 2015.

² Caution is required in interpreting the assisted employment as a percentage of total employment figure. Assisted employment refers to 2013 and relates to jobs located in the county. Total employment refers to 2011 (latest data at county level) and refers to employed people living in the county. This figure should be used as indicative of relative positions rather than as an absolute figure. See Section 7.2 for more detail.

From its peak in 2007, assisted employment declined by -12.4% to its lowest in 2010. The greatest losses occurred in temporary/part-time jobs (-32.7%). The decline in assisted jobs in county Mayo (-12.4%) was somewhat less than the Western Region average (-14.7%) over the same period.

In the most recent year, total assisted employment in Mayo grew by +4.9%. This was stronger growth than in the region as a whole (+2.8%). In fact Mayo's growth was second highest in the region after Roscommon (+6%).

Fig. 40: Total assisted jobs in county Mayo, 2004-2013



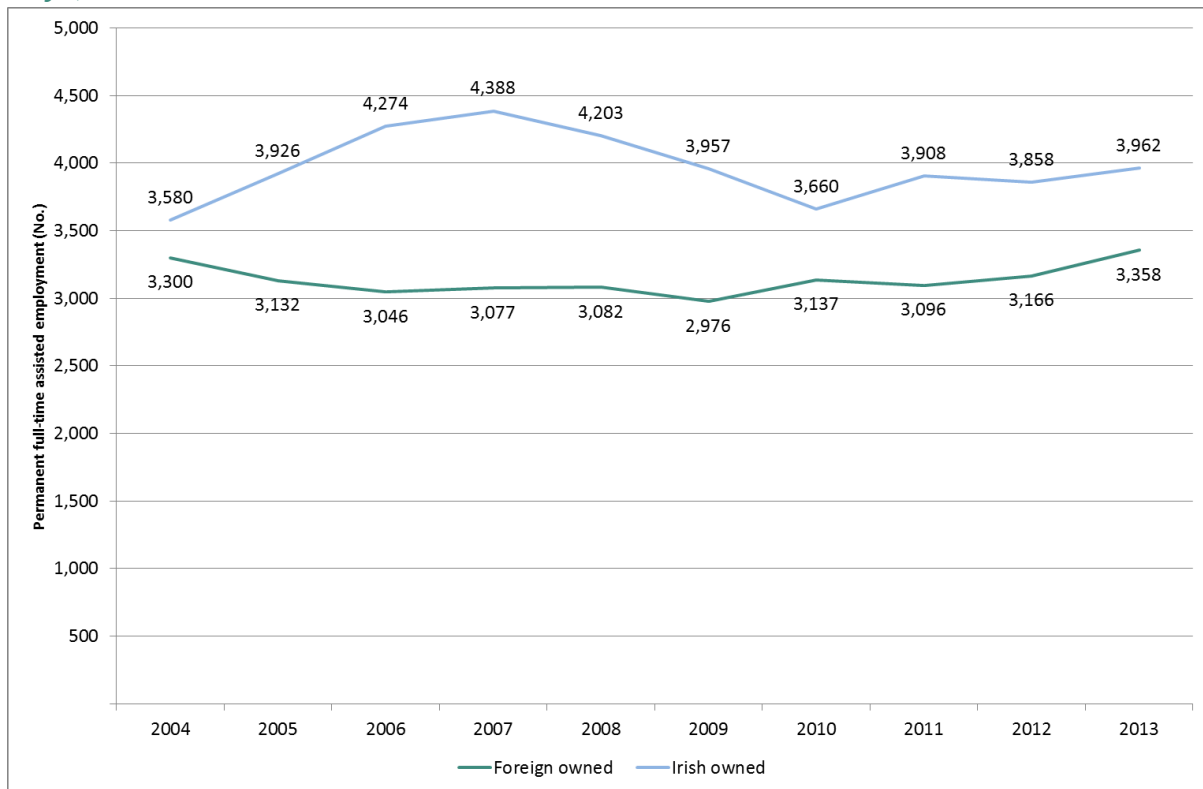
Source: Forfás, Annual Employment Survey 2013

8.3.2 Ownership of assisted jobs in county Mayo

In 2013, 45.9% of Mayo's permanent full-time employment was in foreign owned companies. Assisted employment in the county is among the most evenly balanced by ownership in the region and nationally (Fig. 41).

In 2004 the distribution was even more balanced, then during the economic boom Irish and foreign owned employment showed different trends. Employment in Irish owned companies, many of them linked to the construction sector, grew very strongly to reach a peak in 2007. From then until 2010 Irish owned employment fell very dramatically (-16.6%) while foreign employment remained quite stable. This led to an increase in the relative importance of foreign employment. Since 2010 both foreign and Irish employment are showing signs of growth and in 2013 foreign owned employment grew by +6.1% while Irish increased by +2.7%.

Fig. 41: Permanent full-time assisted jobs in foreign and Irish owned companies in county Mayo, 2004-2013



Source: Forfás, Annual Employment Survey 2013

8.3.3 Assisted jobs by sector³ in county Mayo

Modern manufacturing is the largest assisted sector in county Mayo and has performed very well (Fig. 42). In 2013 there were almost 3,000 people working full-time in modern manufacturing in the county, up from 2,300 in 2004. It has grown particularly strongly since 2009 and in the most recent year grew by +7.7%. This is compared with an average increase of just +2.3% in the region and +2.5% in the rest of the state.

Agri-food is the county's second largest sector and has also performed reasonably well. There was growth from 2004 to 2009 with employment remaining relatively stable since then. It is however the only sector in the county which had a decline in employment in 2013 of -2.0%.

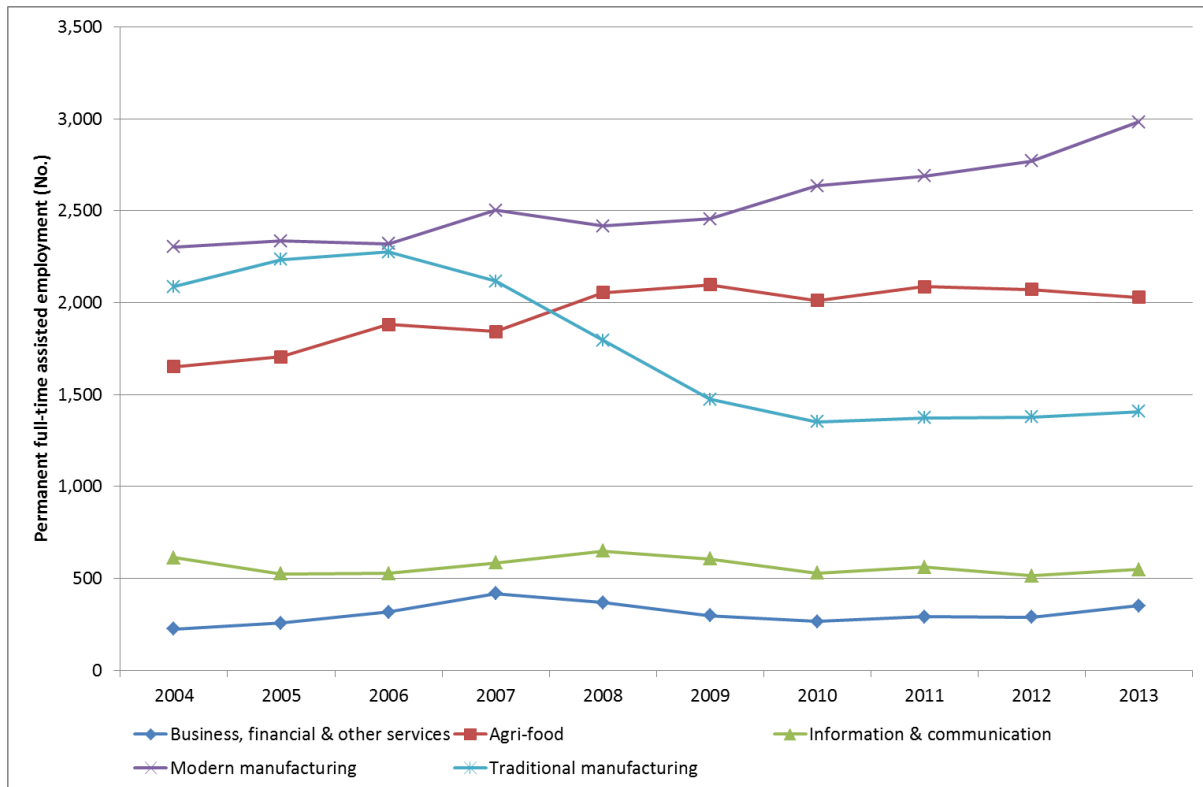
The county's third largest sector of traditional manufacturing has had a very different experience. Following strong growth during the early years of the boom, employment began to decline in 2007, a year earlier than in most counties. There was a drop of -40.6% in assisted traditional manufacturing employment between 2006 and 2010 and it fell from second to third largest sector. The decline in traditional manufacturing employment in Mayo over this period was considerably greater than the Western Region's average of -26.7%. Since 2010 there have been some signs of recovery and in 2013 employment increased by +2.1%.

Both of the international services sectors are quite small employers in county Mayo. Employment in information and communication services reached its high point in 2008 followed by decline.

³ Data by broad sector is available at county level but not data by detailed sector.

However, as with almost all other sectors, 2013 was a year of growth increasing by +6.6%. Business, financial and other services has followed a similar pattern. The sector had the largest percentage increase in employment in 2013 of +21.5% but remains the smallest source of assisted employment in the county.

Fig. 42: Permanent full-time assisted jobs by sector in county Mayo, 2004-2013



Source: Forfás, Annual Employment Survey 2013

In 2013, 2.4% of all assisted employment in the state was located in county Mayo. This is below the county's share of total employment in 2011 of 2.7%. It should be noted that some people living in county Mayo, who are counted in the 2.7% share of total employment, may be commuting to work in other counties such as Galway and Sligo.

Agri-food is the sector where the county plays its largest role with 4.4% of national agri-food assisted employment based in county Mayo. Modern manufacturing is another area of strength with 4.0% of the country's employment.