



Report on JOBS VACANCIES IN CLARE in 2012

Rationale

Every Thursday the information officer with CAEGIS inputs the jobs from the appointments page in the Clare Champion into the jobs database on the Guidance Service website. This database can be viewed online at <http://www.clareguidance.ie/jobs/index.php>

Each year the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs produces a National Skills Bulletin (www.skillsireland.ie) which among other reports contains a national analysis of job vacancies from FAS and the national newspapers. This year for the first time the EGFSN have produced a regional skills bulletin which provides a breakdown of vacancies on the FAS website at regional level in the Midwest.

It is useful to have a breakdown of the sectors that jobs are being advertised in at local level when working with adult learners, especially given that, for various reasons, many of those we work with are not in a position to relocate to access employment opportunities. The report may also be useful to those planning and delivering courses to help them identify where local progression opportunities in employment exist currently for appropriately qualified persons.

This report examines the types of jobs advertised in the Clare Champion in 2012 to ascertain in which sectors job vacancies occur locally.

Sample

The sample contains jobs advertised in the 'Appointments' section of the Clare Champion newspaper every Thursday. It does not contain those advertised in the small ads in the 'situations vacant' column. Sometimes there was more than one job listing per advertisement. Data was captured for 521 advertisements in 2012 which is more than the previous year. Data was not captured every week for the 2011 report (and also not for many ads where a PO Box number was used) so this increase may reflect efforts to record all jobs advertised in 2012 as opposed to an actual increase in available jobs.

Method

Each advertisement in the database was examined and jobs recorded according to broad occupational area and more specific job type. Where available the area of the county in which the job was located was recorded (Ennis, North Clare, South Clare, East Clare, West Clare, Countywide and Other). In cases where no job location was provided the location of the employer was used. Whether the job was part time or full time was also recorded where this information was available.

Occupations were broken down into 23 sectors according to a slightly modified version of the Careers Information Index, a classification system used in careers libraries.

Results

Table 1 Breakdown of Job Vacancies by Sector (only includes sectors with more than 1% of job vacancies)

Job Sector	Types of Job Advertised	%age of vacancies in 2012
Catering & Hospitality	Chefs, Bar Staff, Waiting Staff, Catering Staff, House Keepers, Kitchen Porters, Accommodation Assistants, Deli staff.	24%
Retail, Sales and Customer Services	Shop Assistants, Sales Reps, Pharmacy Assistants, Customer Care Staff, Store Managers, Telesales workers.	18%
Healthcare, Community Care, Social Care	Registered Nurses, Care Workers, Support Workers	11%
Administration, Business and Office Work	Secretaries, Receptionists, Administrative Assistants, Office Manager	8%
Personal and Other Services	Hairdressers, Barbers, Beauty Therapists, Cleaners.	7%
Childcare	Childcare Workers, SNAs, Managers	4.8%
Financial Services	Accountants, Financial Advisors, Insurance Staff	4%
Leisure, Sport and Tourism	Fitness Instructors, Coaches, Green keepers, Lifeguards, Guides.	3.8%
Engineering	Mechanics, Toolmakers, Aircraft Maintenance, Industrial Engineers, Electronic Engineers.	3.6%
Languages, Information and Culture	French, German, Spanish customer service/sales, translator (Nordic), library attendant.	2.7%
Manufacturing	Buyer/planner, Seamstress, Production Operators	2.3%
Computers and Information Technology	Network Engineer, Software Engineer, Database Administration, Developers, Content Manager	2.1%
Transport and Logistics	Drivers, Warehouse Operative	1.3%

The top 3 sectors in which jobs were advertised in 2012 are the same as in 2011: Catering, Retail and Healthcare vacancies combined accounted for more than half of all the jobs advertised in the Clare Champion in 2012.

Almost a quarter of all jobs advertised in the Clare Champion 2012 were in the catering and hospitality sector. Vacancies in this sector were available all year round though at their highest coming up to seasonal periods.

Table 2: The 5 most advertised occupations in Clare Champion in 2012.

Occupation	Percentage of Total Vacancies
Sales Assistant	9%
Chef (all grades)	8.6%
Bar/ Waiting Staff	6%
Registered Nurse	4.4%
Healthcare/ Social Care Assistant	4.2%

Table 3 Distribution of Job Vacancies in Clare in 2012.

	Ennis	North Clare	South Clare	West Clare	East Clare	Countywide	Other
%age of vacancies advertised	47%	17.2%	11.3%	8.6%	2.9%	4.8%	8.2%

The distribution of job vacancies in Clare in 2012 is similar to that in 2011. The main difference is a reduction in jobs advertised in West Clare and an increase in jobs advertised in Ennis. The number of vacancies recorded for Ennis may be skewed somewhat as where a PO Box number rather than an employer address was given the job location was recorded as Ennis.

Limitations of this report

Only a subset of the total jobs advertised in Co. Clare are included (i.e. those on the job vacancies page in the Clare Champion). Obviously there are many other possible sources of vacancies. On the one hand this limits the accuracy of the report somewhat however it also means that the same jobs advertised in multiple places won't be counted more than once.

Certain sectors may be more likely to advertise jobs in a local paper than others. Employers in the local services sectors are more likely to advertise in the Clare Champion than those for example in the local IT sector. This may mean the report underestimates job availability in certain sectors. Jobseekers looking for a comprehensive source of job vacancies should use other resources also for example www.indeed.ie

Many job vacancies are never advertised at all, being filled from within organisations, through word of mouth, networking etc. Thus jobseekers should bear in mind the importance of staying close to the jobs market e.g. through internships, volunteer work, using existing contacts etc.