



# TYNE COAST COLLEGE SKILLS PLAN

2025 - 2028

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# INTRODUCTION

The Tyne Coast College Skills Plan 2025–2028 sets out a strategic vision to align education and training with the evolving economic and employment landscape of the North East, with a particular focus on North Tyneside and South Tyneside, where the colleges are located.

This plan is informed by detailed analysis of regional demographics, labour market trends, educational attainment, and industry growth. It highlights the college's commitment to addressing skills gaps, supporting economic development, and preparing learners for future opportunities in high-demand sectors.

As the region continues to experience modest population and employment growth, the plan identifies key differences between North and South Tyneside in terms of economic performance, educational outcomes, and sectoral priorities. It also outlines Tyne Coast College's role in driving digital transformation, expanding technical education, and fostering partnerships with employers and stakeholders to deliver a responsive and future-ready curriculum.



## THE NORTH EAST

# ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

The North East holds 1,998,018 million people and has grown by over 35 thousand residents in the last five years. As of 2024, the region's population increased by 4.6% since 2019. The population is expected to increase by 0.6% by 2029 which will add a further 11,822. Concerning educational attainment in the area shows that 38.5% of people are qualified to degree level or higher (6.8% below the national average).

The regional average wage has increased from £25.2k to £29.3k (4.1k increase) in the last 4 years. However, this is still substantially below the national average wage of £36.2k by a staggering £6.9k. Regional employment currently sits at 842,048, which has increased by 36,884 in the last 5 years. Nevertheless, although jobs have increased by 4.6% between 2019 and 2024, this change falls short of the national growth rate of 5.4% by 0.8%.



# 1,998,018

## POPULATION (2024)

Population grew by 35,968 over the last 5 years and is projected to grow by 11,822 over the next 5 years.



# 842,048

## TOTAL REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Jobs grew by 36,884 over the last 5 years and are projected to grow by 31,296 over the next 5 years.



# £29.3K

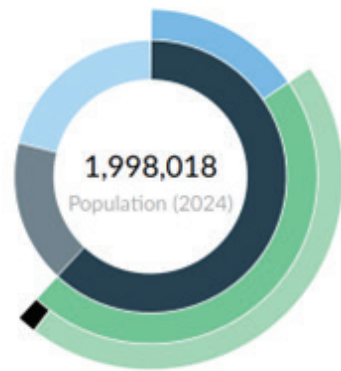
## AVG. WAGES PER JOB (2024)

Regional average wages per job are 6.9k below the national average wages of £36.2k per job.

As of 2024, the region experienced a population growth of 1.8% (since 2019) with a projected increase of 0.6% by 2029. Job numbers rose by 4.6% over the same period, though this was slightly below the national growth rate of 5.4%. In terms of education, 38.5% of residents hold higher education qualifications (6.8% below the national average), while 20.8% have NVQ 3 qualifications (1.7% above the national average). The leading industries in 2024 are hospital activities, general public administration, and restaurant and mobile food services.



## NORTH EAST LABOUR FORCE BREAKDOWN



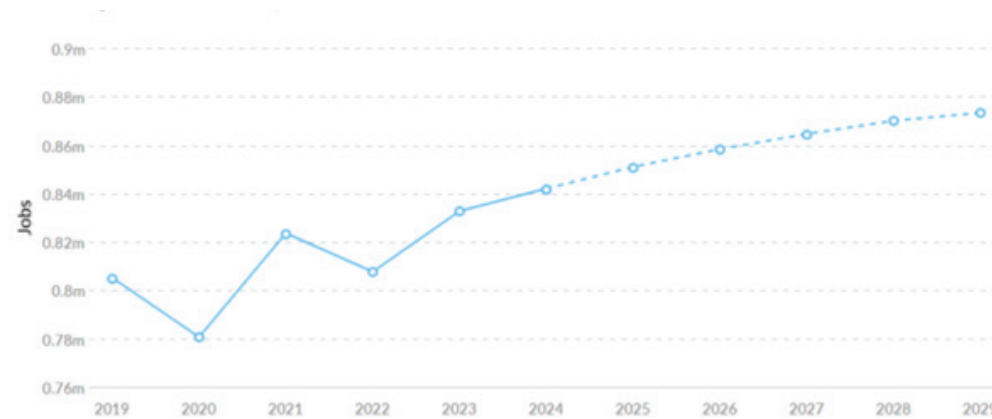
	Population
● Total Working Age Population (16-64)	1,235,237
● Not in Labour Force (16+)	307,264
● Labour Force	927,972
● Employed	894,605
● Unemployed	33,367
● Under 16	339,248
● Over 64	421,018

## NORTH EAST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



	% of Population	Population
● No Qualifications (NVQ)	8.4%	103,754
● Other Qualifications (NVQ)	5.2%	64,595
● NVQ 1 - SCQF L4	5.3%	65,259
● NVQ 2 - SCQF L5	20.8%	256,434
● Trade Apprenticeships	1.0%	12,970
● NVQ 3 - SCQF L6	20.8%	256,907
● Higher Education - NVQ4+ SCQF L7-9	38.5%	475,318

## NORTH EAST JOB TRENDS AND POPULATION



**361,218**  
MILLENNIALS

This area has 361,218 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for this area is 387,464.



**718,779**  
RETIRING SOON

Retirement risk is about average in this area. The national average for this area this size is 663,990 people 55 or older, while there are 718,779 here.

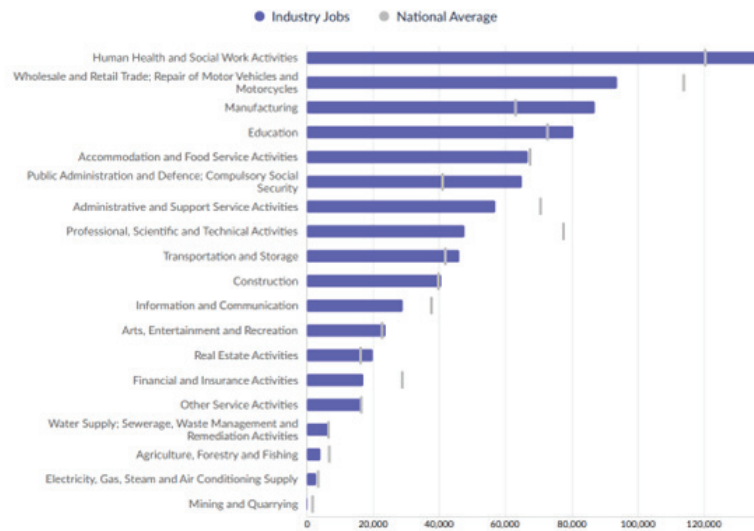


**169,851**  
RACIAL DIVERSITY

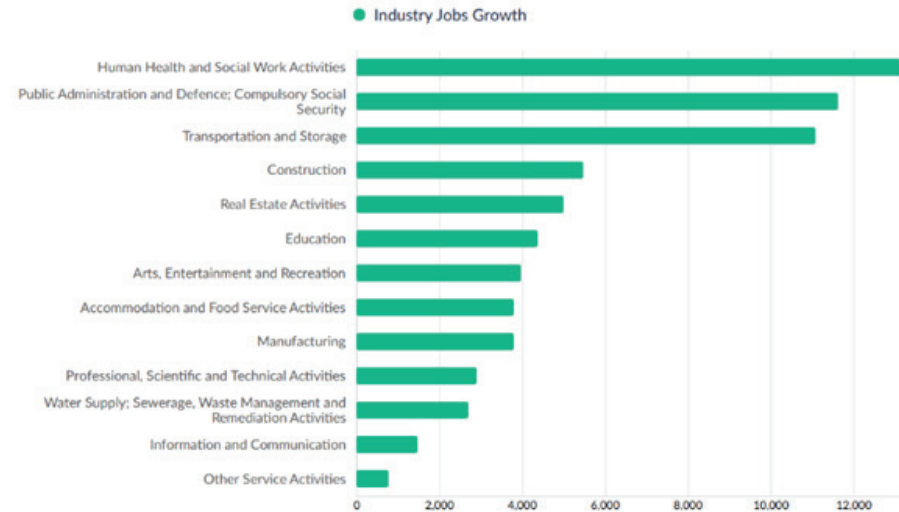
Racial diversity is low in this area. The national average for an area this size is 398,534 racially diverse people, while there are 169,851 here.

In this area, there are 361,218 millennials (ages 25–39), which is below the national average of 387,464 for a similarly sized region. The population aged 55 and over is 718,779, slightly above the national average of 663,990, indicating an average retirement risk. Racial diversity is notably low, with only 169,851 racially diverse individuals compared to the national average of 398,534.

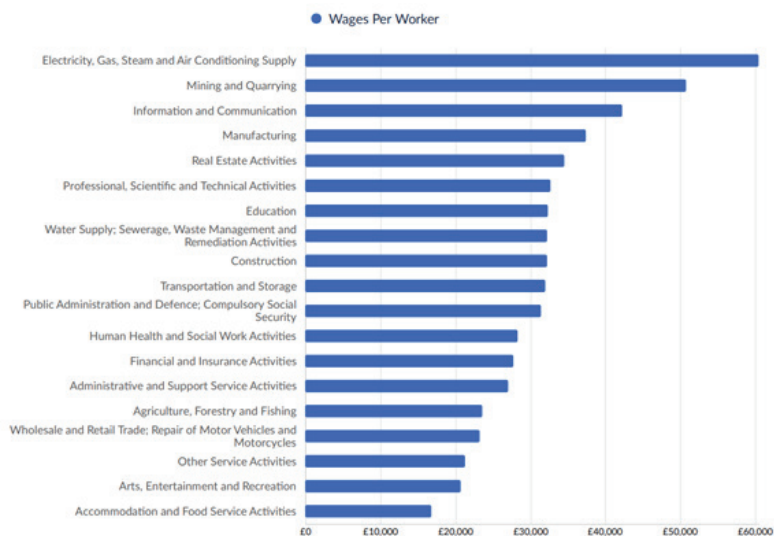
## NORTH EAST LARGEST INDUSTRIES



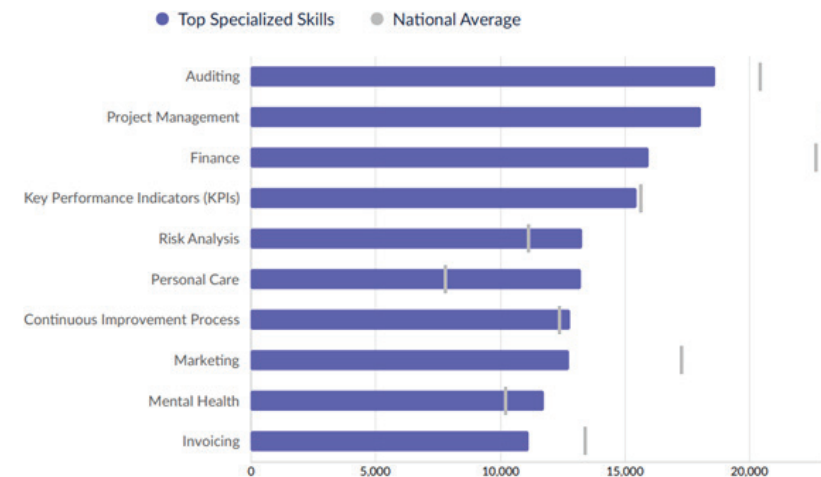
## NORTH EAST TOP GROWING INDUSTRIES



## NORTH EAST TOP INDUSTRY WAGES



## NORTH EAST TOP IN-DEMAND SKILLS



# ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

North Tyneside holds 211,581 people and has grown by over 4,297 residents in the last five years. As of 2024, the population increased by 2.1% since 2019. The population is expected to increase by 1.1% by 2029 which will add a further 2,268. Educational attainment in the area shows that 44.2% of people are qualified to degree level or higher (1.1% below the national average).

The regions average wage has increased from £25.2k to £29.2k (4k increase) in the last 4 years. However, this is still substantially below the national average wage of £36.2k by a staggering £7k. Employment currently sits at 88,421, which has increased by 4,428 in the last 5 years. Nevertheless, although jobs have increased by 5.3% between 2019 and 2024, this change falls short of the national growth rate of 5.4% by 0.1%.



## 211,591

### POPULATION (2024)

Population grew by 4,297 over the last 5 years and is projected to grow by 2,268 over the next 5 years.



## 88,421

### TOTAL REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Jobs grew by 4,428 over the last 5 years and are projected to grow by 2,918 over the next 5 years.



## £29.2K

### AVG. WAGES PER JOB (2024)

Regional average wages per job are 7.1k below the national average wages of £36.2k per job.

As of 2024, North Tyneside's population has grown by 2.1% since 2019, adding 4,297 people, with a further 1.1% increase (2,268 people) projected by 2029. Job numbers rose by 5.3% from 83,994 to 88,421 between 2019 and 2024, just 0.1% below the national growth rate. In terms of education, 44.2% of residents hold higher education qualifications (1.1% below the national average), while 19.0% have NVQ3-level qualifications (0.2% below the national average). The leading industries in 2024 are computer consultancy, other business support services, and restaurant and mobile food services.



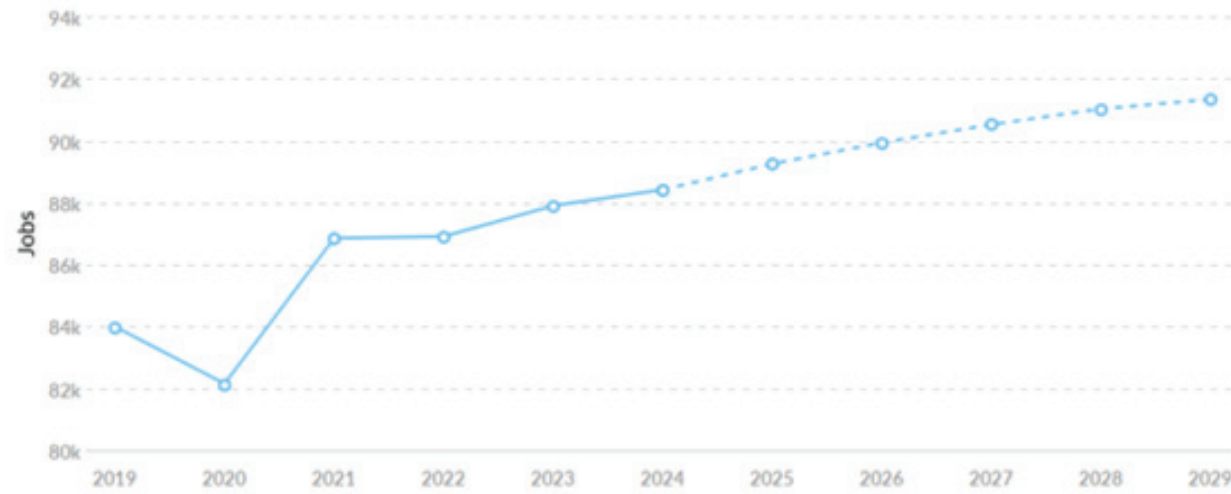
## NORTH TYNESIDE LABOUR FORCE BREAKDOWN



## NORTH TYNESIDE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



## NORTH TYNESIDE JOB TRENDS AND POPULATION



**39,921**  
MILLENNIALS

North Tyneside has 39, millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 41,336.



**76,807**  
RETIRING SOON

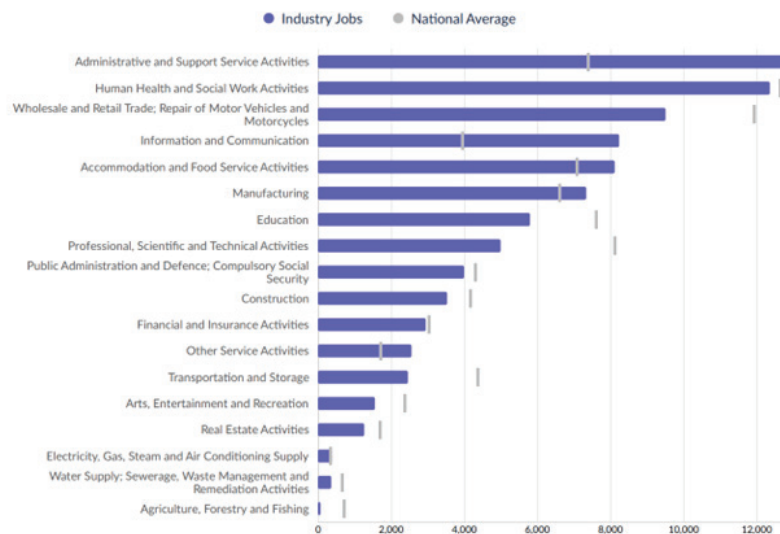
Retirement risk is about average in North Tyneside. The national average for an area this size is 70,836 people 55 or older, while there are 76,807 here.



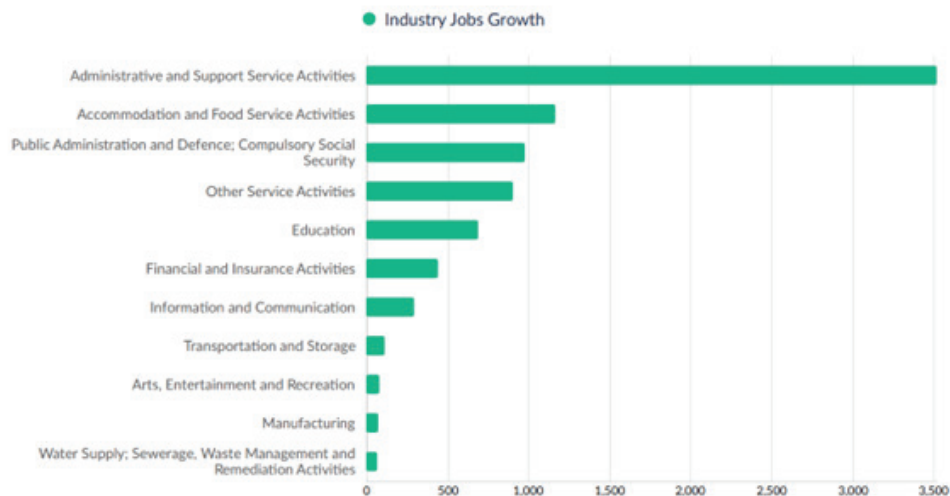
**14,071**  
RACIAL DIVERSITY

Racial diversity is low in North Tyneside. The national average for an area this size is 42,517 racially diverse people, while there are 14,071 here.

## NORTH TYNESIDE LARGEST INDUSTRIES



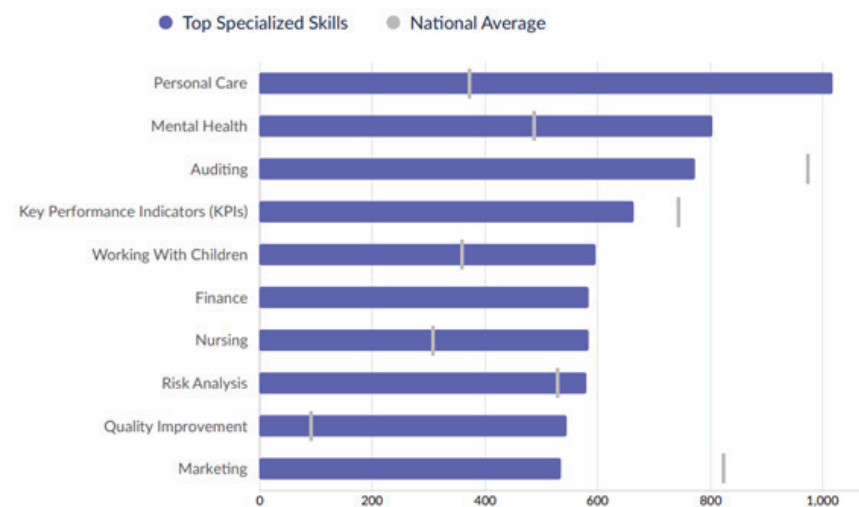
## NORTH TYNESIDE TOP GROWING INDUSTRIES



## NORTH TYNESIDE TOP INDUSTRY WAGES



## NORTH TYNESIDE TOP IN-DEMAND SKILLS





# ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

South Tyneside holds 149,075 people and has grown by over 707 residents in the last five years. As of 2024, the population increased by 1% since 2019. The population is expected to increase by 0.7% by 2029 which will add a further 991. Concerning educational attainment in the area shows that 35.2% of people are qualified to degree level or higher (10.1% below the national average).

The regions average wage has increased from £24.7k to £27.8k (3.1k increase) in the last 4 years. However, this is still substantially below the national average wage of £36.2k by a staggering £8.5k. Employment currently sits at 42,376, which has increased by 412 in the last 5 years. Nevertheless, although jobs have increased by 1% between 2019 and 2024, this change falls short of the national growth rate of 5.4% by 4.4%.



**149,075**  
**POPULATION (2024)**

Population grew by 707 over the last 5 years and is projected to grow by 991 over the next 5 years.



**42,376**  
**TOTAL REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

Jobs grew by 412 over the last 5 years and are projected to grow by 1,650 over the next 5 years.



**£27.8K**  
**AVG. WAGES PER JOB (2024)**

Regional average wages per job are 8.5k below the national average wages of £36.2k per job.

As of 2024, South Tyneside's population has grown by 0.5% since 2019, with an additional 0.7% increase projected by 2029. Job growth from 2019 to 2024 was modest at 1.0%, significantly trailing the national rate of 5.4%. In terms of education, 35.2% of residents hold higher education qualifications which is 10.1% below the national average, while 21.9% have NVQ3-level qualifications (which is 2.8% above the national average). The top industries in the area are retail in non-specialised food stores, primary education, and restaurant and mobile food services.

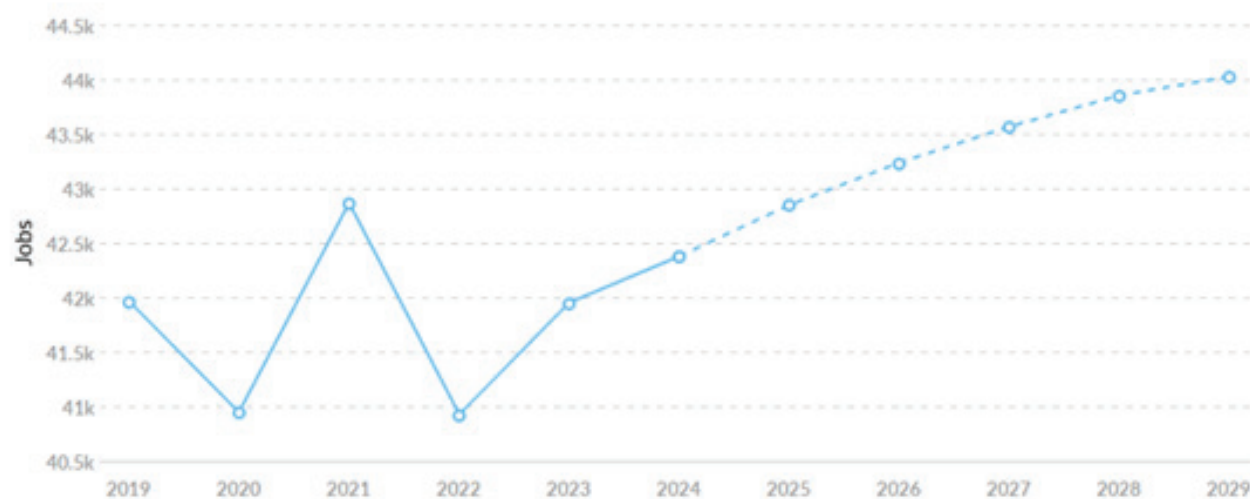
## SOUTH TYNESIDE LABOUR FORCE BREAKDOWN



## SOUTH TYNESIDE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



## SOUTH TYNESIDE JOB TRENDS AND POPULATION



**27,284**  
MILLENNIALS

South Tyneside has 27,284, millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for this area is 28,943.



**54,811**  
RETIRING SOON

Retirement risk is about average in South Tyneside. The national average for an area this size is 49,599 people 55 or older, while there are 54,811 here.

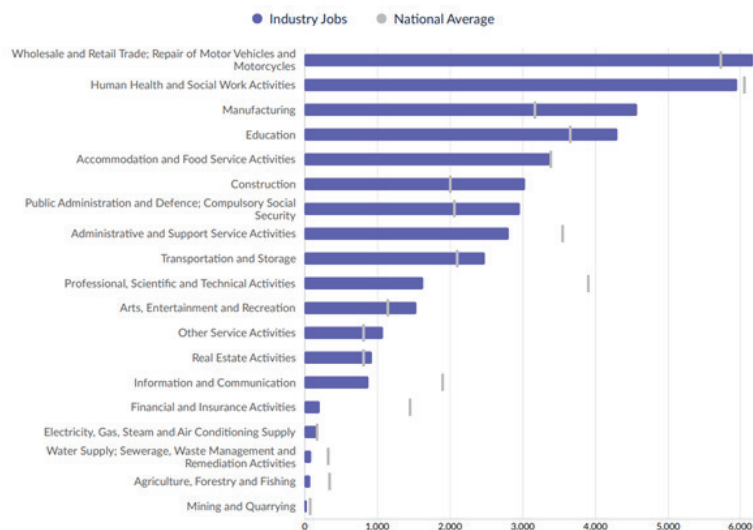


**10,860**  
RACIAL DIVERSITY

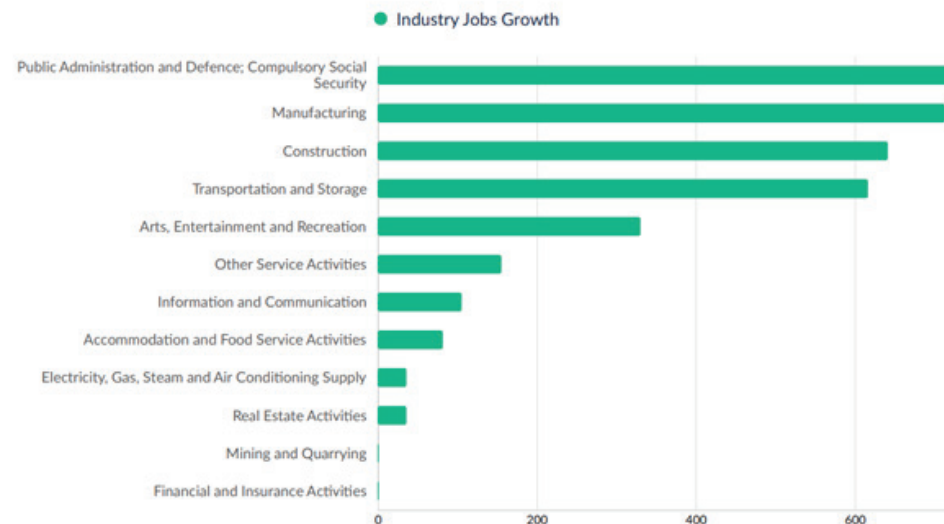
Racial diversity is low in South Tyneside. The national average for an area this size is 29,770 racially diverse people, while there are 10,860 here.



## SOUTH TYNESIDE LARGEST INDUSTRIES



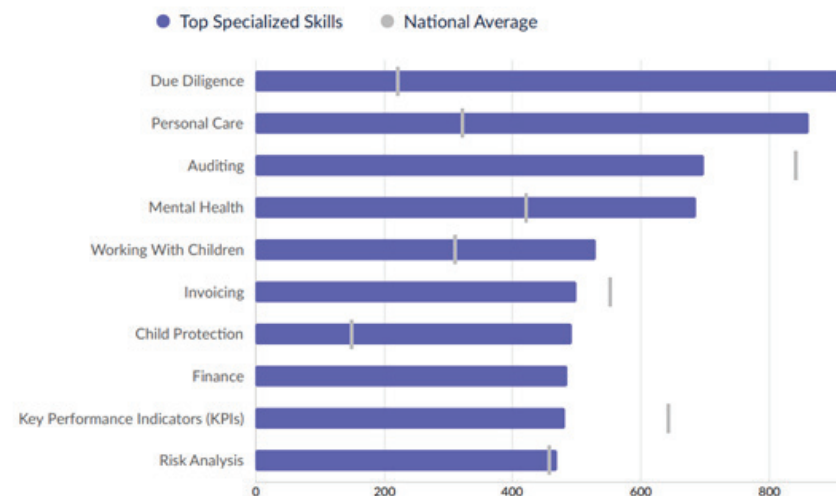
## SOUTH TYNESIDE TOP GROWING INDUSTRIES



## SOUTH TYNESIDE TOP INDUSTRY WAGES



## SOUTH TYNESIDE TOP IN-DEMAND SKILLS



# KEY FINDINGS FROM THE SKILLS ANALYSIS



## POPULATION GROWTH

In North Tyneside, the population grew by 2.1% (4,297 people) from 2019 to 2024, with a projected 1.1% increase by 2029. This demonstrates that North Tyneside is experiencing faster population growth than South Tyneside, which saw the population grow by 0.5% (707 people) in the same period, with a projected 0.7% increase by 2029.



## EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

In North Tyneside, jobs increased by 5.3% (from 83,994 to 88,421), just 0.1% below the national average which shows a significantly stronger job growth than in South Tyneside where jobs increased by only 1.0% (from 41,964 to 42,376), 4.4% below the national average.

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

### IN NORTH TYNESIDE:

- **44.2% hold higher education qualifications** (1.1% below national average).
- **19.0% hold NVQ3** (0.2% below national average).

### IN SOUTH TYNESIDE:

- **35.2% hold higher education qualifications** (1.1% below national average).
- **21.9% hold NVQ3** (2.8% above national average).

This shows that less people in South Tyneside hold a higher-level qualification than North Tyneside, as well as nationally. However, South Tyneside has a stronger NVQ3-level base.

## WAGES:

North Tyneside has higher wages and a slightly faster wage growth, with the average wage at £29.2k, up £4k in 4 years. In comparison, South Tyneside has an average wage of £27.8k, up £3.1k in 4 years

## TOP INDUSTRIES (2024):

The top industries in North Tyneside are based in technology and business services, while South Tyneside top industries are more focused on retail and education.

### North Tyneside:

- **Computer Consultancy**
- **Business Support Services**
- **Restaurants & Mobile Food Services**

### South Tyneside:

- **Retail (Food & Beverage)**
- **Primary Education**
- **Restaurants & Mobile Food Services**

## IN DEMAND SKILLS:

There are some common in demand skills across North and South Tyneside which include personal care, mental health and auditing.

# PRIORITY SECTORS

## NORTH OF TYNE (NECC)

- CONSTRUCTION
- GREEN ENERGY/INDUSTRIAL  
DECARBONISATION AND NET ZERO
- BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- CULTURE, CREATIVE, TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY
- HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



## SOUTH OF TYNE (NEAA)

- ADVANCED MANUFACTURING
- CONSTRUCTION
- DIGITAL
- HEALTH AND HEALTH SCIENCES
- TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS



## CROSS CUTTING THEMES

- DIGITAL SKILLS
- EMPLOYABILITY – WORK READINESS  
AND SOFT SKILLS
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/BUSINESS SKILLS
- FOUNDATION, LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS
- TECHNICAL AND SPECIALIST SKILLS  
AT LEVEL 3 AND ABOVE





# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2025-2028

1. Financial Health - be financially sound, use available resources efficiently and build financial resilience
2. Facilities – build a college for the future
3. Drive digital transformation – Leverage digital technologies to enhance teaching, learning and administrative processes, ensuring the college remains at the forefront of educational innovation and efficiency.
4. People – We aim to be an employer of choice, creating a possible economic impact, thereby supporting the development of well-rounded and responsible young people and adults.
5. FE and HE curriculum and performance – Securing better outcomes for young people, providing key opportunities for local people to upskill and progress into work. Increase our range and depth of our education offer – engineering, marine and digital.
6. Marine School – Delivery of outstanding maritime education and training, through modern and innovative curriculum design with cutting edge resources. Further develop our higher education portfolio building on our significant strengths in marine and engineering.
7. Partnerships – Continue to work alongside partners to identify opportunities for additional further educational provision in line with the North East Employment and Skills Strategy and Local Skills Improvement Plan.

## WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS AMBITION BY:

- Expanding our market presence by building new opportunities through a revised Business Development Strategy to meet business needs and college growth and driving long term college success
- Proactively preparing for Technical Education reform to ensure our curriculum remains responsive, future-focused, and aligned with national priorities.
- Expanding access to flexible and inclusive learning pathways that address the evolving needs of our local communities and workforce.
- Investing in state-of-the-art facilities that inspire ambition and empower students to achieve their full potential.
- Enabling positive learner progression through tailored support and clear pathways into employment, further education, or training.
- Delivering excellence in skills development, with a strong emphasis on work-ready behaviours and industry-relevant competencies.
- Bridging skills gaps by cultivating impactful partnerships with employers and stakeholders across key sectors.
- Raising attainment at Level 4 and above, supporting economic resilience and career advancement across the region.
- Facilitating smooth transitions for young people into further and higher education, ensuring they are equipped for lifelong success.