

Annual Population Survey 2012: Results in Highland

June 2013

SUMMARY

- **The Annual Population Survey is a useful source of information which allows simple comparison of the labour market in Highland with other Authorities.**
- **The survey covers employment and unemployment with various indicators reported in both sections. Those given below are available for individual local Authorities and are directly relevant to Highland.**
- **Although data is available from 2004 we have concentrated on the period from 2006 to 2012 which gives a good balance of view from before the recession to the most recent available data.**
- **We compare favourably on indicators which cover employment rates and economic inactivity and people who have never worked.**
- **We compare less favourably on indicators which cover trends in work patterns, second jobs, underemployment and willingness to work.**



Introduction

The Annual Population Survey (APS) presents analysis on the labour market and education & training in Scotland. APS is a sample of the population in each of the 32 Local Authorities in Scotland and suffers from sampling error, but also has a number of benefits. The range and simplicity of the questions asked, and presentation of the results by local Authority, allows Highland's position in Scotland to be established easily. Some of the indicators update information from the 2001 census which is now out of date (detailed results from the 2011 Census are expected in late 2013).

Survey Methodology

In the national Annual Labour Force Survey one person in each of 8,000 households in Scotland is interviewed 5 times at 13 week intervals. The Scottish Government boosts this to 23,000 households for the APS with the extra interviews conducted annually. The target sample size for most LAs, including Highland, is 875 economically active adults although all interviews north of the Caledonian Canal are conducted over the telephone rather than face to face which leads to lower response rates. The Highland sample rate is smaller than the Scottish average and lower confidence levels explain some of the variations in the following graphs.

- [People in Work](#)
- [Unemployment](#)
- [Economic Inactivity](#)
- [Gender](#)
- [Age Group](#)
- [Disability](#)

Further Information

Further information on unemployment can be found on our [Job Seekers Allowance](#) webpage. Other information on unemployment like long term rates and youth unemployment, along with data and statistics for claimants of some other social benefits can be found on our [Benefits and Unemployment](#) webpages.

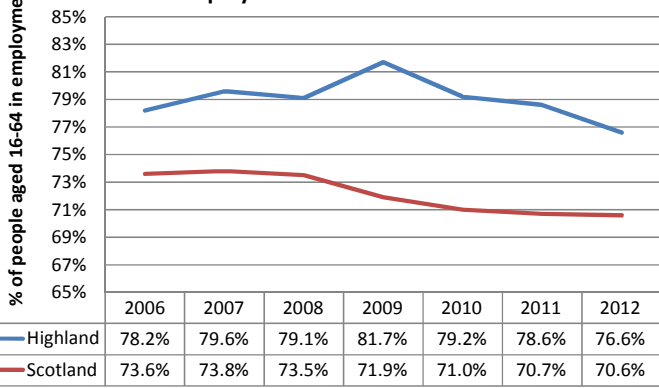
For wider, Highland level, information or more detailed, ward specific information along with publications covering a variety of subjects visit our [Highland Facts and Figures](#) webpage.

People in work

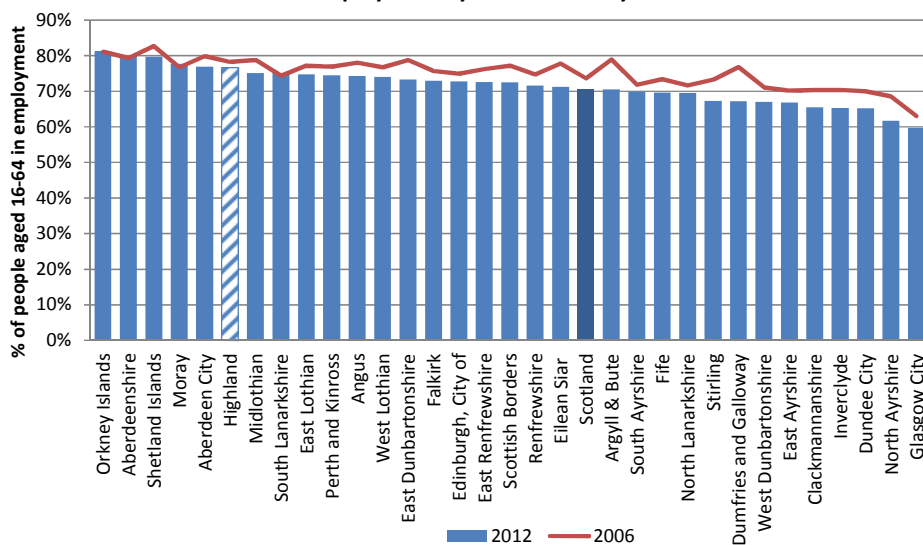


The employment rate in Highland in 2012 was 76.6%. Although this has been decreasing since a high of 81.7% in 2009, this was still the sixth highest in Scotland and higher than the Scotland average of 70.6%. The rate for Scotland over time can be seen to make a gradual decrease but the Highland rate shows more variation. The highest rate was Orkney (81.3%) and the lowest Glasgow City (59.7%) and all except four local authorities had a decrease over this time period. The Highland decrease of -1.6% was the smallest decrease with Dumfries and Galloway having the largest (-9.6%). The biggest increase was Moray at 1%.

Employment Rate over time



Employment by Local Authority

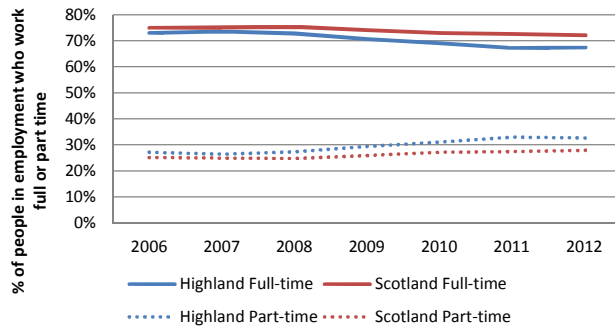


Highland has always had a higher rate of part time workers than Scotland as a whole due to the seasonality of employment in the region however since the recession a decrease can be seen in the percentage of full time workers and a corresponding increase in part time workers.

In 2012, 67.4% of workers in Highland were full-time, which was the sixth lowest in Scotland, and 32.6% were part time compared with 72.1% full-time for Scotland as a whole and 27.9% part-time. This is down from 72.9% (full-time Highland) and 74.9% (full-time Scotland) in 2006. The highest rate of full-time workers in 2012 was 80.8% in Clackmannanshire and the lowest 65.2% in Dundee.

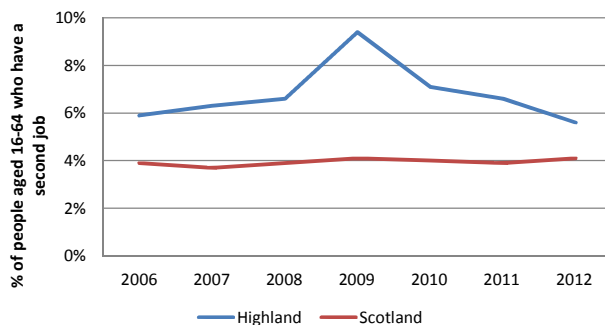


Work Pattern

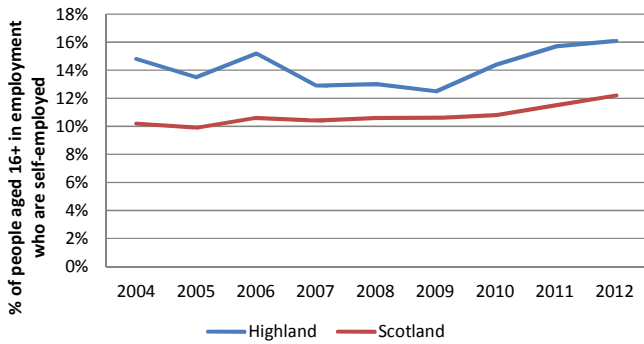


In Highland in 2012, 5.6% of people aged 16-64 had second jobs. This was the seventh highest in Scotland (although the sample size for 6 Authorities was too small). This is a slight decrease on the rate in 2006 and a continues the pattern seen since the high in 2009 during an intense period of recession. The rate for Scotland as a whole has been less variable over the same time period. The highest rate was in Orkney (14.4%) and the lowest in North Ayrshire (2.0%).

Second Jobs

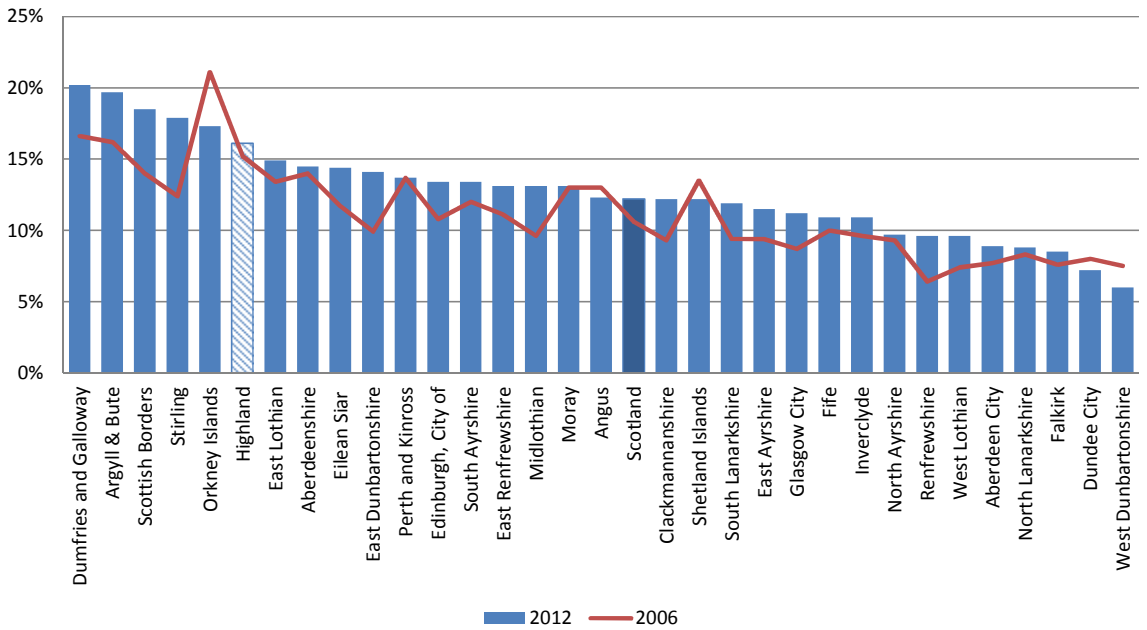


Self Employment

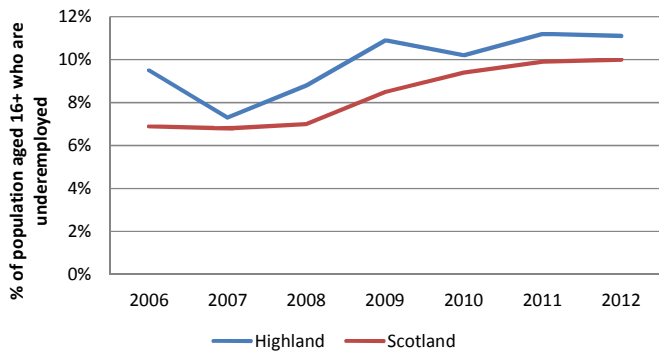


In Highland in 2012, 16.1% of people in employment were self employed, an increase on 2006 when it was 15.2%. Only five other local authorities had a higher rate of self employed workers and it can be seen that most local authorities in Scotland had an increase over this time. In Scotland in 2012 12.2% of people in employment were self employed, an increase on the 2006 figure of 10.6%.

Self Employment by Local Authority



Underemployment



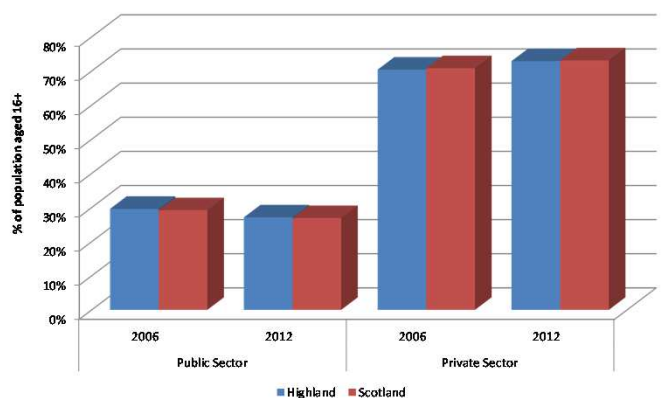
The percentage of people who would like to work longer hours at their current rate of pay, if given the opportunity, can be seen to increase since 2006 in both Highland and Scotland. In 2012 11.1% of people aged 16+ in employment in Highland and 10% in Scotland were underemployed.

This is up from 9.5% and 6.9% respectively in 2006. The highest rate in 2012 was 15.3% in Shetland and the lowest 5.5% in Aberdeen City.

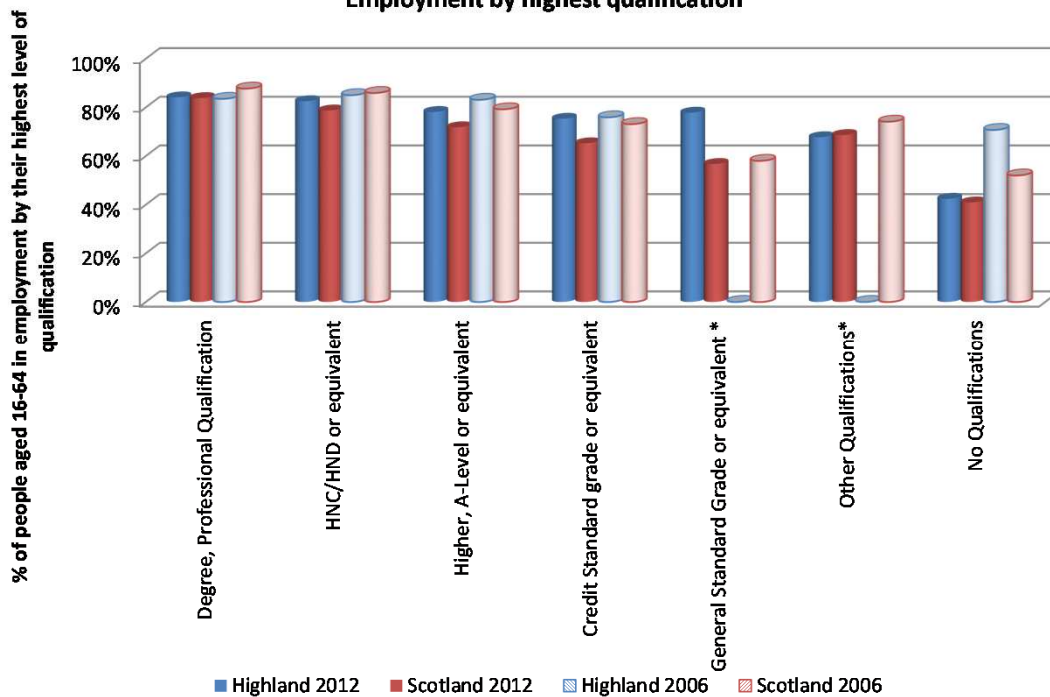


The Private sector provides the majority of jobs in both Highland and Scotland with 72.9% of jobs in Highland in 2012 and 73.1% in Scotland. Between 2006 and 2012 the percentage of people employed in the Public sector dropped from 29.6% to 27.1% in Highland and from 29.2% to 26.9% in Scotland with the Private sector showing a related increase.

Employment by Public/Private Sector



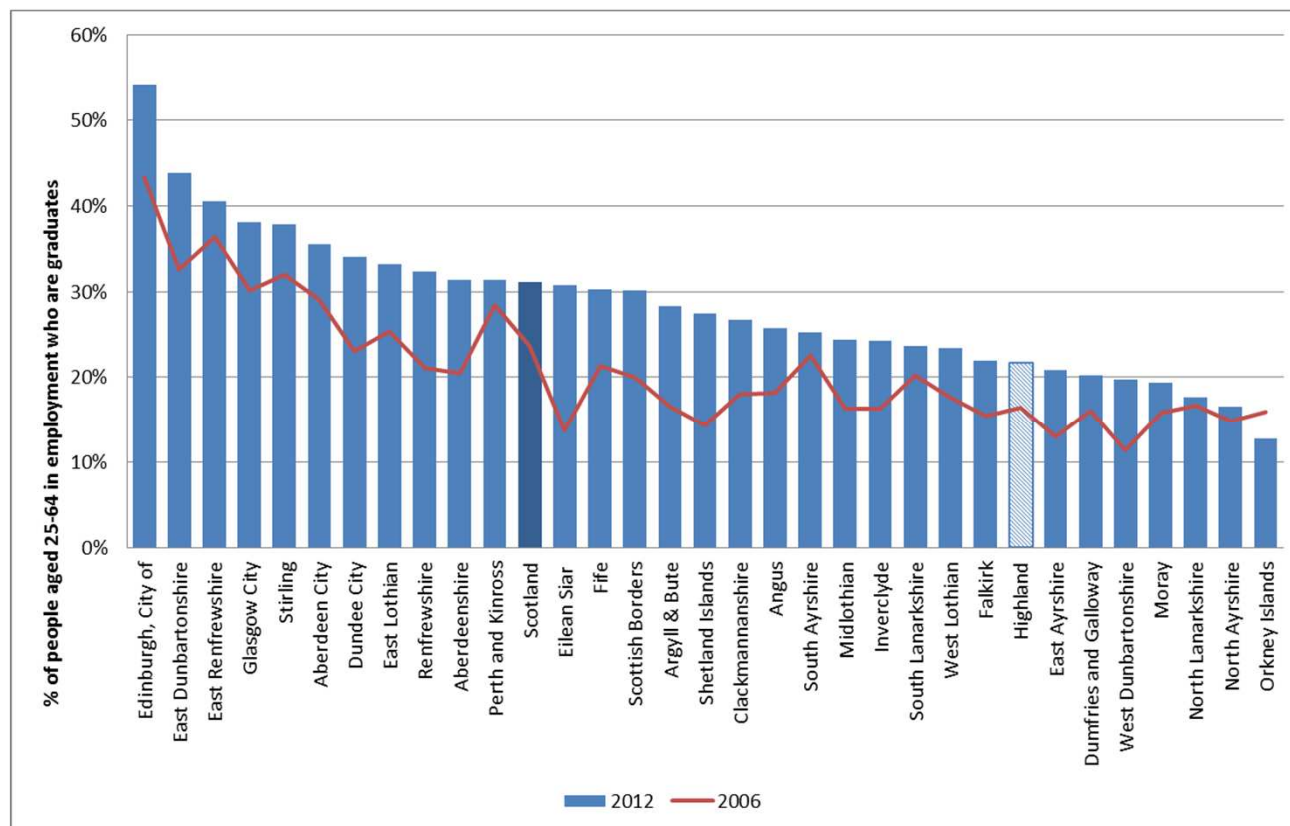
Employment by highest qualification



Since 2006 employment rates in all comparable qualification groups in Highland fell except for those at Degree level which have risen slightly. The difference is most obvious in people with no qualifications which dropped from 70.7% in 2006 to 42.4% in 2012. A similar pattern can be seen in Scotland as a whole where there have drops in employment for all qualification groups though the drop in those with no qualifications is not as significant.

**Employment rates for the general standard grade and other qualifications groups cannot be compared at Highland level as the 2006 figures are below the reliability threshold.*

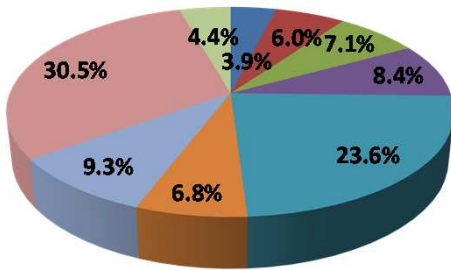
The percentage of people in employment in Highland who are graduates has increased from 16.4% in 2006 to 21.7% in 2012, similar to the pattern for almost all local authorities in Scotland. However, despite this increase, Highland is still at the lower end of all the local authorities in this measure.



Employment by Broad Industrial Group*

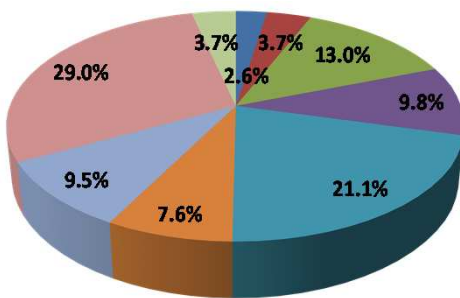
In Highland the total employment increased slightly between 2006 and 2012. Public Administration, Education and Health continues to be the main employment sector with Distribution, hotels and restaurants the next highest category and both show an increase between 2006 and 2012. There were minor changes in other sectors including increases in Energy & Water and decreases in Manufacturing and Construction. In Scotland the total employment decreased between 2006 and 2012. Public Administration, Education and Health continues to be the main employment sector with Distribution, hotels and restaurants and Banking, finance and insurance other significant employment areas. There was a decrease in the Manufacturing and Construction sectors and minor changes in other sectors.

Highland 2012

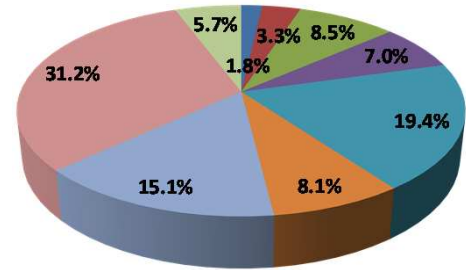


- Agriculture & fishing
- Construction
- Banking, finance & insurance etc
- Energy & water
- Distribution, hotels & restaurants
- Public admin, education & health
- Manufacturing
- Transport & communication
- Other services

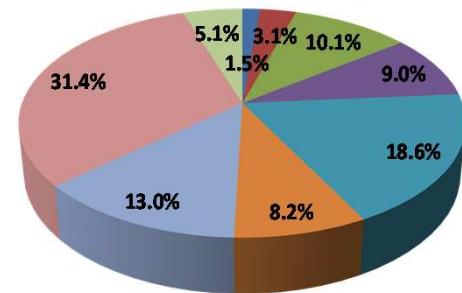
Highland 2006



Scotland 2012



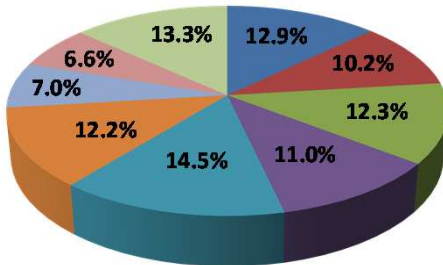
Scotland 2006



**Please note, because the APS is a survey some of these differences may not be statistically significant.*

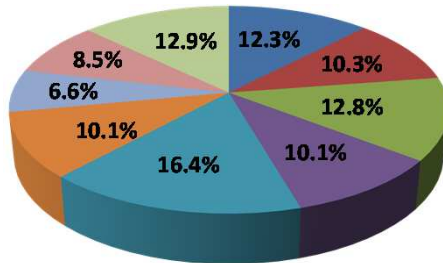
Employment by Occupational Group*

Highland 2012

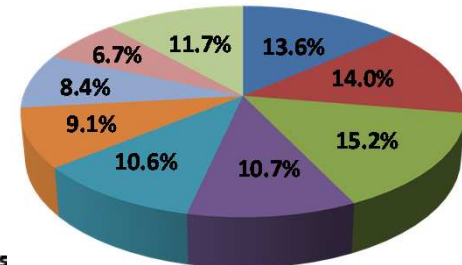


- Managers and Senior Officials
- Associate Professional and Technical
- Skilled Trades Occupations
- Sales and Customer Service Occupations
- Elementary Occupations
- Professional occupations
- Administrative and Secretarial
- Personal Service Occupations
- Process, Plant and Machine Operatives

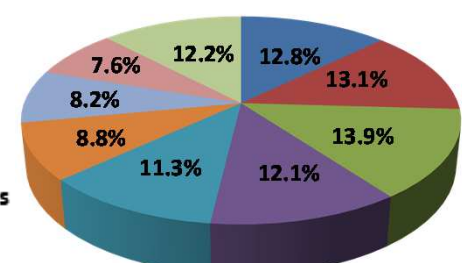
Highland 2006



Scotland 2012

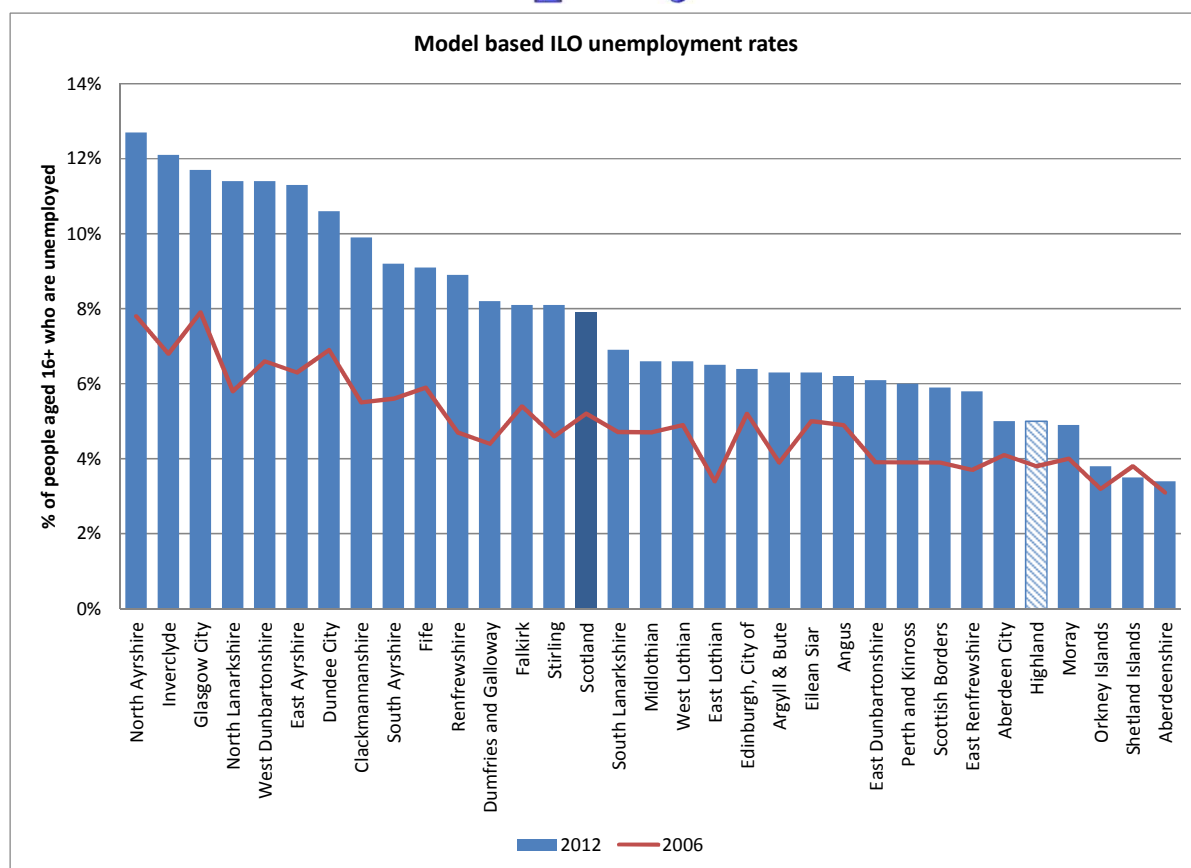


Scotland 2006



In Highland between 2006 and 2012 there were decreases in people employed in the Skilled Trades and Process, Plant & Machinery Operatives (both -1.9%) and increases in people employed in Personal Service Occupations (2.1%) and Administrative and Secretarial (0.9%). There were minor changes in other job categories too. Over the same timescale Scotland had the biggest decrease in people employed in Administrative and Secretarial (-1.4%) but also saw decreases in Skilled Trades (-0.7%) and Process, Plant & Machinery Operatives (-0.9%). The most notable increases were in Associate, Professional and Technical (1.3%), Professional occupations (0.9%) and Managers and Senior Officials (0.8%). There were also minor changes in other job categories.

Unemployment

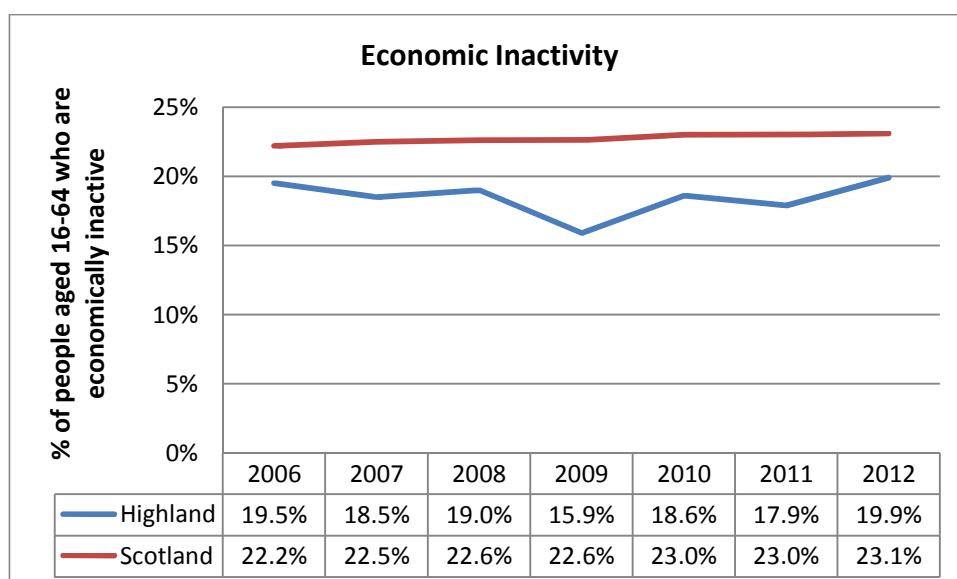


The ILO classifies a person of working age as unemployed if they are currently without work **and** available for work **and** seeking work.

Between 2006 and 2012 all local authorities except Shetland had an increase in unemployment. The highest increase was 5.6% in North Lanarkshire and the Shetland had a decrease of -0.3%. Over the same time unemployment in Highland increased by 1.2%. This increase in Highland from 3.8% in 2006 to 5% in 2012 was lower than the Scotland average increase from 5.2% to 7.9%. North Ayrshire had the highest unemployment in 2012 (12.7%) and Aberdeenshire the lowest (3.4%). The graph shows that despite this increase over time, Highland is still at the lower end of all local authorities for unemployment.



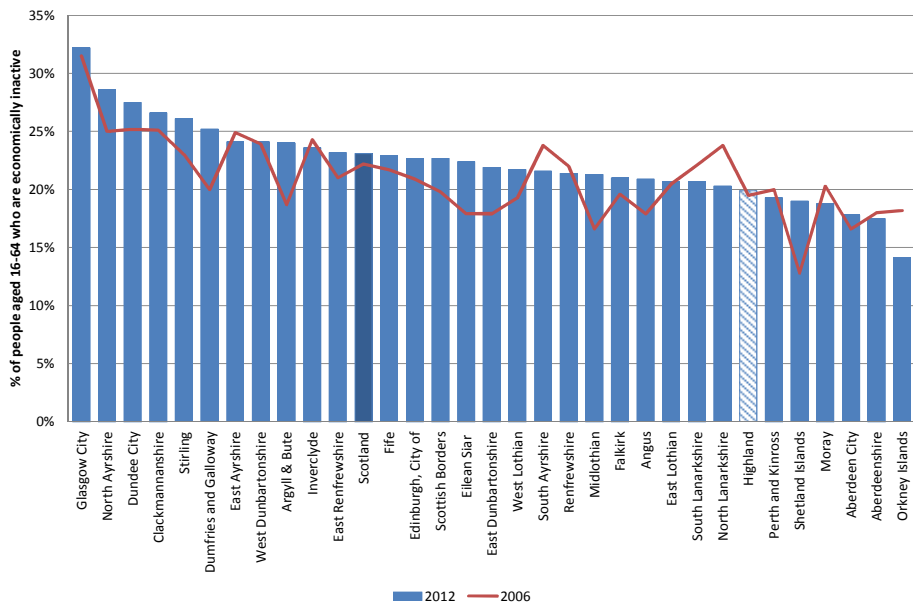
Economic Inactivity



Between 2006 and 2012 the economic inactivity level in Highland is little changed overall despite showing some ups and downs over this time, and it is consistently lower than Scotland. The level for Scotland has varied little over the same time period. In 2012 the economic inactivity level was 19.5% in Highland and 23.1% in Scotland compared to 19.5% and 22.2% in 2006 respectively.



Economic Inactivity by Local Authority

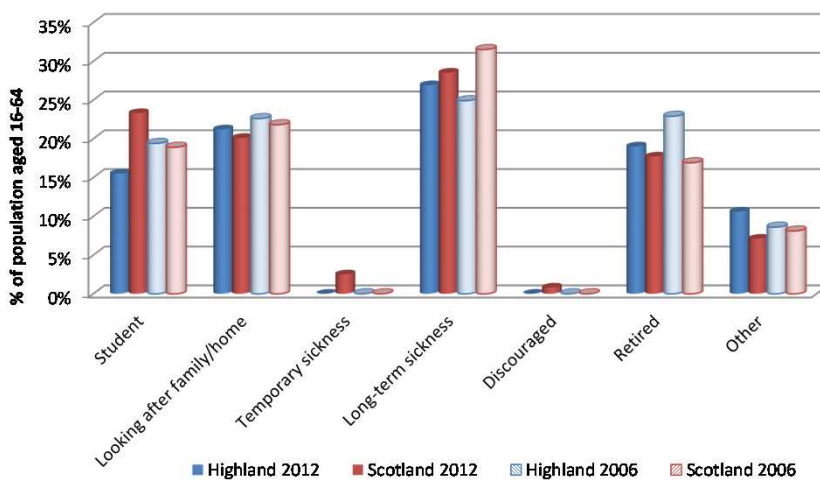


The graph shows that despite the minor increase over time, Highland is still one of the local authorities with the lowest level of economic inactivity, being only seventh highest. In 2012 the highest rate of economic inactivity was 32.2% in Glasgow and the lowest 14.1% in Orkney. The highest increase between 2006 and 2012 was 5.3% in Argyll and Bute while the biggest decrease was -4.1% in Orkney. Scotland had an increase of 0.9% over this time.



The biggest reason for people being economically inactive in Highland is due to Long-term sickness which has seen an increase between 2006 and 2012. There was a drop in the number of people looking after family/home, students and retirees. In Scotland overall there was a large increase in students and a smaller increase in retired people but decreases in people looking after family/home and long term sickness.

Reason for Economic Inactivity



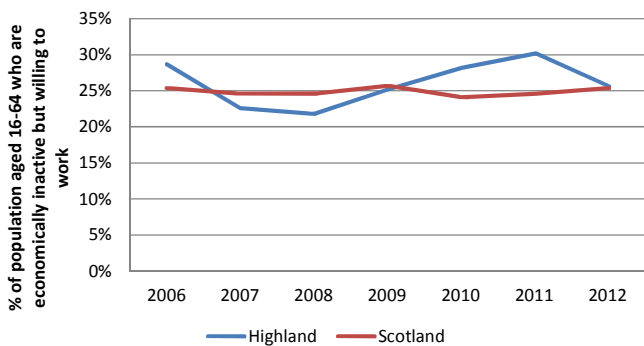
Despite a promising increase from 2008 to 2011, the percentage of economically inactive people in Highland who are willing to work has seen a decrease (fifth biggest decrease in Scotland) from 28.7% in 2006 to 25.6% in 2012. The Scotland level showed some slight variation but remained at 25.4% over the same period. The highest rate of willingness to work in 2012 was 38.4% in Moray and the lowest 14.2% in Edinburgh.



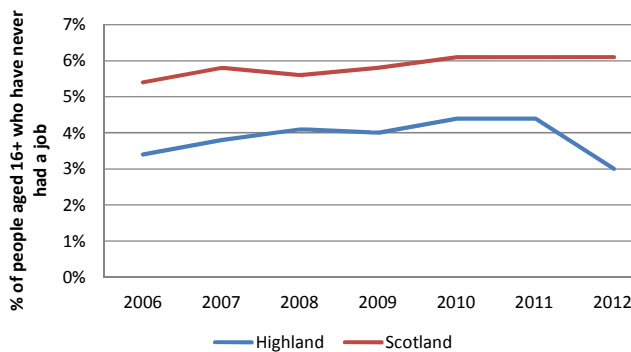
The number of people in Highland who have never had a paid or unpaid job has declined since 2006 despite seeing some fluctuation over that time. In 2012 that was 3% (second lowest in Scotland) down from 3.4% in 2006. Scotland has seen a slight increase from 5.4% to 6.1% over the same time. The highest rate in 2011 was 12.2% in Glasgow and the lowest was 2.7% in Aberdeenshire.



Willingness to work

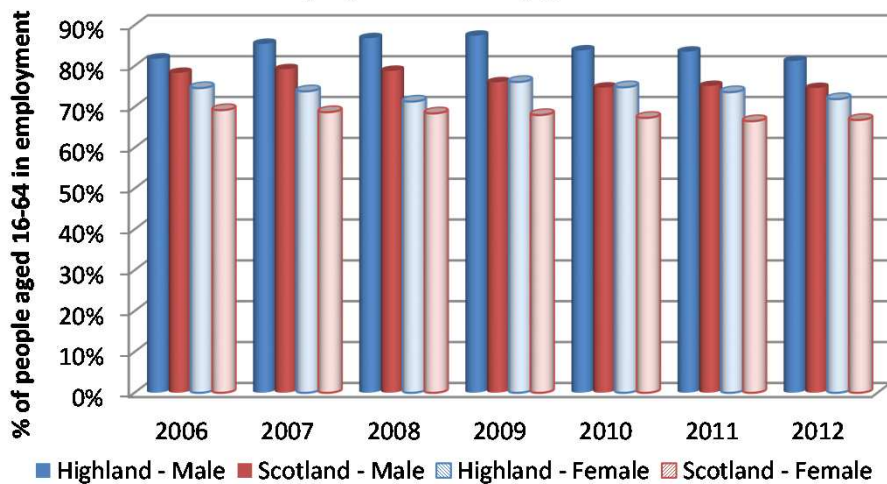


Never worked



Gender

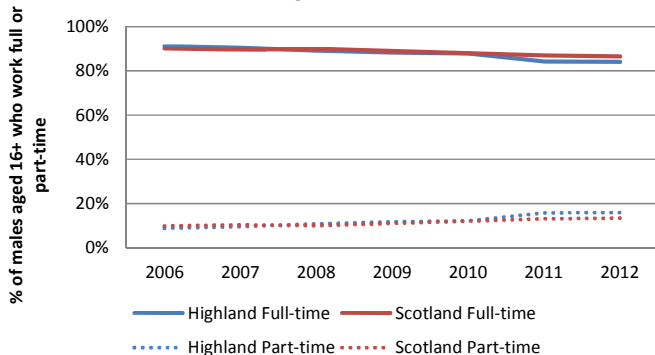
Employment Rate by gender



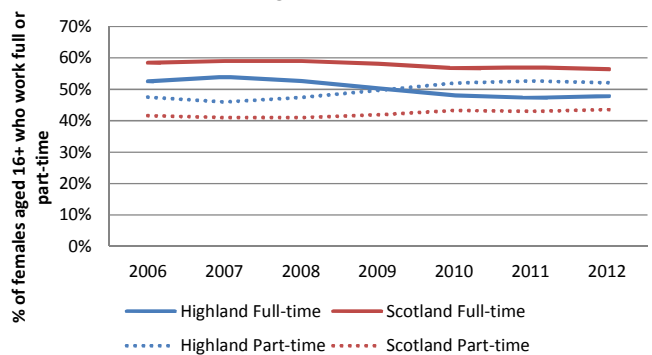
Between 2006 and 2012 employment rates for male and female have decreased in Highland and Scotland. In Highland male employment fell from 86.4% to 81.2% and female from 75.6% to 71.9%. In Scotland employment dropped from 77.7% to 74.6% for males and from 67.6% to 66.8% for females. Highland continues to have higher employment rates than Scotland for both sexes.

Between 2006 and 2012 the % of full time male employees decreased while the % of part time male employees increased for both Highland and Scotland. The same pattern can be seen for female employees. In Highland between 2009 and 2010, the percentage of women employed full time dropped below the percentage who are employed part time, a pattern that continued into 2012.

Working Pattern - Male



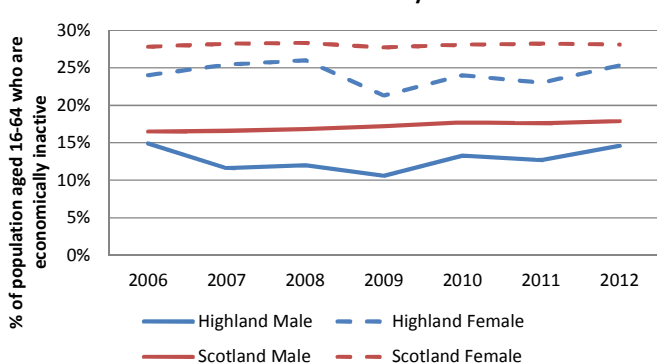
Working Pattern - Female



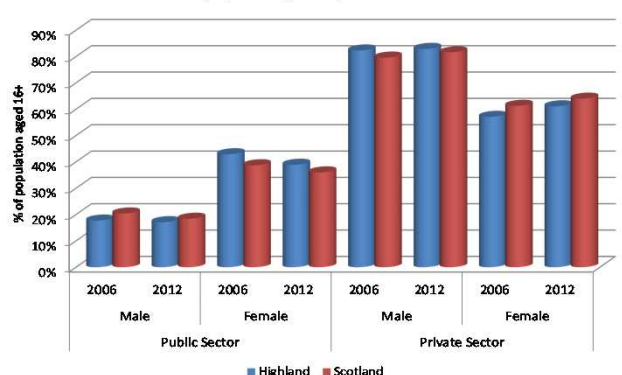
Economic inactivity for both males and females in Scotland has increased slightly, at a steady rate between 2006 and 2012 but the pattern in Highland is much more erratic. Male economic inactivity in Highland has decreased very slightly over this time despite some ups and downs while female economic inactivity is similarly erratic but with an overall slight increase.

The Private sector provides the majority of jobs in both Highland and Scotland for both male and females. Between 2006 and 2012 the percentage of people employed in the Public sector dropped in Highland and in Scotland with the Private sector showing a related increase.



Economic Inactivity



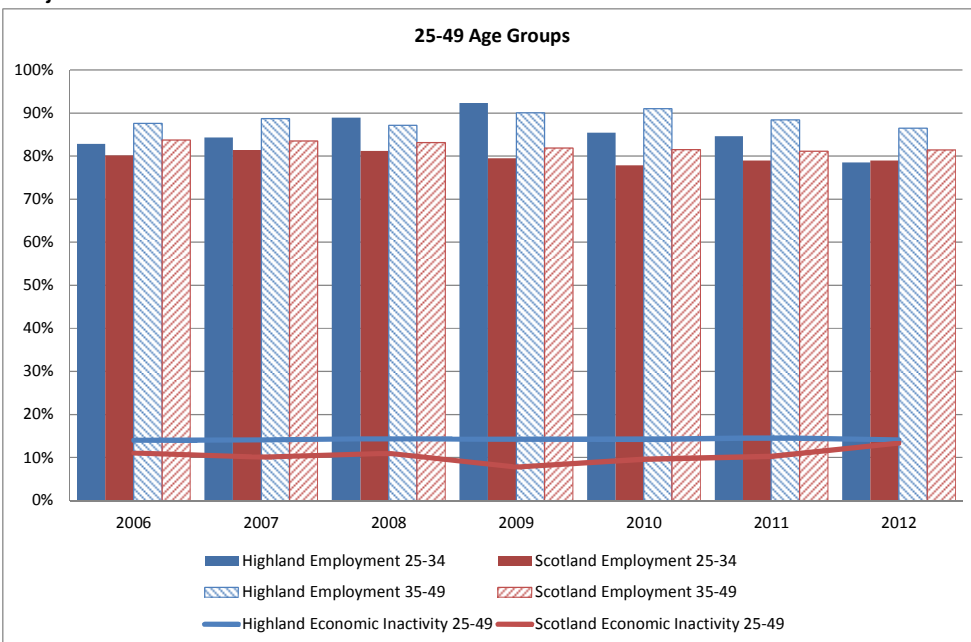
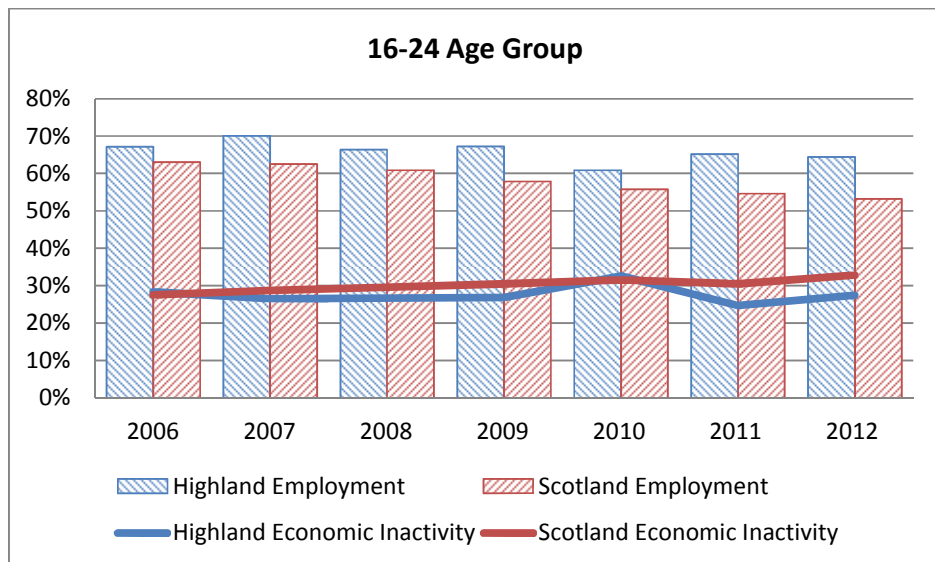
Employment by Public/Private Sector



Age Group

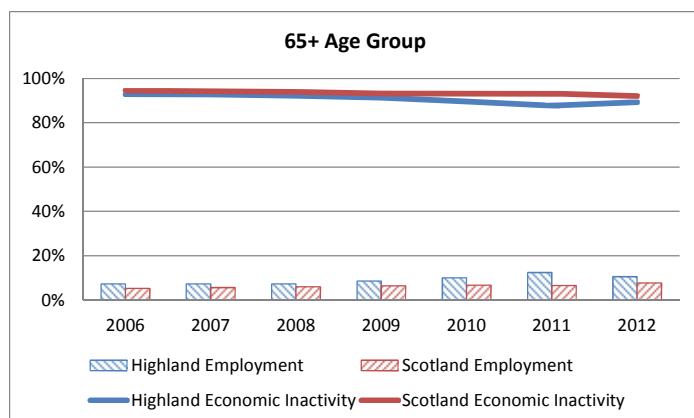
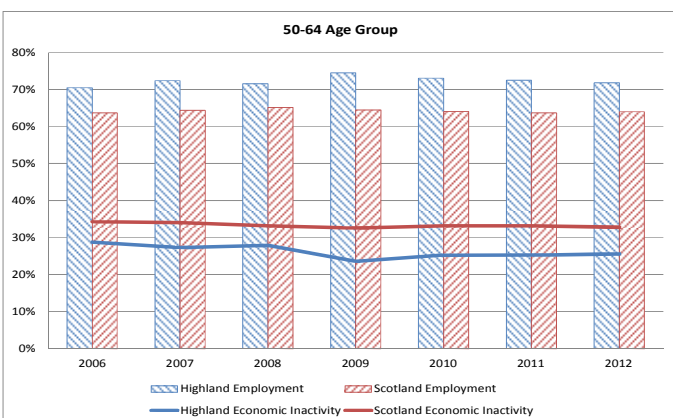
-  Highland Employment
-  Highland Economic Inactivity
-  Scotland Employment
-  Scotland Economic Inactivity

In Scotland the employment rate for young people has been dropping steadily from 63% in 2006 to 53.2% in 2012 and correspondingly the economic inactivity for this age group has risen over the same period. In Highland the pattern is less consistent with an overall drop from 67.1% in 2006 to 64.4% in 2012 but with highs and lows between these. Similarly the economic inactivity rate varies in conjunction with this.

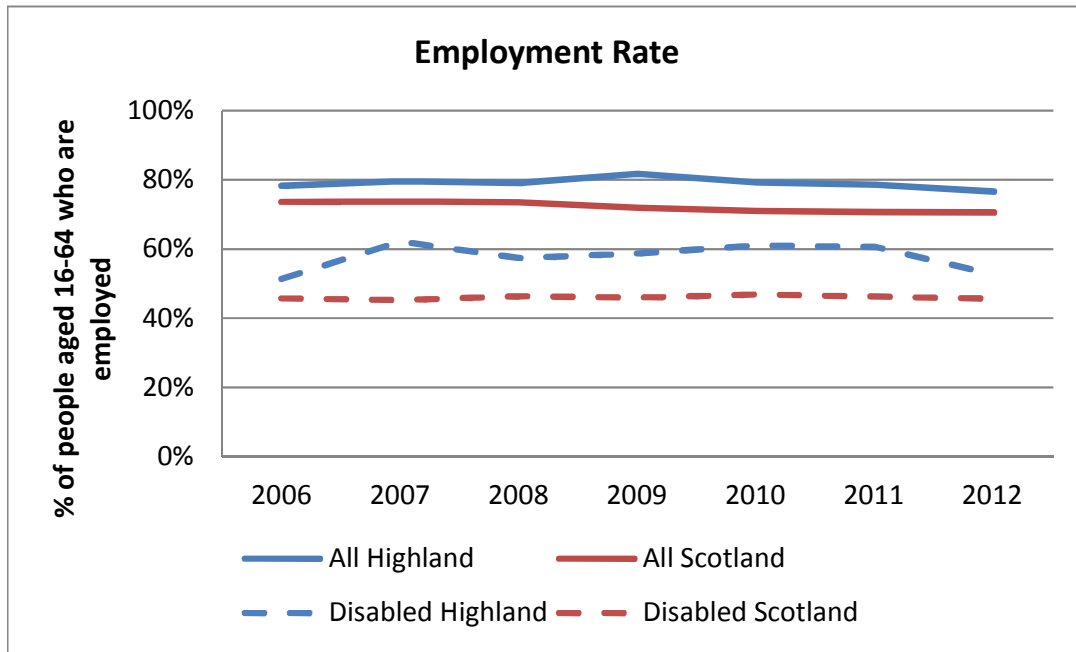


Economic inactivity in the 25-49 age group has stayed relatively stable in highland between 2006 and 2012 despite the recession, though the Scotland rate shows more variation. Employment rates for the 25-34 and 35-49 age groups in both Highland and Scotland have decreased between 2006 and 2012 though within this time period there have been occasional increases.

In contrast with the patterns of declining employment and increasing economic inactivity rates seen in the younger age groups, the opposite can be seen for those people aged 50-64 and 65+. In Highland between 2006 and 2012 employment rose from 70.5% to 71.8% for the 50-64 age group and from 7.3% to 10.6% for the 65+ age group. Correspondingly economic inactivity dropped from 28.8% to 25.6% in the 50-64 age group and from 92.7% to 89.2% in the 65+ group. A similar pattern can be seen for Scotland as a whole though employment rates continued to be lower and economic inactivity rates higher than in Highland.

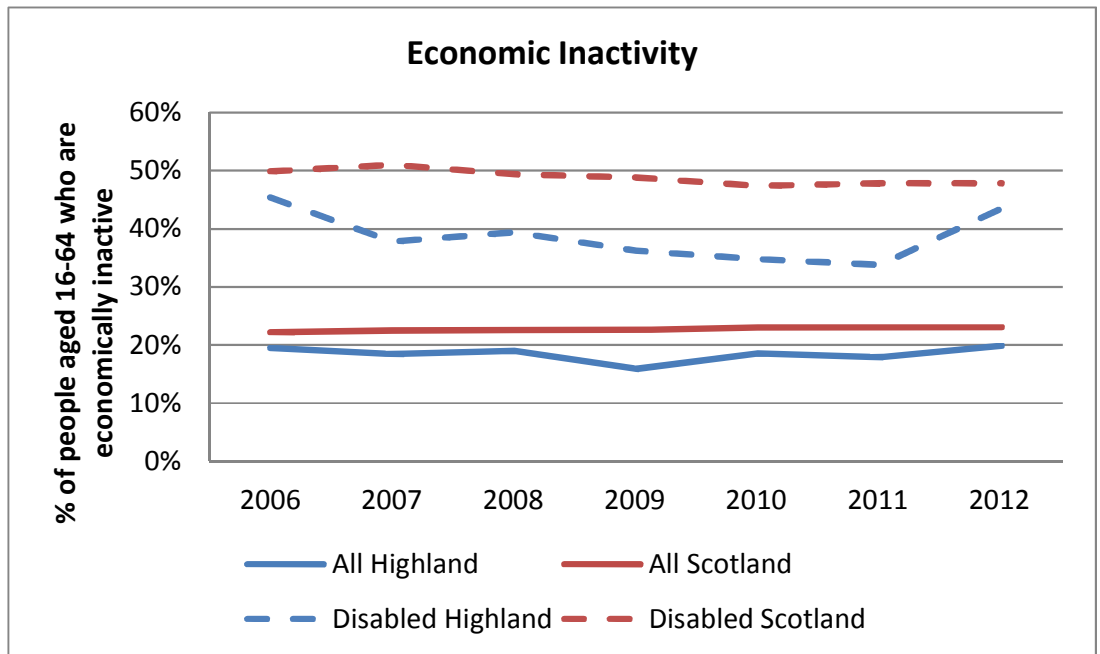


Disability



** Please note, in January-March 2010 there was a change in the reporting behaviour of survey respondents, mainly reflecting a change in the wording of the survey questionnaire, which is believed to result in more accurate estimates. Consequently data pre and post Jan-Mar 2010 are not directly comparable.*

It can be seen that between 2006 and 2012, the employment rate in Highland for people aged 16-64 who class themselves as having a disability, varies by a difference of almost 10% but is consistently above 50%. In 2006 the rate of employment was 51.3% and in 2012 it was 52.6% but it reached a high of 62.2% in 2007. Over the same timescale the rate of economic inactivity for people aged 16 to 64 who are disabled ranged from 45.4% in 2006 to 43.5% in 2012 with a low of 33.8% in 2011. Although there was a fall in the employment rate and a rise in the economic inactivity rate between 2011 and 2012, it can also be seen that in both measures, Highland consistently performs better than the Scotland average.



Summary tables and Scottish Government analysis publication for the Annual Population Survey can be found at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Labour-Market/Publications>