

Food for thought

The Food and Drink industry, an inclusive sector at the heart of Northern Ireland



The Food and Drink sector generates **£4.9bn*** value added in Northern Ireland and supports **113,000** workforce jobs.

Food and Drink Manufacturing

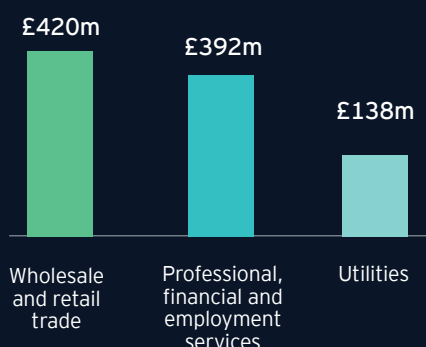
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Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

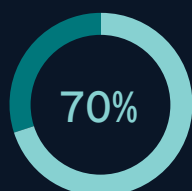
A sector at the heart of the NI economy today

A sector benefiting others

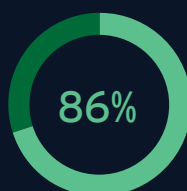
Top 3 supply chain beneficiaries



A balanced regional development



of land in NI is farmed



of members of Food and Drink associations are based outside of Belfast City

Jobs for all

The skills required in the Food and Drink sector are aligned with those available in the workforce.

32% of those working in the UK Food and Drink industry are skilled or highly skilled

37% of those working in the UK Food and Drink industry are semi-skilled

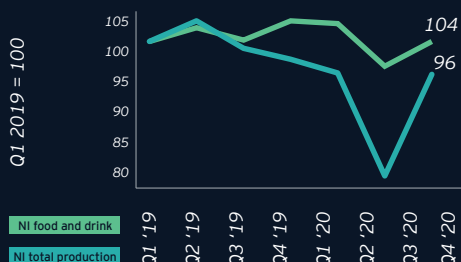
31% of those working in the UK Food and Drink industry have lower formal skills

A paramount sector for the NI economy tomorrow

Resilience

This sector demonstrated its resilience during the pandemic and is back to pre-COVID levels. Food and Drink Manufacturing production was 6 times more resilient than the rest of the NI economy during Q2 2020.

Index of production



Innovation

This sector ranks among the top two sectors in the UK in terms of uptake of patent relief relative to its size.

Number of firms claiming patent relief / GVA ratio by sector 2019, UK



International

This sector is export-driven and competitive thanks to the quality of its products.

77% of NI agricultural products are exported

50% NI's key client in the sector is GB, as over 50% of produce is sold to the region.

2nd largest goods export sector in NI

*Total GVA impact i.e. direct, indirect and induced effects.