

Retail and Wholesale Distribution

Retail is a significant and growing industry employing over 3 million people in the UK, within thousands of shops and stores selling everything from clothes and white goods to food and drink. It is a major contributor to the UK economy and offers a diverse range of job opportunities

GM Overview

197,700
people employed in the sector across Greater Manchester

20,790
retail, wholesale and distribution business in Greater Manchester

27,000
replacement jobs, due to retirement, needed every year up to 2035

The sector faces specific skills challenges in relation to improving the skills of its managers and developing workforce which can provide a competitive edge against online retail

25% of the sector's workforce are under 25, but it is among the over 60's that retail employment has been increasing most quickly

Skills and Employment

The sector struggles to recruit highly skills workers, and tends to recruit on attitude before skill.

The skills most valued by employers in this sector are:



First Aid and Health & Safety



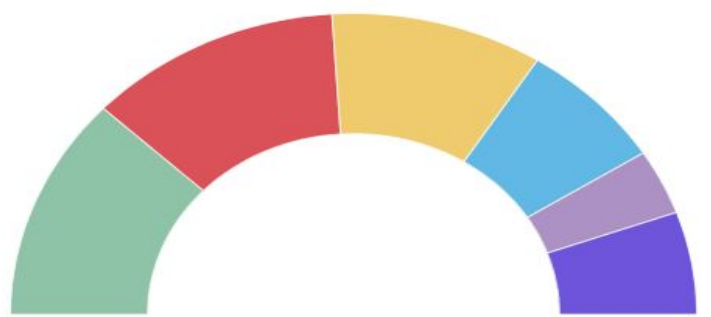
Basic maths and English



Food hygiene

The use of new technologies is leading to greater skills requirements, particularly in ICT.

New technology is pervasive across wholesale and as a result, the wider sector will see a significant increase in staff requiring IT-related qualifications and skills



● Level 4+ ● Level 3 ● Level 2 ● Level 1 ● Other ● No Quals

By 2035, a quarter of jobs in the sector will be at Level 4+ and a quarter at Level 3, indicating an increasing need for higher level skills. The sector will also continue to support jobs at all qualification levels

Key Employers

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