

JOBS PLACEMENTS DOUBLE IN LAST 12 MONTHS

Thursday 13 January 2011



Leading Irish Recruitment group Sigmar reports a significant growth in recruitment for Q4 2010. According to new figures published by the group, Q4 2010 represented a 108% increase in job placements on the same period for the previous year, a 5.4% quarter-on-quarter growth compared to Q3 2010. This is the fifth consecutive quarterly growth in jobs placements.

Says Robert Mac Giolla Phádraig, Director of Sigmar: "2010 saw a continuous uplift in employment activity, particularly at professional level. We have seen quarter-on-quarter growth throughout the year, demonstrating companies' continued drive to grow despite the recent austerity budget and negative economic commentary.

"However, what is particularly significant about the latest statistics is the growth in permanent placements. While there is a continued trend among SMEs towards flexible recruitment requirements, Q4 2010 saw a 38% increase in permanent job placements, predominantly in multinational, large corporate and PLC markets. On the whole, demand has continued in an upward trajectory, suggesting businesses are resourcing relevant skills to exploit market opportunity in a highly challenging environment.

"Job placements continued to grow in December, bucking traditional industry trends, which suggests continued demand throughout 2011 is likely. Initial activity levels show steady sustained growth in the early part of 2011. We ourselves have recently announced 40 new jobs here at Sigmar to resource adequately for expected growth in employment in 2011."

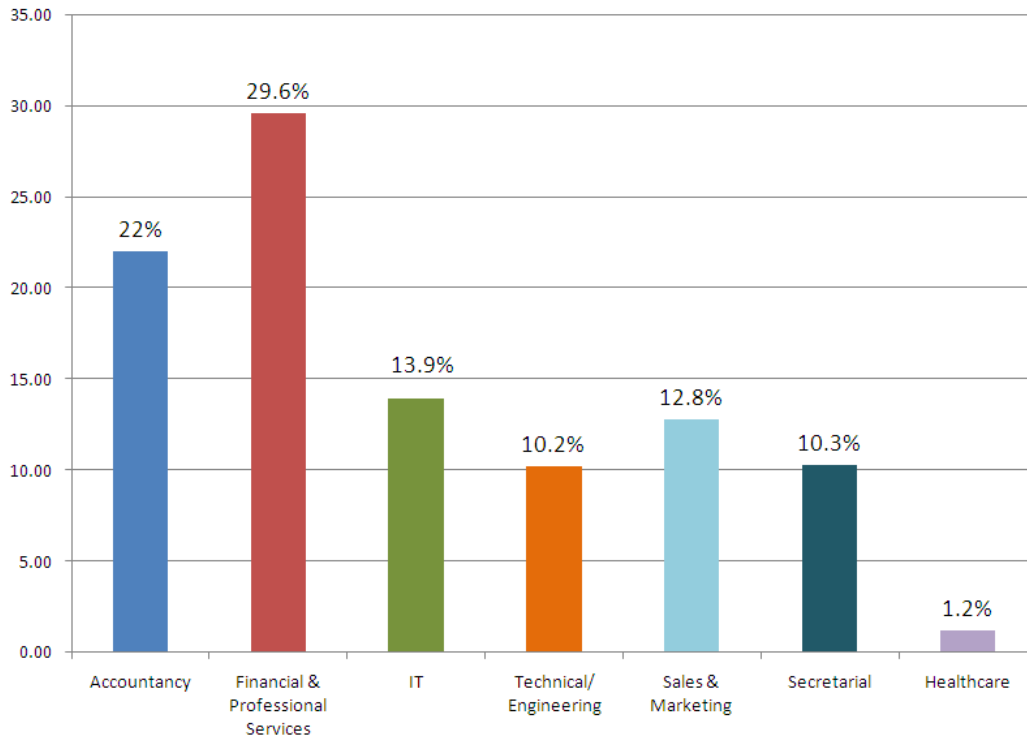
Q3 saw increased demand for Multilingual skills (Customer Service, Sales, Credit Control, IT support) IT expertise, (Java and .Net Software Developers, Application Support and Project Managers). Financial Services maintained demand in Credit Risk, Compliance and Audit while many corporate sought accountants and finance managers with commercial exposure.

Sigmar Director Robert Mac Giolla Phádraig is available for Comment/Interview

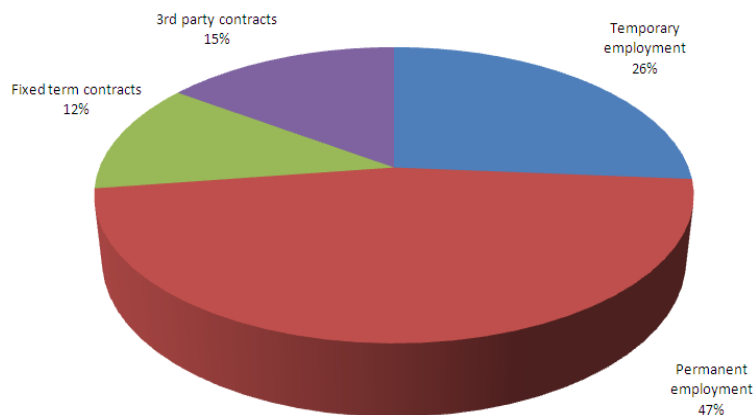
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VISUAL REPRESENTATION

Breakdown of Job Placements by Sector (%)



Employment Services



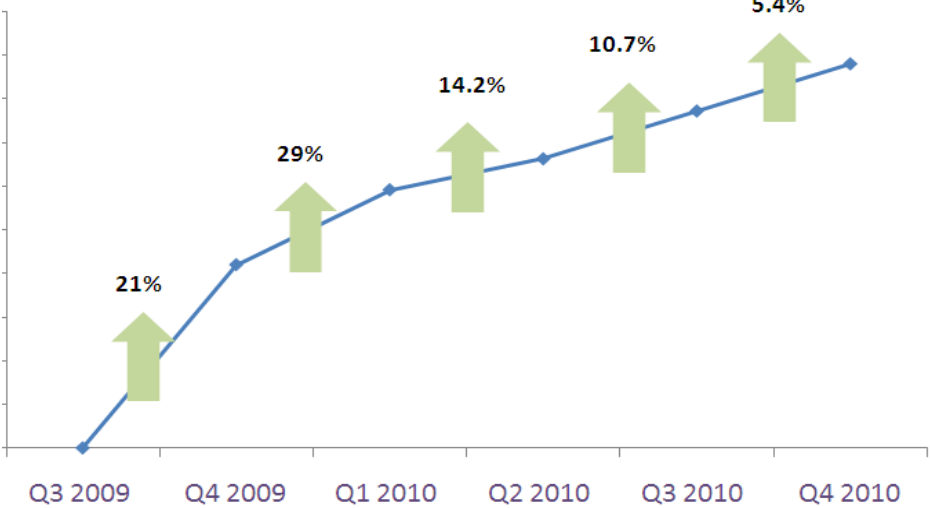
26% of placements were temporary roles

47% of placements were permanent roles

12% of placements were fixed term contracts

15% of placements were 3rd party contracts

Percentage Growth Q3 2009 to Q4 2010



Starting point Q3 2009

Growth per quarter

- Q4 2009 - up 21%
- Q1 2010 - up 29 %
- Q2 2010 - up 10.7%
- Q3 2010 - up 14.2%
- Q4 2010 - up 5.4%