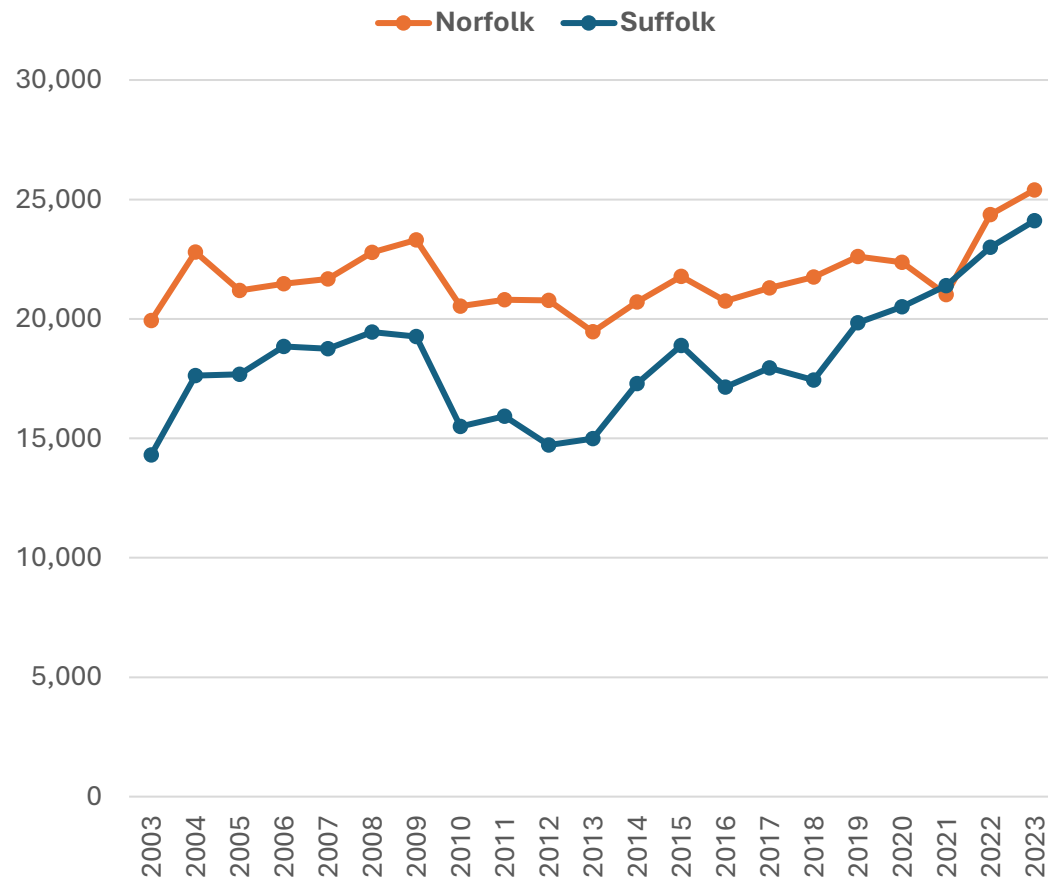


# Building Growth

Quarterly Data Report

Q4 2024

# Total Employment in Construction



## Norfolk:

- Employment started at 19,934 in 2003, reaching a peak of 25,400 in 2023.
- Observed growth over the past two decades, with fluctuations in 2009 and 2013.
- Significant increase in recent years, from 21,018 in 2021 to 24,367 in 2022 and 25,400 in 2023.

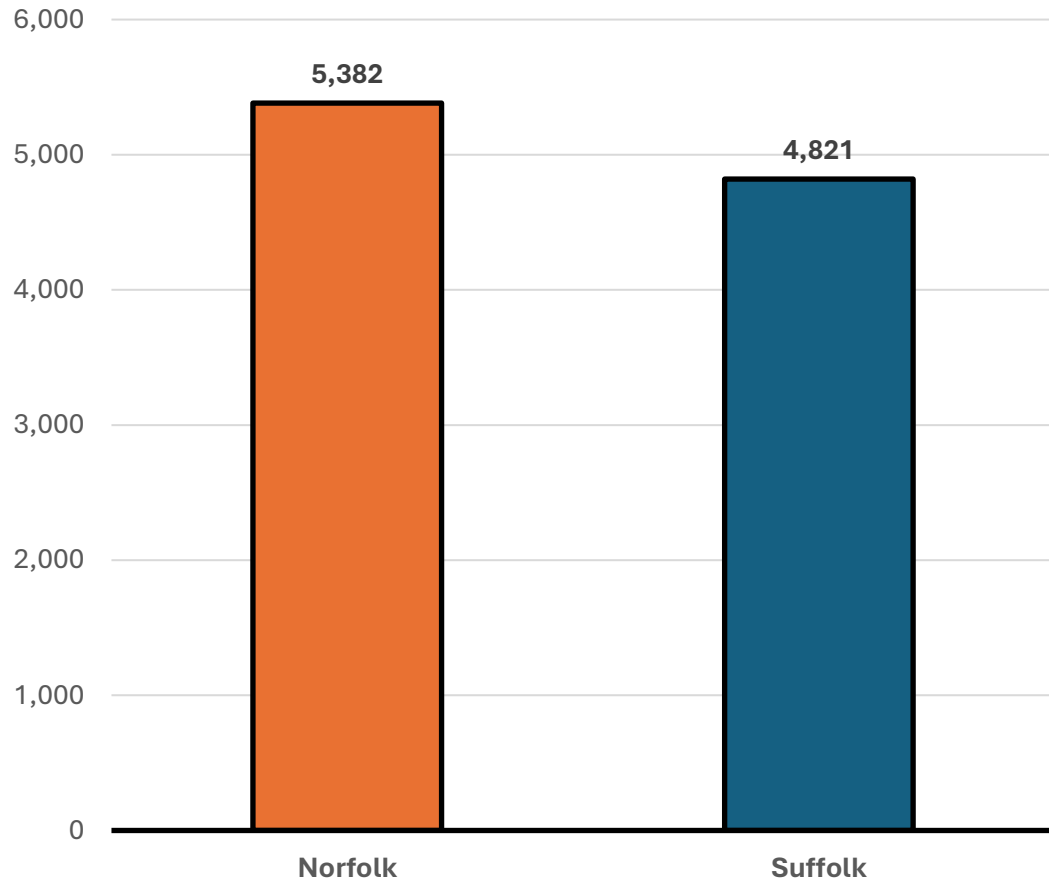
## Suffolk:

- Employment started at 14,309 in 2003, rising to 24,110 in 2023.
- More variation with periods of decline, notably in 2012 (14,721) and 2016 (17,142).
- Strong growth post-2020, with employment rising from 20,507 in 2020 to 24,110 in 2023.

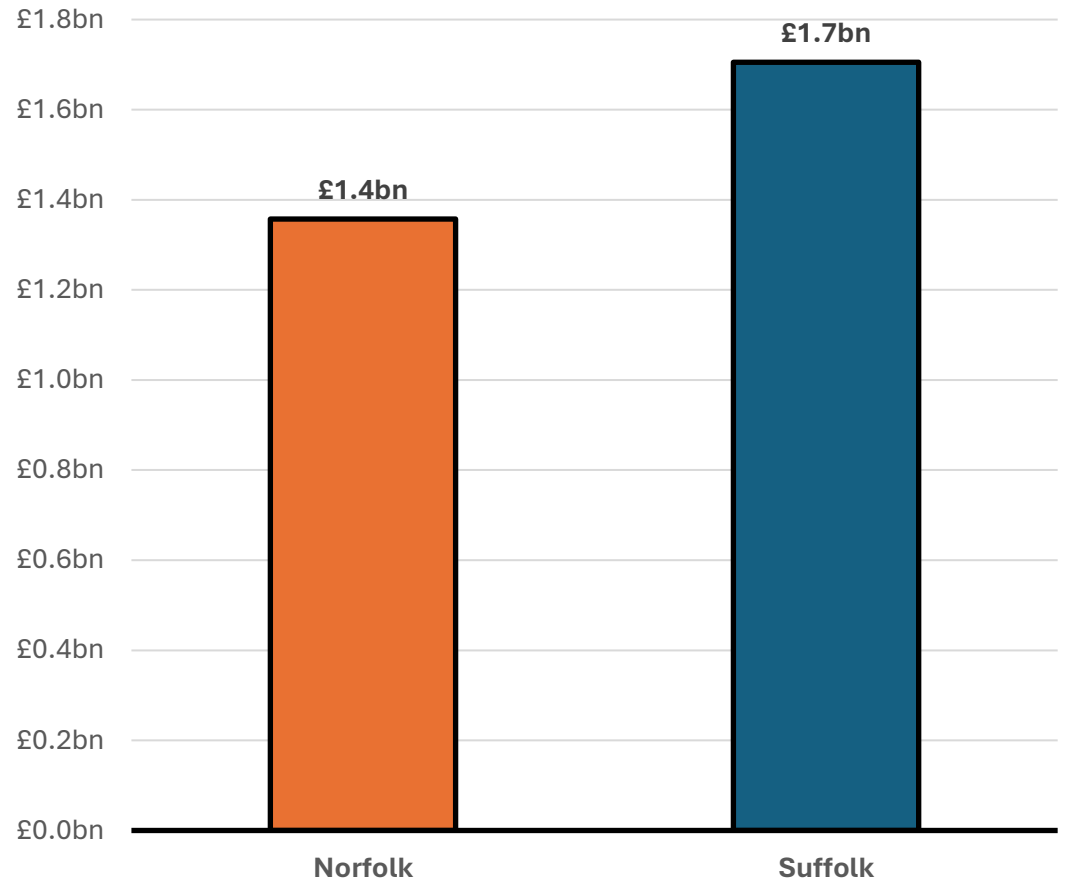
## Summary:

- Both counties saw an upward trend in construction employment, especially in recent years.
- Norfolk shows a more stable growth pattern, while Suffolk experienced more variability.
- Post-2020 recovery has been strong in both counties, with Suffolk showing a sharper increase.

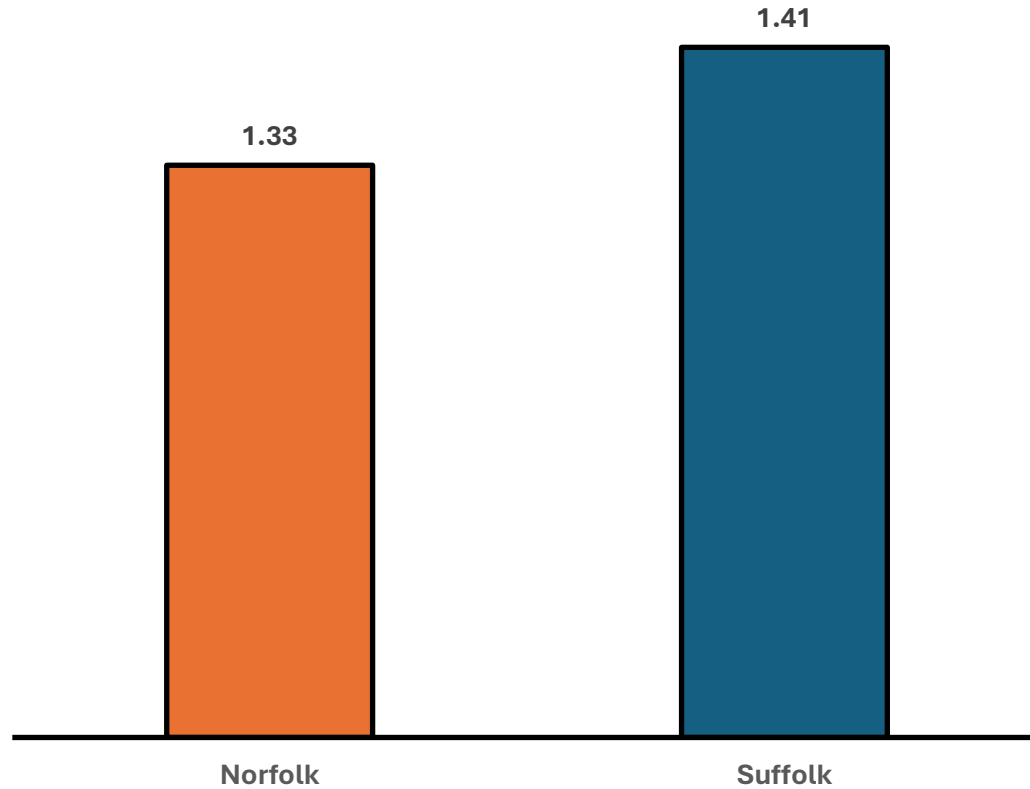
# Business Units



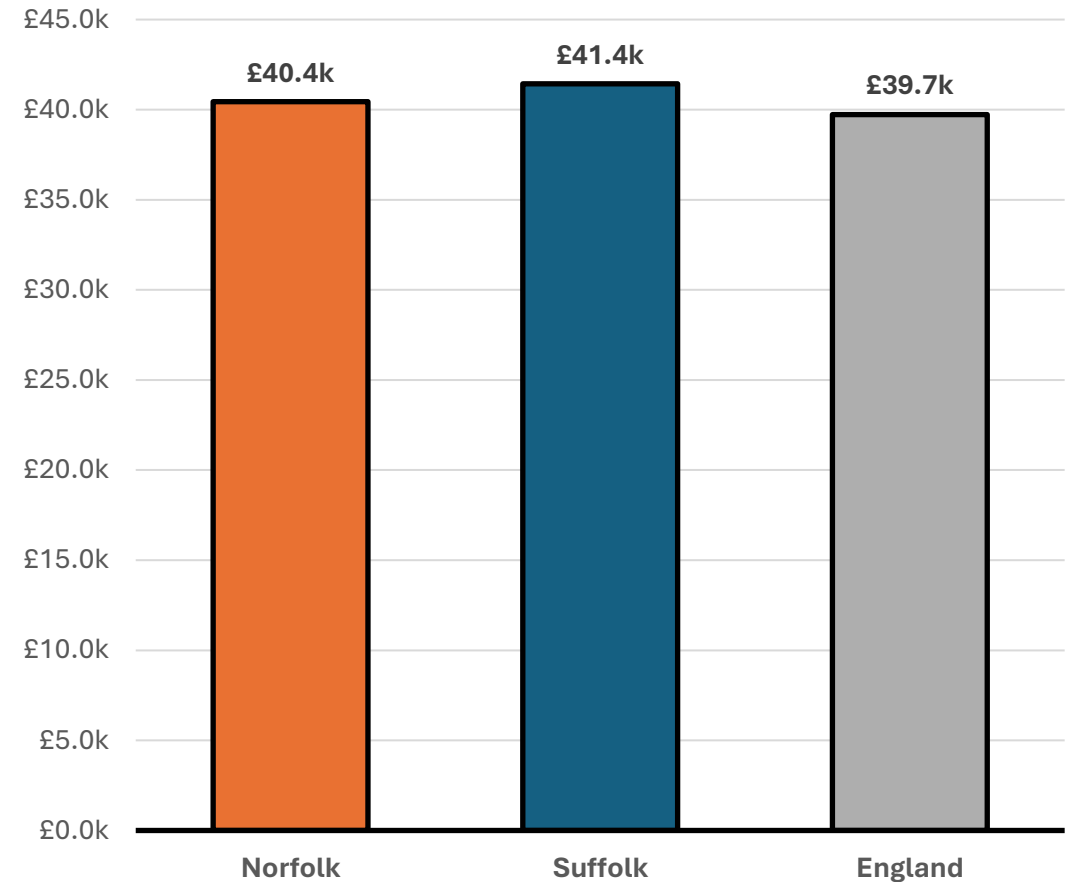
# GVA



# Location Quotient



# Average Wage per Job



# Summary

## **Number of Business Units:**

- Norfolk: 5,382 establishments, showing a robust construction business base.
- Suffolk: 4,821 establishments, slightly fewer than Norfolk but still a substantial presence.

## **GVA:**

- Norfolk: £1.4 billion contribution to the economy.
- Suffolk: £1.7 billion, indicating a higher economic output compared to Norfolk.

## **Location Quotient:**

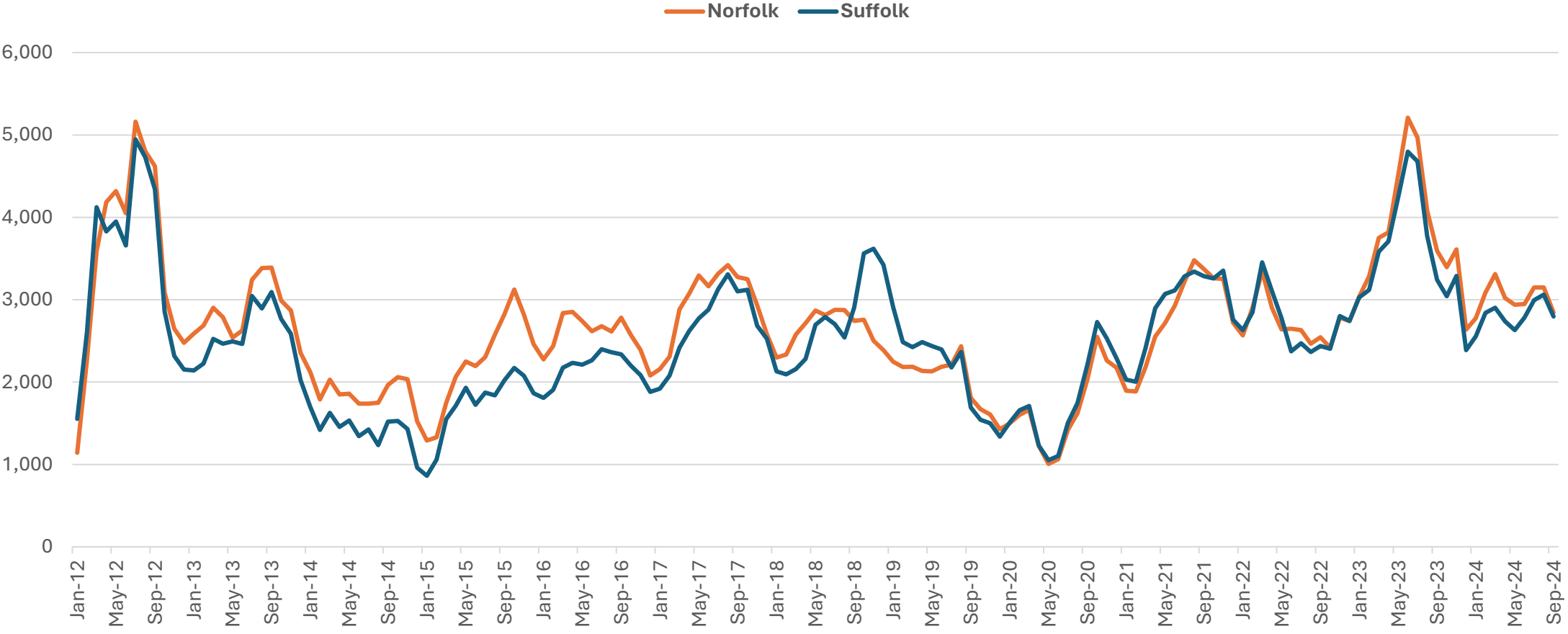
- Norfolk: Location Quotient of 1.33, above the national average, signifying a higher-than-average reliance on construction employment.
- Suffolk: Location Quotient of 1.41, indicating an even stronger concentration of construction jobs.

## **Average Wages per Job:**

- Norfolk: £40.4k, above the national average.
- Suffolk: £41.4k, the highest among the three, suggesting competitive pay within the region.
- National Average: £39.7k, slightly below both Norfolk and Suffolk.
- Summary: Both counties offer above-average wages in construction, with Suffolk leading, which may support workforce retention and attract skilled labour to the region.

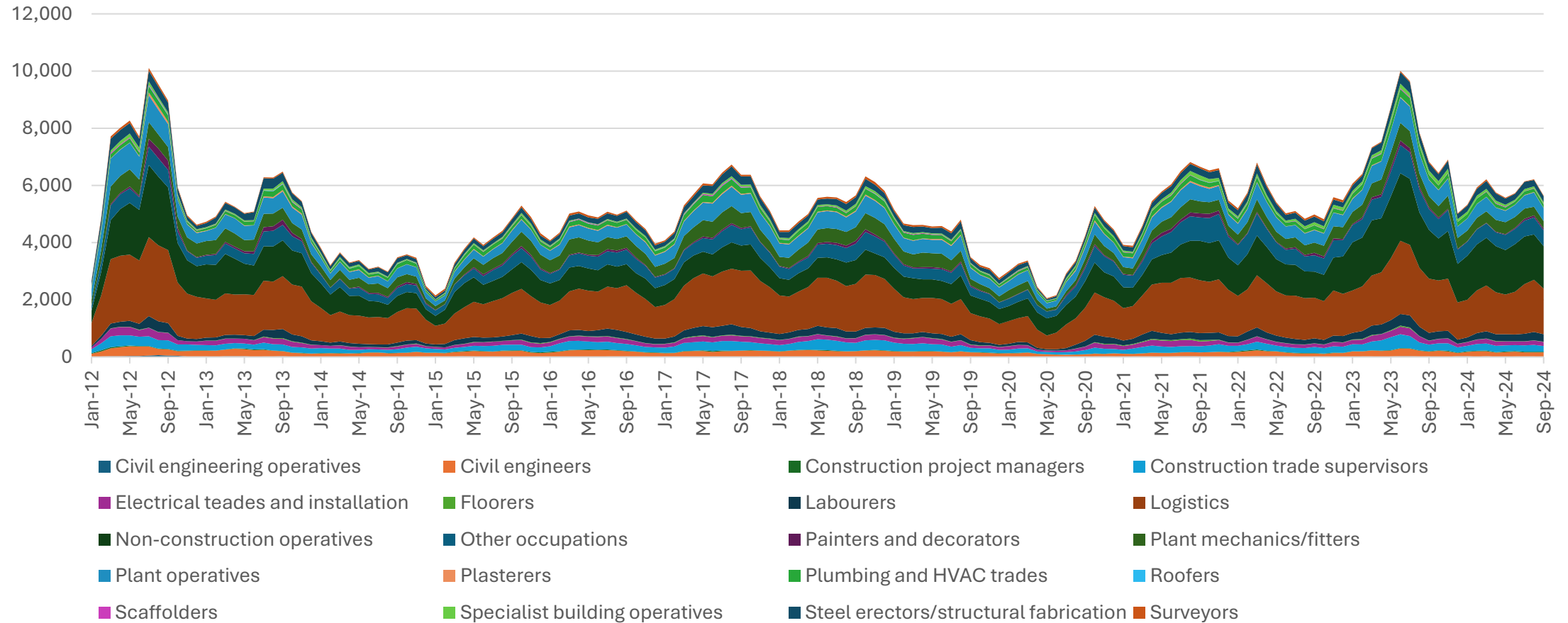
# Job Postings – CSN Occupations

## Norfolk & Suffolk



# Job Postings – CSN Occupations

## Norfolk & Suffolk



# Job Postings – CSN Occupations

## Summary

### Norfolk:

- Job postings in Norfolk generally showed an upward trend from 2012 to 2024, with notable peaks in mid-2012, 2018, and early 2024.
- These peaks likely reflect periods of intensified construction demand, signalling workforce expansion needs in the region.

### Suffolk:

- Suffolk's monthly job postings display similar trends to Norfolk but with slightly more variability, showing peaks in demand during mid-2012, 2018, and early 2024.
- The trend points to growing opportunities in the construction sector, with demand closely following regional economic cycles.

### Summary:

- Both regions experience synchronised peaks, indicating that regional economic factors impact construction labour demand in both counties.
- Suffolk's postings exhibit slightly more variability than Norfolk, possibly reflecting seasonal or project-based demands in the region.

### Occupational Demand by Role:

- **Civil Engineering Operatives:** Consistent demand with periodic peaks, highlighting steady hiring needs for infrastructure projects.
- **Civil Engineers:** Stable demand with fluctuations, likely aligned with project cycles that require civil engineering expertise.
- **Construction Project Managers:** Moderate demand with periodic increases, pointing to rising needs for management roles in construction.
- **Construction Trade Supervisors:** High demand, with recent increases indicating a steady need for supervisory skills to oversee trade-specific work.
- **Electrical Trades and Installation:** High and consistent demand, reflecting the essential role of electrical work in construction projects.
- **Labourers:** High demand, especially in peak project phases, showing a critical need for general labour across construction sites.
- **Plant Mechanics/ Fitters:** Stable demand with peaks, underscoring the importance of maintenance and machinery expertise.
- **Plumbing and HVAC Trades:** Consistently high postings, demonstrating ongoing needs for plumbing and HVAC skills in both construction and maintenance.



# Apprenticeship Achievements

## Construction-Specific Achievements:

- In the 2023/24 academic year, Construction, Planning, and the Built Environment accounted for 7% of apprenticeship achievements in Norfolk and 8% in Suffolk, slightly above the national average.

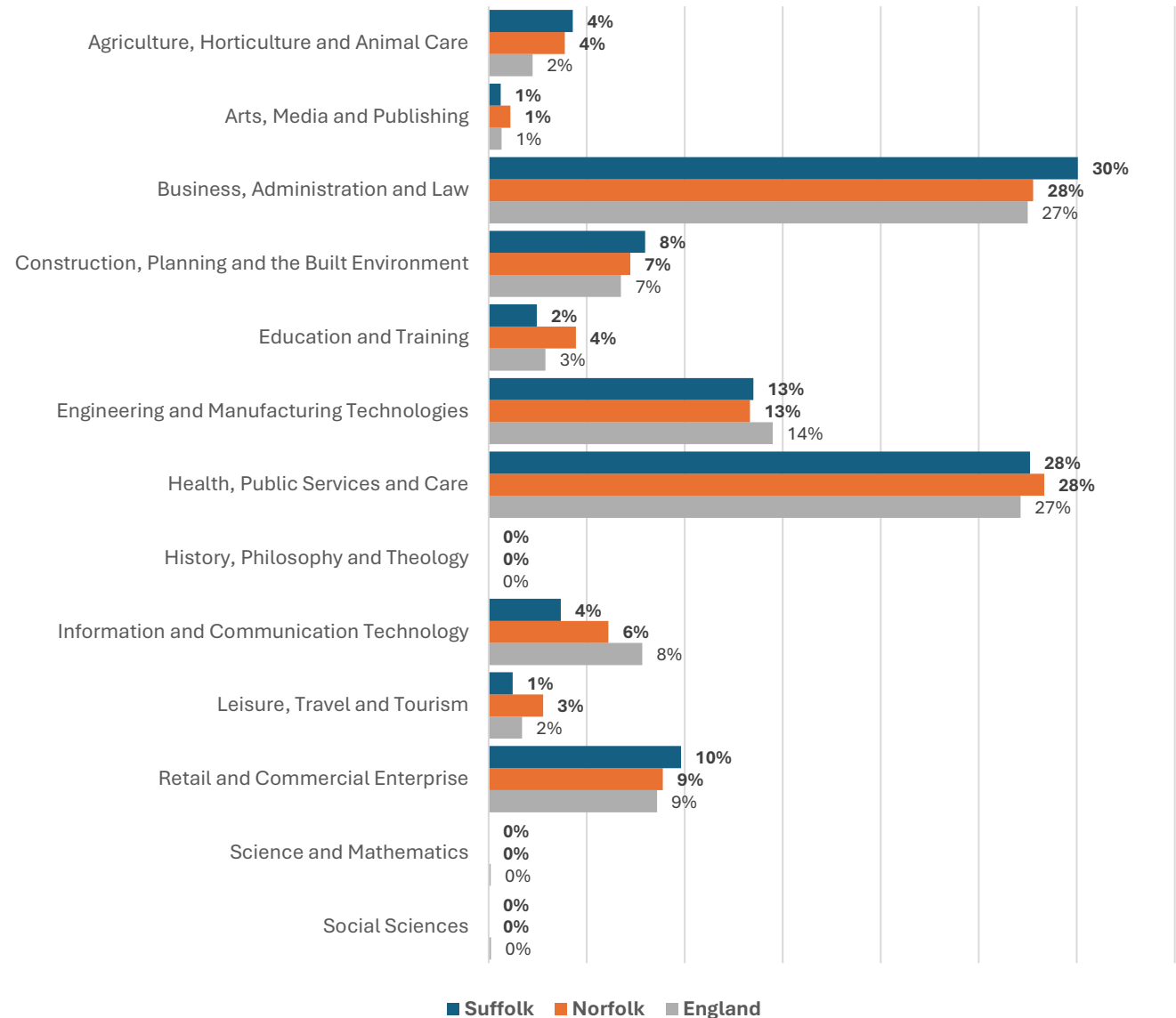
## Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies:

- Both Norfolk and Suffolk recorded 13% of apprenticeship achievements in Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies, slightly below the national average of 14%.
- This subject area supports essential skills relevant to the construction sector, particularly in trades, civil engineering, and MEH (mechanical, electrical, and heating) roles.

## ICT and Digital Skills:

- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) represents a smaller portion of apprenticeship achievements, with 6% in Norfolk and 4% in Suffolk, compared to 8% nationally.
- With the construction industry increasingly adopting digital tools (e.g., BIM and project management software), enhancing ICT skills could support the development of future-ready talent in the sector.

Apprenticeship achievements by subject, 2023/24



# 16-19 (excluding Apprenticeships) Top 10 Learning Aims

Diploma in Bricklaying	13%
Diploma in Carpentry and Joinery	9%
Diploma in Plumbing Studies	9%
Diploma in Site Carpentry	6%
Diploma in Electrical Installation	5%
Diploma in Painting and Decorating	5%
Diploma in Construction Skills	5%
Technical Certificate in Plumbing	5%
Technical Certificate in Electrical Installation	3%
Award in Construction Skills	3%

# Adult Skill Top 10 Learning Aims

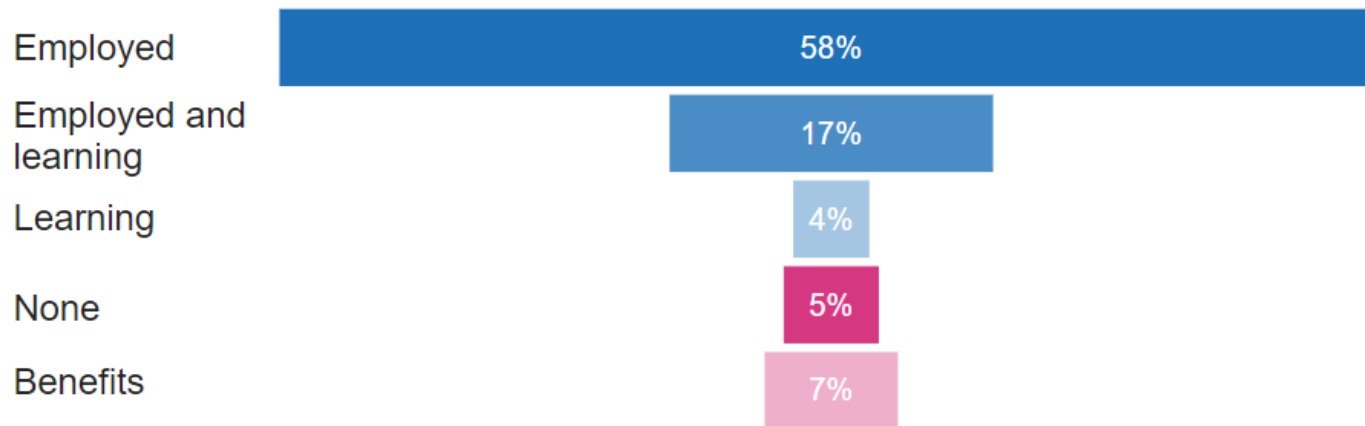
Nonregulated SFA formula funded provision, Level 1, Building and Construction, 21 to 44 hrs, PW C	41%
Award in Health and Safety within a Construction Environment (RQF)	14%
Certificate in an Introduction to Construction (RQF)	13%
NVQ Diploma in Occupational Work Supervision (Construction)	3%
Working in the Construction Industry	3%
Preparing for an Interview in the Construction Industry	3%
Working towards Goals	3%
Award in Construction Skills	2%
Diploma in Plumbing Studies	2%
Diploma in Site Carpentry	2%

# Unit for Future Skills - FE outcome-based success

*East of England*

- 3060 Construction, Planning and the Built Environment learners in East of England
- 79% went into sustained employment or learning

**What did learners do after training?**



- Median earnings £22,770

Unit for  
Future  
Skills

# Unit for Future Skills detailed destinations of 16–18-year-olds at the end of study in FE institutions

2018/19  
East of England

- 10040 Construction, Planning and the Built Environment learners in East of England

	Students	Sustained positive destination
Below Level 2	1720	73%
Level 2	5800	75%
Vocational Level 3	2560	76%

Unit for  
Future  
Skills