Comparing this occupational breakdown with table 10 (at section 4.4.3) which shows the historical growth by segment from 2001 to 2011, it can be seen that the general historic trends previously observed are set to continue, with the highest levels of employment growth arising in high skill areas, i.e. Software Professionals, ICT Managers and IT Strategy & Planning Professionals. In fact, Software professionals are projected to represent over a third of the IT & Telecoms professional workforce by 2020 and are forecast to grow in number by a rate nearly two and a half times that for UK workers as a whole.

Conversely, employment in comparatively low skilled occupations such as Database Assistants, Telecoms Engineers and Computer Engineers will continue to decline or remain virtually static.

**Figure 22: Summary of actual/forecast changes in IT & Telecoms professional employment, 2001 to 2020**

![Chart showing actual and forecast changes in IT & Telecoms professional employment, 2001 to 2020.]

Source: e-skills UK analysis of data from the ONS Labour Force Survey, 2011 (four quarter average) together with 2011 forecasts from Experian

By linking these occupational projections with the employer views of future skills needs taken from section 5 it becomes clear that future requirements for IT & Telecoms labour and skills will continue to arise primarily amongst the higher value areas such as: project management, systems architecture, business process, change management, security, risk management, together with analytics and web/internet development. In addition however, there will be a continuing/growing need for all IT & Telecoms recruits and existing staff to have a more rounded and highly developed skillset incorporating interpersonal and business-oriented skills together with core technical competencies.

### 6.2.1 Employment of IT & Telecoms professionals by sector

Table 7 of section 4.4 shows how just over one half (57%) of IT & Telecoms professionals are currently working outside of the IT & Telecoms sector. This section looks at how the numbers of IT & Telecoms professionals working in non IT & Telecoms industries is expected to change in the future.

Experian have provided forecasts of employment of IT & Telecoms professionals for different sectors of the economy by 2 digit SIC (2003) from 2011 through to 2020. The following table shows the top twenty sectors with the fastest growth rates for IT & Telecoms professionals together with the relative proportion of IT & Telecoms professional within each sector as at 2011.