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Post-16 Education & Skills: Learner Participation, Outcomes and Level of Highest Qualification Held

- 1 This Statistical First Release (SFR) shows the latest performance against the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills' (DIUS) Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets on Adult Attainment and Apprenticeships¹.
- 2 It includes 2007/08 estimates of Learning and Skills Council (LSC) funded participation, achievement and success rates for post-16 education² (excluding schools and Higher Education) in England. It also includes an early look at 2008/09 participation under the new demand led funding system.
- 3 It includes key statistics on the level of highest qualification held by adults in England from 2001 to 2008, taken from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). It shows attainment rates for specific priority groups of adult learners in the population that are of key interest within the DIUS and the LSC.
- 4 Finally, this SFR provides estimates of the number of vocational qualifications awarded in the UK in 2008³.

¹ For information on young people's participation and achievement please see paragraph 53 in the Supporting Data section.

² Post-16 education includes provision delivered in FE organisations, sixth form colleges, independent training organisations, local authorities and other providers. This includes programmes such as apprenticeships and Train to Gain. Data regarding school sixth forms is not included in this publication. Please see <http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/lsc/National/nat-annualstatementofpriorities-re-oct2006.pdf> for information on our funding priorities for 2007/08, and <http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/lsc/National/nat-statementofpriorities-nov07.pdf> for information on our funding priorities for 2008/09.

³ Information on awards of vocational qualifications is taken from the National Information System for Vocational Qualifications (NISVQ) held by DCSF and from information supplied by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA).

Further Education Targets

Public Service Agreement Targets

5 The Government has a number of public targets and commitments. Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets relevant to the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) are listed below, along with the latest performance against them⁴.

Adult Attainment

6 The Government makes a substantial investment in adult skills, focusing on the development of a workforce with world class skills. This includes helping the disadvantaged and low skilled to develop the skills they need to secure sustainable employment and to progress once in work. There are a number of PSA targets that relate to the number of adults improving their skills and achieving qualifications, and these are listed below.

7 PSA Target:

- i) 79 per cent of working age adults are qualified to at least level 2 by quarter 4 of 2011;
- ii) 56 per cent of working age adults are qualified to at least level 3 by quarter 4 of 2011;
- iii) 36 per cent of working age adults are qualified to level 4 and above by quarter 4 of 2014 with an interim milestone of 34 per cent by quarter 4 of 2011.

Performance [Table 7]: Of men aged 19 to 64 and women aged 19 to 59:

- i) 71.2 per cent were qualified to at least level 2 by quarter 4 of 2008;
- ii) 50.8 per cent were qualified to at least level 3 by quarter 4 of 2008;
- iii) 31.2 per cent were qualified to level 4 and above by quarter 4 of 2008.

8 **PSA Target:** To reduce by at least 40 per cent the number of adults in the workforce who lack level 2 or equivalent qualifications between 2001 and 2010; working towards this, one million adults in the workforce to achieve level 2 between 2003 and 2006. This requires an additional 3.6 million adults in the workforce to be qualified to level 2 or higher by 2010, compared to 2001.

Performance [Table 8]: Since 2001, an additional 2.378 million adults in the workforce achieved qualifications at level 2 or higher.

9 **PSA Target:** To improve the basic skills of 2.25 million adults (aged 19 and over and 16-18 year olds not in full-time education) between 2001 and 2010 with a milestone of 1.5 million adults in 2007.

Performance [Table 4]: Between 2000/01 and 2007/08, 2.835 million adults improved their basic skills.

⁴ This SFR does not cover PSAs relating to young people. For information on performance against these, please see the SFRs referenced in paragraph 53 of the Supporting Data section.

10 DIUS have an aim of 95% of adults to achieve the basic skills of functional literacy and numeracy by 2020. To support this, DIUS have a **PSA Target of:**

- i) 597,000 people of working age to achieve a first level 1 or above literacy qualification between 2008/09 and 2010/11;
- ii) 390,000 people of working age to achieve a first Entry Level 3 or above numeracy qualification between 2008/09 and 2010/11.

Performance: This PSA target only applies from 2008/09. We will report on this target when we have more complete data for the 2008/09 academic year.

Apprenticeships

11 **PSA Target:** To increase the number of apprenticeship completions to 130,000 by 2010/11.

Performance [Table 5.2]: There were 112,600 apprenticeship completions in 2007/08.

Other Key Indicators

12 There are a number of other public commitments that are reported on in this SFR.

13 **Apprenticeship Completions Success Rate Indicator:** An apprenticeships completions success rate target for 2007/08 of 59%, increasing to 65% in 2008/09.

Performance [Table 3.3]: The apprenticeship completion success rate was 63.7% in 2007/08.

14 **FE College Success Rate Indicator:** An FE College success rate target for 2007/08 of 76%, increasing to 80% by 2010/11.

Performance [Supplementary Table SR4]: The FE College success rate was 80.6% in 2007/08.

15 **Apprenticeship Completions Performance Indicator:** In 2004 the LSC was set a performance indicator to increase the number of apprenticeship completions by 75%, to over 75,500 by 2007/08.

Performance [Table 5.2]: There were 112,600 apprenticeship completions in 2007/08.

KEY HEADLINES FOR 2007/08

Young People (aged 16-18)

Participation

16 In 2007/08, 1,055,400 learners aged 16 to 18 participated in LSC-funded learning (excluding schools and Higher Education). This represents a 2.8 per cent increase from 2006/07 [Table 1.1]. Of these:

- 497,300 were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications (down 0.4 per cent from 2006/07)
- 302,200 were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications (up 0.4 per cent from 2006/07)
- 357,800 were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications (up 4.1 per cent from 2006/07).

Achievement

17 The number of young people achieving a qualification was 718,700 in 2007/08 [Table 1.2]. Of these:

- 306,800 young people achieved Skills for Life qualifications in 2007/08. This is an increase of 4.1 per cent from 2006/07
- 138,600 young people achieved full level 2 qualifications in 2007/08. This is an increase of 3.4 per cent from 2006/07
- 159,800 young people achieved full level 3 qualifications in 2007/08. This is an increase of 7.8 per cent from 2006/07.

Success Rates

18 The overall success rate for FE-funded provision for young people (excluding apprenticeships) was 79.9% in 2007/08 [Table 1.3]. This is an increase of 2.6 percentage points on 2006/07.

- The success rate for young people's Skills for Life qualifications was 76.0% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 3.2 percentage points on 2006/07.
- The success rate for young people's full level 2 qualifications was 74.1% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 4.0 percentage points on 2006/07.
- The success rate for young people's full level 3 qualifications was 72.6% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 4.9 percentage points on 2006/07.

Adults aged 19 and over

Participation

19 Table 2.1 shows the number of adult learners participating on key programmes. In 2007/08:

- 840,200 adults were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications (up 1.3 per cent from 2006/07);
- 740,100 adults were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications (up 50.5 per cent from 2006/07);
- 328,100 adults were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications (up 22.6 per cent from 2006/07);

- 3,278,400 adults participated in LSC-funded learning (excluding Higher Education). This represents a 3.2 per cent increase from 2006/07.

Achievement

20 Table 2.2 shows the number of adult learners achieving a qualification. In 2007/08:

- 545,700 adults achieved Skills for Life qualifications in 2007/08. This is a decrease of 3.3 per cent from 2006/07
- 320,600 adults achieved full level 2 qualifications in 2007/08. This is an increase of 36.5 per cent from 2006/07
- 134,500 adults achieved full level 3 qualifications in 2007/08. This is an increase of 17.0 per cent from 2006/07.
- 2,241,600 adults achieved an LSC-funded qualification. This represents a 0.4 per cent increase from 2006/07.

Success Rates

21 The overall success rate for FE-funded provision for adults (excluding apprenticeships and Train to Gain) was 80.5% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 4.1 percentage points on 2006/07 [Table 2.3].

- The success rate for adults' Skills for Life qualifications was 73.1% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 5.2 percentage points on 2006/07.
- The success rate for adults' full level 2 qualifications was 71.4% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 2.0 percentage points on 2006/07.
- The success rate for adults' full level 3 qualifications was 70.6% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 5.1 percentage points on 2006/07.

All Ages

Participation

22 Table 3.1 shows the total number of learners participating on key programmes. In 2007/08:

- 1,337,500 learners were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications (up 0.7 per cent from 2006/07);
- 1,042,300 learners were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications (up 31.5 per cent from 2006/07);
- 685,900 learners were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications (up 12.2 per cent from 2006/07);
- 4,333,800 learners participated in LSC-funded learning (excluding schools and Higher Education). This represents a 3.1 per cent increase from 2006/07.

Achievement

23 Table 3.2 shows the total number of learners achieving a qualification. In 2007/08:

- 852,500 learners achieved Skills for Life qualifications in 2007/08. This is a decrease of 0.8 per cent from 2006/07
- 459,200 learners achieved full level 2 qualifications in 2007/08. This is an increase of 24.5 per cent from 2006/07
- 294,300 learners achieved full level 3 qualifications in 2007/08. This is an increase of 11.8 per cent from 2006/07.
- 2,960,300 learners achieved an LSC-funded qualification. This represents a 1.6 per cent increase from 2006/07.

Success Rates

24 The overall success rate for FE-funded provision for all ages was 80.2% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 3.4 percentage points on 2006/07 [Table 3.3].

- The success rate for Skills for Life qualifications was 74.2% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 4.4 percentage points on 2006/07.
- The success rate for full level 2 qualifications was 72.7% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 3.0 percentage points on 2006/07.
- The success rate for full level 3 qualifications was 71.6% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 5.0 percentage points on 2006/07.

Apprenticeships

Starts

25 The volume of apprenticeship starts in 2007/08 was the highest level ever recorded, at 224,800 [Table 5.1]. This is an increase of 21.9 per cent from 2006/07. Of these:

- 107,000 16 to 18 year olds started an apprenticeship framework in 2007/08. This is an increase of 1.9 per cent from 2006/07.
- 90,100 19 to 24 year olds started an apprenticeship framework in 2007/08. This is an increase of 14.6 per cent from 2006/07.
- 27,200 25 year olds and over started an apprenticeship framework in 2007/08, up from 300 the previous year.

Framework Achievements

26 The volume of apprenticeship framework achievements in 2007/08 was 112,600 [Table 5.2]. This is an increase of 0.7 per cent from 2006/07. Of these:

- 63,000 16 to 18 year olds achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2007/08. This is a decrease of 3.4 per cent from 2006/07.
- 48,100 19 to 24 year olds achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2007/08. This is an increase of 4.7 per cent from 2006/07.
- 1,200 25 year olds and over achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2007/08, up from 200 the previous year.

Framework Achievement Rates

27 The overall apprenticeship framework achievement rate was 63.7% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 4.8 percentage points on 2006/07 [Table 3.3]. Of these:

- The framework achievement rate for 16 to 18 year olds was 63.2% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 3.9 percentage points on 2006/07 [Table 1.3].
- The framework achievement rate for adults (19 and over) was 64.5% in 2007/08. This is an increase of 6.2 percentage points on 2006/07 [Table 2.3].

Train to Gain

Starts

28 The volume of Train to Gain starts in 2007/08 was 346,200 [Table 6.1]. This is an increase of 67.8 per cent from 2006/07.

Achievements

29 The volume of Train to Gain achievements in 2007/08 was 187,300 [Table 6.2]. This is over double the number of Train to Gain achievements in 2006/07.

Train to Gain Success Rates

30 Information on Train to Gain Success Rates can be found here:

<http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrmar09/>

Labour Force Survey

31 This SFR includes information from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), which is used to measure progress against some of the PSA targets covered in the 'Further Education Targets' section, in paragraphs 7 and 8.

32 The statistics provided here are taken from the Quarter 4 2008 LFS (surveys carried out by the Office for National Statistics from October to December 2008) using the information collected about the highest qualification held by individuals⁵.

33 The Office for National Statistics (ONS) and DIUS are currently undertaking work to compare the level of education and skills qualifications reported by the Labour Force Survey and those shown by administrative sources. This work is continuing and will be reported on ahead of the SFR released in March 2010.

34 71.2% of **all people** aged 19-59/64⁶ have a qualification at **level 2** or higher [Table 7] equating to 21.2 million people from a population of 29.8 million. This represents an increase of 6.2 percentage points since 2001.

35 50.8% of **all people** aged 19-59/64⁶ have a qualification at **level 3** or higher [Table 7] equating to 15.1 million people from a population of 29.8 million. This represents an increase of 6.1 percentage points since 2001.

36 31.2% of **all people** aged 19-59/64⁶ have a qualification at **level 4** or higher [Table 7] equating to 9.3 million people from a population of 29.8 million. This represents an increase of 6.0 percentage points since 2001.

37 74.7% of **economically active adults**⁷ have a qualification at **level 2** or higher [Table 8] equating to 18.5 million people from a population of 24.7 million. This represents an increase of 5.5 percentage points since 2001.

⁵ This information was previously provided in a separate SFR. [DIUS: The Level of Highest Qualification Held by Adults: England 2007](#) published on 19th June 2008.

⁶ Males aged 19-64 and females aged 19-59.

⁷ Economically active adults are defined as males aged 18-64 and females aged 18-59 who are either in employment or International Labour Organisation definition unemployed.

Vocational Qualifications

- 38 This SFR also includes headline information on the number of National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs), Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs) and Vocationally Related Qualifications (VRQs) awarded in the UK⁸ [Table 9].
- 39 The number of NVQs/SVQs awarded in the UK has risen again to 773,000 in 2007/08, an increase of 14.9% when compared to 2006/07 [Table 9].
- 40 57% of all NVQ/SVQ awards in the UK go to people aged 25 and over, an increase of 2% from 2006/07⁹.
- 41 Vocationally Related Qualifications (VRQs) are becoming increasingly important. 1.7 million VRQ awards were reported by 50 awarding bodies to NISVQ in 2007/08, compared with 1.4 million awards reported by 47 awarding bodies to NISVQ last year⁹.
- 42 Almost 391,000 of these awards were full VRQs (where Guided Learning Hours were at least 80% of hours recommended), around 23% of the total. Of these, 228,000 were at Level 2 and 119,000 at Level 3⁹.

EARLY HEADLINES FOR 2008/09

- 43 In January 2007 we consulted on a new funding approach for 16 – 18 year olds and adults for 2008/09. This included three new demand-led funding (DLF) models and a new funding formula, all of which were introduced in the 2008/09 academic year.
- 44 We have applied the new DLF methodology to 2007/08 data in Table 10 to allow a general comparison to be made against early 2008/09 performance. Figures from 2007/08 are not directly comparable with those for 2008/09 as DLF did not exist prior to 2008/09, and we have had to therefore artificially create DLF definitions. They do, however, provide a good estimate of how performance compares. Paragraph 70 in the Notes to Editors section provides more detail on this subject.

Young People (aged 16-18)

Participation

- 45 Data for the first quarter of 2008/09 (1st August to 31st October) show that there were 878,200 learners aged under 19 participating in LSC-funded learning (excluding schools and Higher Education) [Table 10]. Of these:
- 300,100 were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications;
 - 236,300 were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications;
 - 355,100 were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications.

⁸ This information was previously provided in a separate SFR: [DCSF: Vocational Qualifications in the UK: 2006/07](#) published on 26th February 2008.

⁹ Further information on vocational qualifications, including more detailed tables and accompanying commentary, can be found in the 'Vocational Qualifications in the UK: 2007/08' Supplementary Release at <http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrmar09/>

Adults aged 19 and over

Participation

46 Table 10 shows the number of adult learners participating on key programmes. In the first quarter of 2008/09 (1st August to 31st October):

- 378,000 adults were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications;
- 516,300 adults were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications;
- 290,200 adults were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications;
- 1,930,500 adults participated in LSC-funded learning (excluding Higher Education).

All Ages

Participation

47 Table 10 shows the total number of learners participating on key programmes. In the first quarter of 2008/09 (1st August to 31st October):

- 678,100 learners were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications;
- 752,600 learners were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications;
- 645,300 learners were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications;
- 2,808,700 learners participated in LSC-funded learning (excluding Higher Education and school sixth forms).

Apprenticeships

Starts

48 There were 140,500 apprenticeship starts in the first six months of the 2008/09 academic year (1st August to 31st January). This is an increase of 19.4 per cent from the same period in 2007/08 [Table 11.1]. Of these:

- 63,700 16 to 18 year olds started an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is a decrease of 8.3 per cent from the same period in 2007/08.
- 45,600 19 to 24 year olds started an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is an increase of 3.9 per cent from 2007/08.
- 31,000 25 year olds and over started an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is up from 4,100 in the same period of 2007/08.

Framework Achievements

49 There were 49,100 apprenticeship framework achievements in the first six months of the 2008/09 academic year (1st August to 31st January). This is an increase of 7.6 per cent from the same period in 2007/08 [Table 11.2]. Of these:

- 23,700 16 to 18 year olds achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is a decrease of 7.0 per cent from the same period in 2007/08.

- 22,100 19 to 24 year olds achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is an increase of 10.1 per cent from the same period in 2007/08.
- 3,300 25 year olds and over achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is up from 100 apprenticeship framework achievements in the same period of 2007/08.

Train to Gain

Starts

50 There were 386,200 Train to Gain starts in the first six months of the 2008/09 academic year (1st August to 31st January) This is an increase from 253,600 Train to Gain starts in the same period in 2007/08 [Table 12.1].

Achievements

51 There were 152,000 Train to Gain achievements in the first six months of the 2008/09 academic year (1st August to 1st January). This is an increase from 99,500 Train to Gain achievements in the same period in 2007/08 [Table 12.2].

SUPPORTING DATA

- 52 Additional data has been published on the Data Service website <http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrmar09/>. These data are for 2005/06 onwards to show breakdowns by age, gender, ethnicity, learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, region, local authority, parliamentary constituency, sector and funding stream.
- 53 Further post-16 education SFRs can be found on the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills/ Department for Children Schools and Families websites: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway>. Those most relevant to this document are:
- [*Participation in Education, Training and Employment by 16-18 Year Olds in England*](#) published on 19th June 2008;
 - [*Level 2 and 3 Attainment by Young People in England Measured Using Matched Administrative Data: Attainment by Age 19 in 2008*](#) published on March 24th 2009.

FUTURE STATISTICAL FIRST RELEASES

- 54 In September 2007, PricewaterhouseCoopers was commissioned by the Department for Innovation Universities and Skills (DIUS) and Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) to review ten Statistical First Releases (SFRs) relating to post-16 learning. To address the issues, the review made 24 recommendations for changes to the suite of post-16 SFRs aimed at improving the way statistics relating to post-16 learning are presented, including the publication of quarterly SFRs.
- 55 This SFR product will continue to evolve, and readers are encouraged to comment on the content. They can do this by contacting the Service Desk. Contact details can be found on the front page.
- 56 The planned publication date for the next SFR in this series is June 2009.
- 57 The SFR publication dates have been established for key points in the annual LSC business cycle. The December SFR provides a provisional view of sector participation and achievement, as well as final information for apprenticeships and Train to Gain. The March SFR provides near-final participation and achievement data, and a robust view of in-year participation. The June SFR will provide an updated view of in-year participation, and the October SFR will provide a first view of full-year participation for 2008/09.
- 58 In addition to these SFRs, new statistical volumes are due to be published. The content of these is yet to be determined.

NOTES TO EDITORS

59 This Statistical First Release (SFR) shows the latest performance against the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills' (DIUS) Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets on Adult Attainment and Apprenticeships

60 It includes 2007/08 estimates of Learning and Skills Council (LSC) funded participation, achievement and success rates for post-16 education¹⁰ (excluding schools and Higher Education) in England. It also includes an early look at 2008/09 participation under the new demand led funding system, showing provisional participation for the FE Sector for the first quarter of 2008/09, and provisional start and achievement numbers for the first half of 2008/09 for apprenticeships and Train to Gain.

61 The statistics for 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 reflect the FE and skills system before the introduction of demand led funding. The volumes for 2008/09 view the FE and skills system following the introduction of demand led funding. Figures from 2007/08 are not directly comparable with those for 2008/09 as DLF did not exist prior to 2008/09, and we have had to therefore artificially create DLF definitions. They do, however, provide a good estimate of how performance compares. Paragraph 70 in the Notes to Editors section provides more detail on this subject.

62 Information from the different post-16 learning options have been drawn together to give a coherent and comprehensive picture of the participation and achievement of young people and adults after the age of 16. These options include:

- FE organisations
- Sixth form colleges
- Local Authorities
- Independent training organisations.

63 These organisations deliver a wide variety of government programmes, including:

- College-based Learning
- Work-based Learning (including Apprenticeships)
- Train to Gain
- Safeguarded Adult Learning.

64 This document contains information that can inform progress against key government PSA targets and commitments made in public documents such as the LSC Grant Letter.

65 This SFR does not contain information regarding:

¹⁰ Post-16 education includes provision delivered in FE organisations, sixth form colleges, independent training organisations, local authorities and other providers. This includes programmes such as apprenticeships and Train to Gain. Data regarding school sixth forms is not included in this publication.

- European Social Fund (ESF) provision
- Delivery in School Sixth Forms
- Higher education
- Privately-funded training at FE organisations/ independent training organisations.

66 We would expect this SFR product to develop over time to incorporate these areas, and also report on other areas of interest, for example the Third Sector.

Metrics

67 The metrics used in this SFR are outlined below.

Metric	Definition
Starts	<p>The number of qualifications/ programmes that have begun in a given time period, usually monthly, quarterly or annually. A start is assigned to the month/ quarter/ year that it begun and is only counted once. However, a learner undertaking more than one qualification will be counted for each qualification/ programme. For example, a learner starting a level 2 apprenticeship and then transferring to a level 3 apprenticeship will be counted as two starts.</p> <p>This measure is helpful in determining the take-up of programmes, and is a key performance measure for apprenticeships and Train to Gain.</p>
Learner Numbers	<p>The number of people who are undertaking learning in a given time period, usually annually, or on a fixed date.</p> <p>This measure is helpful for quantifying the number of people that have participated in a given time period, and where a fixed date is used, can give an estimate of the percentage of people engaged in learning. Learner numbers in an academic year is historically a key performance indicator for FE colleges.</p>
Achievements	<p>'Achievements' refers to learning activities that have been successfully achieved and, where appropriate, the certification obtained. Achievement tables in this publication show those achievements obtained within the academic year.</p> <p>A successful apprenticeship 'framework achievement' requires all elements of the framework to be completed.</p> <p>This measure is helpful as it shows the number of people achieving qualifications in the sector. It is therefore a good indicator of progress against key government targets aimed at improving the skills levels of the nation. This measure is also a key performance measure for apprenticeships and Train to Gain.</p>
FE Success Rates	<p>The cohort used to calculate FE success rates is based upon the academic year the qualification aim is planned to finish in.</p> <p>The success rate is calculated as the number of learners achieving the qualification divided by the number of those starting, excluding any learners who transferred onto another qualification. Where a learner does transfer to a new qualification they are treated as a start on the new qualification and not the old one.</p> <p>As success rates are calculated at a qualification aim level, learners with</p>

	<p>more than one qualification aim will be included more than once.</p> <p>Full level 2 and 3 success rates only include those aims which are full in their own right, for example a full NVQ. Learners who leave their full programmes within six weeks of starting are excluded from the calculation.</p> <p>This measure is a key performance indicator and used as part of the OFSTED inspection framework and the Framework for Excellence. It is also used by the LSC in monitoring performance of providers.</p>
Apprenticeship Framework Success Rates	<p>The cohort used to calculate apprenticeship framework completion rates is marginally different from that used for FE.</p> <p>For a given year, the cohort includes all frameworks (i.e. the combined grouping of qualifications and not each individual qualification aim), whose planned end date is during the reporting year, which were achieved on or before that planned end date, plus any programmes that went beyond the planned end date and were either achieved or withdrawn from (i.e. are not still in progress) in the reporting year.</p> <p>Where a learner transfers to another framework, they are treated as a start on the new qualification and not the old one. Learners who leave their programmes within six weeks of starting are excluded from the calculations. Learners who leave programmes to take up alternative employment are classified as not having achieved.</p> <p>This measure is a key performance indicator and used as part of the OFSTED inspection framework and the Framework for Excellence. It is also used by the LSC in monitoring underperformance of providers.</p>
Apprenticeship Framework Completion Rates (Old Methodology)	<p>This old measure of apprenticeship success is no longer the prevalent performance measure and is no longer included in this SFR.</p> <p>The old measure of apprenticeship framework completion rates is the number of frameworks (i.e. the combined grouping of qualifications and not each individual qualification aim) successfully completed in a given reporting year divided by the number of learners who have either left training or successfully completed their programme. Learners who have transferred to another programme are excluded until they complete their programme or leave learning.</p>

Data Definitions

68 Detailed data definitions are available in a supplementary document, *DS/SFR2 Data Definitions*, which will be published on the Data Service website.

69 Data published in this SFR will be categorised as either 'provisional', 'revised' or 'final'. Provisional data will be updated in future documents. It is worth noting that the methodologies used to calculate success rates will not provide final data for a number of years due to learners completing after their expected completion date. This means that figures are revised annually. We will therefore only publish success rates in the latter half of each year when success rate data are less volatile.

70 The key definitions are set out below

Key Definitions	Notes
Further Education to 2007/08	Further Education refers to post-16 education that is primarily taught in Further Education organisations (see later definition). This includes General FE and Tertiary Colleges, Sixth Form Colleges and Specialist Colleges. For the purposes of this SFR it includes a small element of FE provision delivered in HE organisations where HE organisations have submitted ILR data.
Work Based Learning to 2007/08	Work Based learning includes apprenticeships and Entry to Employment.
Apprenticeships	Apprenticeships are a key work-based route for young people and adults. An Apprenticeship is not a qualification in itself, but it contains the following separately certified elements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A knowledge-based element (the theoretical knowledge underpinning a job in a certain occupation and industry, typically certified via a Technical Certificate) • A competence-based element (the ability to discharge the functions of a certain occupation, typically certified via work-based assessed national vocational qualifications (NVQs)) • Transferable or 'key skills' (literacy and numeracy) • A module on employment rights and responsibilities.
Ufl/ Learndirect	Learndirect is an organisation, run by the University for Industry (Ufl), that offers courses from top up skills in English and maths through to NVQs via a network of online learning centres.
Train to Gain to 2007/08	Train to Gain aims to deliver vocational training to employed individuals in England, particularly those who do not already hold a full level 2 qualification. It was launched in April 2006 and rolled out fully in August 2006. Late achievements from the Employer Training Pilots are also reported in this SFR.

Safeguarded Adult Learning	For the purposes of this SFR, data returned in the Adult and Community Learning ILR is classified as 'Safeguarded Adult Learning' to 2007/08. From 2008/09 onwards the data are returned in the Adult Safeguarded Learning ILR collection.
Higher Education	Higher Education generally takes place in Universities, although a large number of FE organisations also offer HE provision. This learning is excluded from this SFR.
Demand Led Funding	<p>In 2008/09 the LSC implemented a new funding methodology resulting in extensive changes for the data collection and funding arrangement for the ILR. A summary of the key changes is set out below;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding streams changed to 16-18 learner responsive, adult learner responsive (ALR), and employer responsive (ER). With the learner responsive collection broadly replacing the FE collection and the Employer responsive collection broadly replacing the WBL collection including Train to Gain. • FE NVQs delivered in the workplace have moved from the FE collection to the employer responsive collection • E2E data are no longer returned in the WBL collection but in the learner responsive collection. • Learners who complete at least one episode of learning should be returned on the ILR. The rule which excluded some learners who withdrew prior to 1 October no longer applies under demand led funding. • A learner is funded for a learning aim once they have remained on that learning aim within the current funding year for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6 weeks where the course lasts 24 weeks or more ○ 2 weeks where the course lasts between 2 and 24 weeks ○ One learning engagement where the course lasts less than 2 weeks.
16-18 Learner Responsive	<p>16-18 Learner Responsive includes further education for learners aged 16-18 that is primarily taught in Further Education organisations (see later definition) and Entry to Employment.</p> <p>For the purposes of this SFR it includes a small element of FE provision delivered in HE organisations where HE organisations have submitted ILR data.</p>
Adult Learner Responsive from 2008/09	<p>Adult Learner Responsive includes post-19 education that is primarily taught in Further Education organisations (see later definition) and Entry to Employment.</p> <p>For the purposes of this SFR it includes a small element of FE provision delivered in HE organisations where HE organisations have submitted ILR data.</p>
Employer Responsive from 2008/09	Employer Responsive includes apprenticeships and Train to Gain (N.B. for 2008/09, Train to Gain includes FE NVQs that were delivered in the workplace).
Age	<p>Different age categorisations are used for planning and funding different programmes. As a result, this SFR uses different age categorisations within the document.</p> <p>For tables other than 5.1, 5.2, 11.1 and 11.2 age is calculated based upon the age as at 31 August of the relevant academic year. An academic year runs from 1st August through to 31st July. In Tables 5.1,</p>

	<p>5.2, 11.1 and 11.2, age is calculated as at the start of the programme.</p> <p>Age breakdowns for success rates in Table 2 are based upon the age:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As at the start of the programme (for apprenticeships) • As at 31 August of the year the qualification started (for FE). <p>For the supplementary tables, age is disaggregated as follows; under 16, 16, 17, 18, 19-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-59, 60+ and unknown age.</p>														
Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	This is activity funded by the LSC which is below level 2. This does not include any Skills for Life qualifications, which are shown separately in the Skills for Life section.														
Full Level 2	<p>The width of the Level 2 aims is summed to establish whether a learner is taking a full level 2 programme. This would include qualifications such as those shown in the table below. Learners only count if the total width of all their aims is 100% or more – part level 2 learners are not included, for example learners taking 4 GCSE qualifications.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Aim type</th> <th>Percentage of a full level 2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>NVQ level 2</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GNVQ Intermediate (part GNVQs constitute 40%)</td> <td>80%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GCSE double awards (including vocational GCSEs)</td> <td>40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GCSE (including vocational GCSEs)</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GCSE short courses</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Vocationally Related Qualifications which are 80% or more of a full level 2 – 325 guided learning hours or more</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>An apprenticeship at level 2 is counted as a full level 2.</p> <p>This operational measure using administrative data matches as closely as possible to official target measures.</p>	Aim type	Percentage of a full level 2	NVQ level 2	100%	GNVQ Intermediate (part GNVQs constitute 40%)	80%	GCSE double awards (including vocational GCSEs)	40%	GCSE (including vocational GCSEs)	20%	GCSE short courses	10%	Other Vocationally Related Qualifications which are 80% or more of a full level 2 – 325 guided learning hours or more	100%
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Other Vocationally Related Qualifications which are 80% or more of a full level 2 – 325 guided learning hours or more	100%														
First Full Level 2	<p>Learners on a Full Level 2 who have not achieved a Full Level 2 before. These learners will have a Prior Attainment in the ILR of no qualifications, Entry Level, Level 1, or Other qualifications below Level 1. Learners with an unknown prior attainment level are assumed not to be First. It is likely that some of these learners are First and therefore the figures would increase if the prior attainment levels were known for all learners.</p> <p>First Full Level 2 learners are shown in supplementary tables available at http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrmar09/</p> <p>Learners who are on a Full Level 3 are First if they have not achieved a Full Level 3 before (see below for definition). If a Full Level 3 learner has not achieved a Full Level 3 or a Full Level 2 qualification before, they count as both a First Full Level 3 and a First Full Level 2 learner.</p>														

Full Level 3	<p>The width of the Level 3 aims is summed to establish whether a learner is taking a full level 3 programme. This would include qualifications such as those shown in the table below. Learners only count if the total width of all their Level 3 aims is 100% or more – part level 3 learners are not included, for example learners taking 2 AS level qualifications.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Aim type</th> <th>Percentage of a full level 3</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>AS Levels (including VCEs)</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A/ A2 levels (including VCEs)</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advanced GNVQ</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advanced pilot 6 unit GNVQ</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NVQ Level 3 or above</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>International Baccalaureate</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Vocationally Related qualifications which are 80% or more of a full level 2 – 595 guided learning hours or more</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Advanced apprenticeships and Higher Level Apprenticeships are counted as a full level 3.</p> <p>This operational measure using administrative data matches as closely as possible to the official target measures.</p>	Aim type	Percentage of a full level 3	AS Levels (including VCEs)	25%	A/ A2 levels (including VCEs)	50%	Advanced GNVQ	100%	Advanced pilot 6 unit GNVQ	100%	NVQ Level 3 or above	100%	International Baccalaureate	100%	Other Vocationally Related qualifications which are 80% or more of a full level 2 – 595 guided learning hours or more	100%
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Skills for Life	<p>Information included in this SFR relates to all LSC funded Skills for Life provision.</p> <p>Progress towards the Skills for Life target is measured retrospectively by the number of adults aged 16 and over who improve their skills by at least one level through one of the following nationally approved qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificates in Adult Literacy, Numeracy or ESOL Skills for Life at entry level 3, level 1 or level 2 • Key Skills in Communication or Application of Number at level 1 or level 2 (partial achievement of a key skills qualification ‘counts’ where this is achievement of the test • GCSEs in English or Mathematics (grades A* - C = level 2, grades 																

	<p>D-G = level 1).</p> <p>Each learner only counts towards the national target once, regardless of any subsequent achievements. Performance against the target is set out in paragraph 9.</p>	
Level 2	<p>The number of learners undertaking LSC funded level 2 qualifications. This would include all learners that are doing full level 2 programmes, as well as those that are doing other part level 2 qualifications, for example one GCSE.</p>	
Level 3	<p>The number of learners undertaking LSC funded level 3 qualifications. This would include all learners that are doing full level 3 programmes, as well as those that are doing other part level 3 qualifications, for example one AS level.</p>	
Level 4+	<p>The number of learners undertaking LSC funded level 4 and above qualifications.</p>	
Approved Provision	<p>Approved Provision are those courses that are approved for funding under section 96 or section 97 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000. The LSC also funds aims outside of this approved list.</p> <p>Further details can be found at http://readingroom.lsc.gov.uk/lsc/National/LSC-P-NAT-080077_Principles-Rules-Regulations.pdf.</p>	
Organisation Type	Organisation Type	Notes
	School	Any organisation classified as a school in either Local Authority or Private control. This excludes City Academies with sixth forms and City Technology Colleges.
	Further Education Organisations	<p>FE Public Sector organisations including General FE College (including Tertiary), Special college - Agriculture and horticulture, Special college - Art, design and performing arts, Specialist Designated Institution. Sixth form colleges are not included as they are shown as a separate category.</p> <p>The majority of LSC-funded activity in these organisations is Further Education, but there is also a significant amount of work-based learning, Train to Gain provision and Adult Safeguarded Learning provision.</p>
	Sixth Form College	<p>Although an FE organisation, these are categorised separately.</p> <p>Almost all LSC-funded activity in Sixth Form Colleges is Further Education.</p>
	HE Institution	<p>Universities. These are often included with FE organisations for reporting purposes.</p> <p>We have included data for HE institutions that have submitted ILR returns unless otherwise stated. In 2005/06 we received data from 5 HE institutions; in 2006/07 we received data from 7 HE institutions; in 2007/08 we received data from 9 HE institutions.</p>

	Independent Training Organisation	<p>Organisations registered by Companies House, Financial Services Authority including Sole Traders and unincorporated partnerships and associations.</p> <p>Independent training organisations predominantly deliver Work-based Learning and Train to Gain. Since 2006/07, Ufl/Learndirect has been classified as an independent training organisation.</p>
	Local Authority	<p>Any tier of local government.</p> <p>Almost all of the LSC-funded provision in Local Authorities is Adult Safeguarded Learning and Further Education funded through the 16-18 and adult Learner Responsive routes.</p>
	Other	<p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Government (organisations that are part of Central Government (includes Non-Departmental Public Bodies, Public Corporations and Trading Funds)) • NHS organisations • Other public organisations not included in Local Authorities, Central Government or NHS • Charitable organisations (unincorporated organisations registered as Charities with the Charity Commission) • City Academies with sixth forms • City Technology Colleges • Private special colleges • Special learning needs establishments. <p>Please note that not all of these types of organisations return ILR data, so may not be included in this SFR.</p>

Data Sources

71 Individual-level data are returned to the Data Service and DCSF by FE sector partners. These data are then used to inform the public about performance in the sector. The following data sources have been used for this publication.

Funding Stream	Data Source
FE Providers	2007/08 and earlier years – ILR F05 – final 2008/09 – ILR F01 final
Work-based learning, including Apprenticeships and Train to Gain	2007/08 and earlier years – ILR W13 – final 2008/09 – ILR W07 (provisional, 6 March 2009)
Ufl/ Learndirect	2006/07 and earlier years – ILR U03 – final 2007/08 – ILR U05 (provisional, 2 March 2009) 2008/09 – ILR U01 (provisional, 3 March 2009)
Safeguarded Adult Learning	2006/07 and earlier years – ILR C03 – final 2007/08 – ILR C03 (provisional, 9 March 2009), C02 - final 2008/09 – ILR C01 (provisional, 13 February 2009)

The Level of Highest Qualification Held By Adults

72 The statistics provided are taken from the Quarter 4 2008 Labour Force Survey (carried out by the Office for National Statistics from October to December 2008) using the information collected about the highest qualification held by individuals.

73 From 2004 onwards statistics relating to changes in attainment of 19 year olds at Level 2 and monitoring progress towards young people's attainment targets are based on a new administrative data source published by DCSF.

Vocational Qualifications in the UK

74 The two main sources of information on numbers of awards of vocational qualifications are databases maintained by QCA and DCSF. QCA statistics on the numbers of NVQs awarded are collected from all NVQ awarding bodies. The National Information System for Vocational Qualification (NISVQ) collects candidate level information on awards of all types of QCA-accredited vocational qualifications in the UK currently provided by three of the largest awarding bodies (City and Guilds, EDEXCEL Ltd and OCR, plus information from a further 44 awarding bodies on NVQ, SVQ or VRQ awards at candidate level. Note that NISVQ counts numbers of awards of vocational qualifications not numbers of individuals receiving awards.

75 QCA are responsible for the quality assurance of NVQs i.e. accreditation and monitoring of implementation. QCA accredits proposals by over 100 awarding bodies (which include single bodies and 'joint' awarding body partnerships) to deliver NVQs. The QCA figures are based on aggregate quarterly returns of the

numbers of certificates issued, sent to QCA by all NVQ awarding bodies. The awarding bodies' returns cover all certificates issued in the quarter for which payment is due to QCA.

76 The main source for information on people holding/studying for NVQs/SVQs is the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Changes to Methodology

77 In the December 2008 SFR total learners included learners on approved and non approved provision but the breakdown of this total, for example showing learners by qualification type, only included learners who are on approved provision. A change has been made to the March SFR so that both the total and the breakdowns refer to learners on approved and non approved provision. This has resulted in the number of learners in the breakdown categories increasing since the December 2008 SFR, in some cases significantly.

78 A change has been made to achievements in tables 1.2, 2.2, 3.2 and 4 to include learners who achieved the NVQ element but not the whole framework. This does not affect tables 5.2 and 11.2 which show achievement of the whole framework.

Table 1.1 : Young People FE and Apprenticeship Participation by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Learner Volumes

Level	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (provisional)
Total Learners	1,026,400	1,026,200	1,055,400
		% change 05/06 to 06/07	% change 06/07 to 07/08
<i>Participation of which...</i>			
Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	333,600	323,400	332,500
Skills for Life	505,300	499,100	497,300
Full Level 2	296,900	300,900	302,200
Full Level 3	331,100	343,800	357,800
Level 2	551,300	557,700	562,300
Level 3	441,400	458,900	473,600
Level 4+	1,200	1,000	1,300
No Level Assigned	422,800	435,200	465,300

Table 1.2 : Young People FE and Apprenticeship Achievement by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Learner Volumes

Level	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (provisional)
Total Learners	668,700	681,600	718,700
		% change 05/06 to 06/07	% change 06/07 to 07/08
<i>Achievement of which...</i>			
Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	203,900	203,700	219,500
Skills for Life	292,700	294,700	306,800
Full Level 2	119,700	134,000	138,600
Full Level 3	137,700	148,200	159,800
Level 2	276,500	301,700	320,500
Level 3	260,700	278,300	293,500
Level 4+	300	300	600
No Level Assigned	305,400	301,000	328,000

Table 1.3 : Young People FE and Apprenticeship Success Rates by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Percentages

Level	2005/06 Full Year (revised)	2006/07 Full Year (revised)	2007/08 Full Year (final)
Total Further Education Provision	75.1%	77.4%	79.9%
<i>of which...</i>			
Skills for Life	69.0%	72.8%	76.0%
Full Level 2	67.9%	70.1%	74.1%
Full Level 3	64.9%	67.7%	72.6%
Level 2	69.6%	73.3%	77.0%
Level 3	77.5%	79.3%	81.0%
Apprenticeships			
<i>of which...</i>			
Apprenticeships (level 2)	51.7%	60.1%	64.1%
Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3)	44.6%	57.0%	60.8%
All	49.6%	59.3%	63.2%

Notes:

- Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- '-' Indicates a base value of less than 50; '#' indicates a percentage of less than 0.5%.
- In table 1.3, Further Education Provision includes General Further Education Colleges including Tertiary, Sixth Form Colleges, Special College - Agricultural and Horticultural Colleges and Art and Design Colleges, Specialist Colleges and External Institutions.
- The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 and earlier years (F05, U05 final); WBL 2007/08 and earlier years (W13, final); ACL - 2006/07 and earlier years (C03, final), 2007/08 (C03 09/03/09, C02 17/11/08). The data presented here includes all LSC-funded provision (see Notes to Editors for more information and comparability with previous SFRs).
- This table uses learner volumes as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of learners that participated/achieved at any point during the year. Learners undertaking/achieving more than one course will appear only once in the 'total learners' category for each data collection. However, learners that are included in different data collections, whether that relates to different years or different funding streams, will be counted more than once. For example, if a learner is undertaking (or achieves) an apprenticeship and a Train to Gain qualification in 2007/08, they will be counted twice in this table. Similarly, if a learner is taking (or achieves) a full level 2 qualification and a level 4 qualification, they will appear to each of these categories. All learners undertaking/achieving a full level 2 or 3 qualification will also appear in the level 2 and level 3 categories, respectively.
- Table 1.2 reports on the actual number of achievements within the academic year. Table 1.3 reports success rates which are based on the reported achievement of individual aims that were expected to end in the academic year. This is different to table 1.2 which only includes qualifications which were achieved during the academic year, without reference to those which were expected to complete. Success rates are calculated as the number of learning aims achieved divided by the number of starters, excluding any learners who transferred on to another qualification within the same institution.
- Apprenticeship framework achievement rates are based on the number of learners who meet all of the requirements of their apprenticeship framework, divided by the number of leavers who have left training or successfully completed their training in the academic year.
- To allow for comparison between different data sources, tables 1-3 use age as at 31 August of the academic year. Tables 1.1 to 1.3 includes learners under 19, including a small number of under 16 year olds.
- Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 2.1 :Adult FE and Skills Participation by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Learner Volumes

		Level	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08		
			Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (provisional)	% change 06/07 to 07/08
Total Learners			3,855,300	3,177,300	-17.6%	3,278,400	3.2%
Participation	of which...	Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	1,029,700	743,600	-27.8%	526,100	-29.2%
		Skills for Life	974,200	829,400	-14.9%	840,200	1.3%
		Full Level 2	340,200	491,600	44.5%	740,100	50.5%
		Full Level 3	264,200	267,600	1.3%	328,100	22.6%
		Level 2	1,129,700	1,093,300	-3.2%	1,308,100	19.6%
		Level 3	524,900	485,800	-7.4%	527,900	8.7%
		Level 4+	68,300	59,900	-12.2%	53,200	-11.1%
		No Level Assigned	1,376,700	859,300	-37.6%	811,800	-5.5%

Table 2.2 :Adult FE and Skills Achievement by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Learner Volumes

		Level	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08		
			Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (provisional)	% change 06/07 to 07/08
Total Learners			2,928,900	2,232,400	-23.8%	2,241,600	#
Achievement	of which...	Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	749,100	543,300	-27.5%	403,000	-25.8%
		Skills for Life	755,700	564,400	-25.3%	545,700	-3.3%
		Full Level 2	216,700	234,900	8.4%	320,600	36.5%
		Full Level 3	110,000	115,000	4.5%	134,500	17.0%
		Level 2	691,400	643,600	-6.9%	734,800	14.2%
		Level 3	285,700	271,400	-5.0%	285,600	5.3%
		Level 4+	33,300	30,500	-8.3%	26,000	-15.0%
		No Level Assigned	1,177,900	702,200	-40.4%	686,800	-2.2%

Table 2.3 : Adult FE and Apprenticeship Success Rates by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Percentages

		Level	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
			Full Year (revised)	Full Year (revised)	Full Year (final)
Total Further Education Provision			76.8%	76.5%	80.5%
of which...	Skills for Life		65.3%	67.9%	73.1%
	Full Level 2		68.3%	69.4%	71.4%
	Full Level 3		62.0%	65.5%	70.6%
	Level 2		74.2%	75.6%	79.6%
	Level 3		68.6%	72.0%	77.1%
Apprenticeships					
of which...	Apprenticeships (level 2)		50.7%	59.9%	64.6%
	Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3)		41.2%	55.8%	64.3%
	All		46.7%	58.2%	64.5%

Notes:

1) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.

2) '-' Indicates a base value of less than 50; '#' indicates a percentage of less than 0.5%.

Institutions.

4) The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 and earlier years (F05, U05 final); WBL 2007/08 and earlier years (W13, final); ACL - 2006/07 and earlier years (C03, final), 2007/08 (C03 09/03/09, C02 17/11/08). The data presented here includes all LSC-funded provision (see Notes to Editors for more information and comparability with previous SFRs).

5) This table uses learner volumes as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of learners that participated/achieved at any point during the year. 'Total learners' category will include a learner only once for each programme they are involved in. For example, if a learner is undertaking (or achieves) 2 A levels at an FE college, they will be counted only once in 'total learners'. If a learner undertakes/achieves an apprenticeship and a Train to Gain qualification in 2007/08, they will be counted twice in this table.

6) Table 2.2 reports on the actual number of achievements within the academic year. Table 2.3 reports success rates which are based on the reported achievement of individual aims that were expected to end in the academic year. This is different to table 2.2 which only includes qualifications which were achieved during the academic year, without reference to those which were expected to complete. Success rates are calculated as the number of learning aims achieved divided by the number of starters, excluding any learners who transferred on to another qualification within the same institution.

8) To allow for comparison between different data sources, tables 1-3 use age as at 31 August of the academic year. These tables include learners over 19 years of age.

9) Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 3.1 : Overall FE and Skills Participation by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Learner Volumes

Level		2005/06	2006/07		2007/08	
		Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (provisional)	% change 06/07 to 07/08
Total Learners		4,881,700	4,203,500	-13.9%	4,333,800	3.1%
Participation	Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	1,363,300	1,067,100	-21.7%	858,600	-19.5%
	Skills for Life	1,479,500	1,328,500	-10.2%	1,337,500	0.7%
	Full Level 2	637,100	792,500	24.4%	1,042,300	31.5%
	Full Level 3	595,300	611,400	2.7%	685,900	12.2%
	Level 2	1,681,000	1,651,000	-1.8%	1,870,400	13.3%
	Level 3	966,300	944,700	-2.2%	1,001,600	6.0%
	Level 4+	69,400	60,900	-12.3%	54,600	-10.4%
	No Level Assigned	1,799,500	1,294,500	-28.1%	1,277,100	-1.3%

Table 3.2 : Overall FE and Skills Achievement by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Learner Volumes

Level		2005/06	2006/07		2007/08	
		Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (provisional)	% change 06/07 to 07/08
Total Learners		3,597,600	2,914,000	-19.0%	2,960,300	1.6%
Achievement	Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	953,000	747,000	-21.6%	622,400	-16.7%
	Skills for Life	1,048,400	859,100	-18.1%	852,500	-0.8%
	Full Level 2	336,400	368,900	9.7%	459,200	24.5%
	Full Level 3	247,800	263,200	6.2%	294,300	11.8%
	Level 2	967,900	945,300	-2.3%	1,055,300	11.6%
	Level 3	546,400	549,600	0.6%	579,100	5.4%
	Level 4+	33,600	30,800	-8.4%	26,600	-13.7%
	No Level Assigned	1,483,300	1,003,200	-32.4%	1,014,800	1.2%

Table 3.3 : Overall FE and Apprenticeship Success Rates by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Percentages

Level		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
		Full Year (revised)	Full Year (revised)	Full Year (final)
Total Further Education Provision		76.2%	76.8%	80.2%
of which...	Skills for Life	66.7%	69.8%	74.2%
	Full Level 2	68.1%	69.7%	72.7%
	Full Level 3	63.3%	66.6%	71.6%
	Level 2	72.8%	74.8%	78.6%
	Level 3	74.6%	77.2%	79.9%
Apprenticeships				
of which...	Apprenticeships (level 2)	51.3%	60.0%	64.3%
	Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3)	42.9%	56.3%	62.7%
	All	48.4%	58.9%	63.7%

Notes:

1) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.

2) '-' indicates a base value of less than 50; '#' indicates a percentage of less than 0.5%.

3) In table 3.3, Further Education Provision includes General Further Education Colleges including Tertiary, Sixth Form Colleges, Special College - Agricultural and Horticultural Colleges and Art and Design Colleges, Specialist Colleges and External Institutions.

4) The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 and earlier years (F05, U05 final); WBL 2007/08 and earlier years (W13, final); ACL - 2006/07 and earlier years (C03, final), 2007/08 (C03 09/03/09, C02 17/1/08). The data presented here includes all LSC-funded provision (see Notes to Editors for more information and comparability with previous SFRs).

5) This table uses learner volumes as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of learners that participated/achieved at any point during the year. 'Total learners' category will include a learner only once for each programme they are involved in. For example, if a learner is undertaking (or achieves) 2 A levels at an FE college, they will be counted only once in 'total learners'. If a learner undertakes/achieves an apprenticeship and a Train to Gain qualification in 2007/08, they will be counted twice in this table.

6) Table 3.2 reports on the actual number of achievements within the academic year. Table 3.3 reports success rates which are based on the reported achievement of individual aims that were expected to end in the academic year. This is different to table 3.2 which only includes qualifications which were achieved during the academic year, without reference to those which were expected to complete. Success rates are calculated as the number of learning aims achieved divided by the number of starters, excluding any learners who transferred on to another qualification within the same institution.

7) Apprenticeship framework achievement rates are based on the number of learners who meet all of the requirements of their apprenticeship framework, divided by the number of leavers who have left training or successfully completed their

8) To allow for comparison between different data sources, tables 1-3 use age as at 31 August of the academic year.

9) Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 4.1 : FE and Skills - Learners Skills for Life Participation and Achievement by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Learner Volumes

Measure	Level	2005/06	2006/07		2007/08	
		Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 06/07 to 07/08	Full Year (provisional)	% change 06/07 to 07/08
Participation	Total	1,477,400	1,325,900	-10.3%	1,335,800	0.7%
	of which literacy	1,108,100	864,300	-22.0%	945,900	9.4%
	of which entry level	219,900	160,500	-27.0%	161,700	0.7%
	of which level 1	401,300	376,300	-6.2%	426,400	13.3%
	of which level 2	412,000	392,600	-4.7%	424,100	8.0%
	of which numeracy	855,300	717,800	-16.1%	799,800	11.4%
	of which entry level	135,400	104,700	-22.7%	117,200	11.9%
	of which level 1	375,900	355,900	-5.3%	399,800	12.4%
	of which level 2	321,000	311,400	-3.0%	344,100	10.5%
	of which ESOL	266,600	243,900	-8.5%	218,000	-10.6%
	of which entry level	119,100	202,500	70.0%	186,500	-7.9%
	of which level 1	28,500	33,600	18.0%	26,300	-21.6%
	of which level 2	10,100	12,400	22.9%	10,000	-19.2%
Achievement	Total	1,112,800	871,200	-21.7%	849,600	-2.5%
	of which literacy	718,200	558,400	-22.3%	582,600	4.3%
	of which entry level	162,300	115,500	-28.9%	113,600	-1.6%
	of which level 1	220,500	241,100	9.4%	251,300	4.2%
	of which level 2	215,800	244,000	13.0%	242,400	-0.6%
	of which numeracy	513,700	437,800	-14.8%	463,600	5.9%
	of which entry level	97,700	74,300	-23.9%	78,500	5.6%
	of which level 1	195,200	211,200	8.2%	219,500	3.9%
	of which level 2	159,700	179,200	12.2%	195,100	8.9%
	of which ESOL	219,600	166,500	-24.2%	156,200	-6.2%
	of which entry level	84,900	139,300	64.0%	134,900	-3.1%
	of which level 1	16,700	21,800	30.1%	17,000	-21.9%
	of which level 2	5,300	7,700	46.1%	6,600	-14.6%
Total 2010 target-bearing achievements	520,800	592,600	13.8%	627,700	5.9%	
Annual discounted achievements	468,700	511,400	9.1%	541,700	5.9%	
Under 16	Participation	2,000	2,600	26.2%	2,300	-11.4%
	Achievement	1,600	1,700	8.4%	1,600	-2.7%

Table 4.2 : FE and Skills - Learners (Aged 16+) Skills for Life Target-bearing Achievement (2000/01 to 2007/08) – Accumulated Learner Volumes

Achievement	Accumulated	2007/08							
		2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07 (provisional)	
		159,400	377,100	588,500	865,200	1,286,700	1,762,600	2,293,700	2,835,400

Notes:

- Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- These figures include FE (including learndirect), WBL (including apprenticeships, Train to Gain and Entry to Employment) and Safeguarded Adult Learning.
- The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 and earlier years (F05, U05 final); WBL 2007/08 and earlier years (W13, final); ACL – 2006/07 and earlier years (C03, final), 2007/08 (C03 09/03/09, C02 17/11/08). The data presented here includes all LSC-funded provision (see Notes to Editors for more information and comparability with previous SFRs).
- This table uses learner volumes as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of learners that participated/achieved at any point during the year. Learners undertaking/achieving more than one course will appear only once in the 'total learners' category for each data collection. However, learners that are included in different data collections, whether that relates to different years or different funding streams, will be counted more than once. Similarly, if a learner is taking (or achieves) a Numeracy qualification and an ESOL, they will appear in each of these categories.
- Age is calculated based on age as at 31 August of the academic year.
- Achievements are 'discounted' to take in to account learners that may have previously contributed to the target.
- Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 5.1 : Apprenticeship Starts by Level and Age (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Programme Starts

Level	Age	2005/06	2006/07		2007/08	
		Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	% change 06/07 to 07/08
Apprenticeship (level 2)	under 16	500	500	1.2%	500	-4.4%
	16-18	76,600	80,300	4.7%	81,500	1.6%
	19-24	45,600	46,500	1.9%	55,200	18.7%
	25+	100	100	77.2%	14,600	>500%
	Total	122,800	127,400	3.7%	151,800	19.1%
Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3)	under 16	-	-	-7.1%	-	17.9%
	16-18	22,400	24,800	10.9%	25,500	2.8%
	19-24	29,500	32,100	8.6%	34,900	8.8%
	25+	200	100	-47.3%	12,600	>500%
	Total	52,100	57,000	9.4%	73,000	27.9%
All Apprenticeships	under 16	500	500	0.6%	500	-2.8%
	16-18	99,000	105,100	6.1%	107,000	1.9%
	19-24	75,200	78,600	4.5%	90,100	14.6%
	25+	300	300	-14.6%	27,200	>500%
	Total	175,000	184,400	5.4%	224,800	21.9%

Table 5.2: Apprenticeship Framework Achievements by Level and Age (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Framework Achievements

Level	Age	2005/06	2006/07		2007/08	
		Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	% change 06/07 to 07/08
Apprenticeship (level 2)	under 16	400	400	-1.4%	300	-33.8%
	16-18	44,600	49,700	11.5%	46,800	-5.9%
	19-24	25,300	28,200	11.4%	28,400	0.6%
	25+	-	100	373.3%	900	>500%
	Total	70,300	78,400	11.5%	76,300	-2.6%
Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3)	under 16	100	100	7.6%	-	-60.6%
	16-18	13,900	15,500	11.1%	16,200	4.5%
	19-24	14,300	17,800	24.5%	19,700	11.1%
	25+	100	100	36.0%	300	177.5%
	Total	28,400	33,400	17.9%	36,200	8.4%
All Apprenticeships	under 16	500	500	#	300	-37.7%
	16-18	58,500	65,200	11.4%	63,000	-3.4%
	19-24	39,600	46,000	16.1%	48,100	4.7%
	25+	100	200	92.2%	1,200	>500%
	Total	98,700	111,800	13.3%	112,600	0.7%

Notes:

- 1) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- 2) '-' Indicates a base value of less than 50; '#' indicates a percentage of less than 0.5%.
- 3) The following data sources have been used; Work-based learning (WBL) – 2007/08 and earlier years (W13, final).
- 4) Higher Level Apprenticeships are included with Advanced Apprenticeships. Programme-Led Apprenticeships recorded in WBL ILR returns are included in the above figures.
- 5) Table 5.1 uses programme starts as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of starts at any point during the year. Learners starting more than one course will appear more than once.
- 6) Table 5.2 uses apprenticeship framework achievements as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of framework achievements at any point during the year. Learners achieving more than one apprenticeship will appear more than once.
- 7) In order to be counted as a successful achievement, all elements of the framework must have been achieved.
- 8) Age is calculated based on age at start of the programme.
- 9) Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 6.1: Train to Gain Starts by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Starts

Level	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08	
	April to July 2006 (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 2005/06 to 2006/07	Full Year (final)	% change 2006/07 to 2007/08	
Full level 2	27,700	172,400	>500%	263,900	53.1%	
Full level 3	500	14,600	>500%	43,000	194.5%	
Level 4 and above	-	-	n/a	-	n/a	
Skills for Life	3,500	19,300	443.2%	39,200	103.7%	
Other	700	100	-89.4%	-	-64.3%	
Total	32,400	206,300	>500%	346,200	67.8%	

Table 6.2: Train to Gain Achievements by Level (2005/06 to 2007/08) – Achievements

Level	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08	
	April to July 2006 (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	% change 06/07 to 07/08	
Train to Gain Achievements						
Full level 2	5,000	59,600	>500%	154,100	158.5%	
Full level 3	700	2,600	253.0%	14,100	442.6%	
Level 4 and above	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Skills for Life	700	7,800	>500%	19,000	143.2%	
Other	-	300	>500%	100	-80.8%	
Total	6,500	70,300	>500%	187,300	166.3%	
ETP Achievements						
Full Level 2	22,600	16,200	-28.1%	-	n/a	
Skills for Life	4,600	1,700	-62.2%	-	n/a	
Total	27,200	17,900	-33.9%	-	n/a	
Overall Total	33,700	88,200	162.0%	187,300	112.3%	

Notes:

- 1) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- 2) '-' Indicates a base value of less than 50; '#' indicates a percentage of less than 0.5%.
- 3) The following data sources have been used; FE - 2006/07 and earlier years (F05 final); Work-based learning (WBL) - 2007/08 and earlier years (W13, final).
- 4) Table 6.1 uses programme starts as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of starts at any point during the year. Learners starting more than one course will appear more than once.
- 5) Table 6.2 uses programme achievements as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of programme achievements at any point during the year. Learners achieving more than one course will appear more than once.
- 6) For consistency with Train to Gain data, Table 6.2 only includes Employer Training Pilot achievements gained from April 2006 onwards.
- 7) Age is calculated based on age at start of the programme.
- 8) This table does not include historic information regarding NVQs in the workplace delivered by FE organisations. This is classified as FE in all tables in this publication, except table 10.
- 9) Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 7: Level of Highest Qualification Held by People aged 19-59/64 in England (Quarter 4 2008) - Volumes, Percentages

Calendar Year	All people aged 19-59/64 (thousands)	Percentage of people aged 19-59/64 qualified at each level								
		Level 7-8	Level 4-6	Level 4 and above	Level 3	Level 3 and above	Level 2	Level 2 and above	Below Level 2	No qualifications
2001	28,466	4.6	20.6	25.2	19.5	44.7	20.2	65.0	19.9	15.1
2002	28,603	4.9	21.3	26.2	19.8	46.0	20.5	66.4	19.4	14.1
2003	28,763	5.3	21.8	27.2	19.8	47.0	20.2	67.2	19.1	13.7
2004	28,982	5.5	22.4	27.9	19.5	47.5	20.1	67.6	19.1	13.4
2005	29,234	6.3	22.2	28.5	19.9	48.4	20.5	68.9	18.5	12.6
2006	29,426	6.7	23.3	30.0	19.4	49.4	20.5	69.9	18.0	12.2
2007	29,601	7.1	23.7	30.9	19.8	50.6	20.1	70.7	17.9	11.4
2008	29,803	7.5	23.7	31.2	19.6	50.8	20.4	71.2	17.9	10.9

Notes:

1) Numbers and percentages may not add up to totals due to rounding.

2) DIUS estimates from the Labour Force Survey, 4th quarters.

3) Data is based on calendar year. Quarter 4 is the calendar quarter from October to December.

4) Males aged 19 - 64 and females aged 19 - 59.

5) Qualifications at level 7-8 include higher degrees, postgraduate level professional qualifications and NVQ level 5.

Level 4-6 qualifications include foundation or first degrees, recognised degree-level professional qualifications, NVQ level 4, teaching or nursing qualifications, HE diploma, HNC/HND or equivalent vocational qualification.

Qualifications at level 3 include either 2 A-levels grades A-E, 4 AS levels graded A-E, an advanced GNVQ or NVQ level 3 or equivalent vocational qualification.

Trade apprenticeships have been assigned to level 3 and level 2 in the ratio 50:50.

Level 2 qualifications include either 5 GCSEs grades A*-C (or equivalent), an Intermediate GNVQ, two AS levels, an NVQ level 2 or equivalent vocational qualification.

Qualifications below level 2 include one or more GCSE grade G or equivalent (but less than five at grades A*-C), BTEC general certificates, YT certificates, other RSA certificates, other City and Guilds certificates or NVQ level 1. Key Skills and Basic Skills qualifications are also classified here.

Those qualifications that don't fit into the existing pre-code list are recorded as 'Other' qualifications, along with all foreign qualifications and any other professional qualifications. People with Other qualifications as their only, and therefore highest qualification level are assigned to level 3, level 2 and below level 2 in the ratio 10:35:55.

Table 8: Level Of Highest Qualification Held By Economically Active Adults In England (Quarter 4 2008) - Volumes, Percentages

Calendar Year	All Economically Active Adults (thousands)	Percentage of economically active adults qualified at each level								
		Level 7-8	Level 4-6	Level 4 and above	Level 3	Level 3 and above	Level 2	Level 2 and above	Below Level 2	No qualifications
2001	23,259	5.2	22.6	27.8	20.2	48.0	21.2	69.2	19.8	11.0
2002	23,411	5.5	23.1	28.6	20.6	49.1	21.5	70.6	19.3	10.1
2003	23,496	5.9	23.8	29.7	20.5	50.2	21.1	71.3	19.1	9.6
2004	23,722	6.1	24.4	30.5	20.4	50.8	20.9	71.7	18.8	9.5
2005	23,972	7.0	24.3	31.3	20.3	51.6	21.6	73.2	18.2	8.6
2006	24,238	7.4	25.2	32.6	19.9	52.5	21.5	74.0	17.6	8.4
2007	24,413	7.9	25.7	33.6	20.1	53.7	21.0	74.7	17.5	7.9
2008	24,731	8.2	25.3	33.5	20.2	53.7	21.0	74.7	17.7	7.6

Notes:

1) Numbers and percentages may not add up to totals due to rounding.

2) DIUS estimates from the Labour Force Survey, 4th quarters.

3) Data is based on calendar year. Quarter 4 is the calendar quarter from October to December.

4) Economically active adults are defined as men aged 18 to 64 and women aged 18 to 59 either in employment or International Labour Organisation (ILO) unemployed.

5) Qualifications at level 7-8 include higher degrees, postgraduate level professional qualifications and NVQ level 5.

Level 4-6 qualifications include foundation or first degrees, recognised degree-level professional qualifications, NVQ level 4, teaching or nursing qualifications, HE diploma, HNC/HND or equivalent vocational qualification.

Qualifications at level 3 include either 2 A-levels grades A-E, 4 AS levels graded A-E, an advanced GNVQ or NVQ level 3 or equivalent vocational qualification.

Trade apprenticeships have been assigned to level 3 and level 2 in the ratio 50:50.

Level 2 qualifications include either 5 GCSEs grades A*-C (or equivalent), an Intermediate GNVQ, two AS levels, an NVQ level 2 or equivalent vocational qualification.

Qualifications below level 2 include one or more GCSE grade G or equivalent (but less than five at grades A*-C), BTEC general certificates, YT certificates, other RSA certificates, other City and Guilds certificates or NVQ level 1. Key Skills and Basic Skills qualifications are also classified here.

Those qualifications that don't fit into the existing pre-code list are recorded as 'Other' qualifications, along with all foreign qualifications and any other professional qualifications. People with Other qualifications as their only, and therefore highest qualification level are assigned to level 3, level 2 and below level 2 in the ratio 10:35:55.

Table 9: Awards of NVQs/SVQs and VRQs by Academic Year in the UK - Volumes (thousands)

Year	NVQs/SVQs^{1,2}	Cumulative Total NVQs/SVQs^{1,2}	Reported VRQs from participating awarding bodies³	Cumulative Total VRQs³
Prior to 1994/95	720	720	n/a	n/a
1995/96	354	1,354	n/a	n/a
1996/97	459	1,813	n/a	n/a
1997/98	458	2,271	n/a	n/a
1998/99	442	2,713	n/a	n/a
1999/00	454	3,167	n/a	n/a
2000/01	428	3,595	n/a	n/a
2001/02	402	3,997	25	25
2002/03	425	4,422	217	241
2003/04	498	4,920	482	724
2004/05	568	5,488	936	1,660
2005/06	622	6,110	1,176	2,835
2006/07	673	6,783	1,416	4,252
2007/08	773	7,556	1,674	5,926

Notes:

1) Totals reflect the number of NVQs notified to QCA plus the number of SVQs notified to NISVQ (see Commentary, Technical Notes paragraphs 4 and 5).

2) Figures may not agree with previous years' Bulletins and SFRs due to amendments to original data submitted by Awarding Bodies to QCA.

3) Totals reflect the number of VRQ awards notified to NISVQ (see Vocational Qualifications in the UK 2007/08 Supplementary Release available at <http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrmar09/>).

4) Numbers may not sum to cumulative totals due to rounding.

5) Year is from 1 October to 30 September each year.

6) The following data sources have been used: NISVQ, QCA.

Table 10: FE and Skills - Participation by Level and Provision Type (2007/08 to 2008/09 Early Estimates) – Learner Volumes

			2007/08	2008/09
			1 August to 31 October (final)	1 August to 31 October (provisional)
	Provision Type	Level		
Total Learners			2,783,300	2,808,700
	Total Learners		861,200	878,200
	Under 19 FE		699,000	720,900
	of which			
		Foundation Learning Tier	201,300	197,800
		Skills for Life	308,200	300,100
		Full Level 2	146,400	147,100
		Full Level 3	306,300	323,400
		No Assigned Level	5,500	7,500
	Under 19 Apprentices		126,100	121,000
	of which			
		Full Level 2	94,200	89,300
		Full Level 3	31,900	31,700
	Entry to Employment		36,100	36,300
	Total Learners		1,587,400	1,637,300
	of which			
		Foundation Learning Tier	252,300	208,200
		Skills for Life	358,100	378,000
		Full Level 2	405,200	516,300
		Full Level 3	235,900	290,200
		No Assigned Level	96,500	61,100
	Total Learners		1,087,500	995,100
	of which			
		Foundation Learning Tier	243,600	200,800
		Skills for Life	338,700	334,200
		Full Level 2	85,100	104,800
		Full Level 3	85,700	99,700
		No Assigned Level	96,300	60,900
	Total Learners		499,900	642,200
	Apprenticeships		149,300	190,100
	of which			
		Full Level 2	70,700	94,200
		Full Level 3	78,700	95,800
	Train to gain		350,600	452,200
	of which			
		Foundation Learning Tier	8,800	7,500
		Skills for Life	19,500	43,800
		Full Level 2	249,400	317,200
		Full Level 3	71,500	94,600
		No Assigned Level	200	200
	Safeguarded Adult Learning		334,600	293,100
Total Adult Learner and Employer Responsive including Safeguarded Adult Learning			1,922,100	1,930,500

Notes:

1) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred.

2) Figures in this table are based on demand-led funding methodology: see <http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/funding-policy/demand-led-funding/demand-led-funding.htm> for more information on demand-led funding.

3) Further Education includes General Further Education Colleges including Tertiary, Sixth Form Colleges, Special College - Agricultural and Horticultural Colleges and Art and Design Colleges, Specialist Colleges and External Institutions.

4) The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 (F05, U05 final), 2008/09 (F01, final); WBL 2007/08 (W13, final), 2008/09 (W07, 03/03/09); ACL – 2007/08 (C03 09/03/09, C02 17/11/08), 2008/09 (C01, final).

5) This table uses learner volumes as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of learners that participated at any point during the year.

6) Apprenticeship and TTG figures for 2008/09 are provisional and subject to an upward revision once all data returns are available.

7) Age is calculated based on age as at 31 August of the academic year.

8) Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: <http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics>.

Table 11.1: Apprenticeship Framework Starts by Level and Age (2007/08 to 2008/09) – Framework Starts

Level	Age	2007/08 1 August to 31 January (final)	2008/09 1 August to 31 January (provisional)
Apprenticeship (level 2)	under 16	100	100
	16-18	51,100	46,800
	19-24	25,700	27,900
	25+	2,100	17,400
	Total	79,000	92,200
Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3)	under 16	-	-
	16-18	18,300	16,900
	19-24	18,300	17,700
	25+	2,000	13,600
	Total	38,600	48,300
All Apprenticeships	under 16	100	100
	16-18	69,400	63,700
	19-24	43,900	45,600
	25+	4,100	31,000
	Total	117,600	140,500

Table 11.2: Apprenticeship Framework Achievements by Level and Age (2007/08 to 2008/09) – Framework Achievements

Level	Age	2007/08 1 August to 31 January (final)	2008/09 1 August to 31 January (provisional)
Apprenticeship (level 2)	under 16	100	100
	16-18	18,900	17,400
	19-24	11,800	13,200
	25+	100	2,600
	Total	30,800	33,300
Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3)	under 16	-	-
	16-18	6,600	6,300
	19-24	8,200	8,800
	25+	-	800
	Total	14,800	15,900
All Apprenticeships	under 16	100	100
	16-18	25,400	23,700
	19-24	20,000	22,100
	25+	100	3,300
	Total	45,700	49,100

Notes:

- 1) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- 2) '-' Indicates a base value of less than 50.
- 3) These figures include WBL (apprenticeships only).
- 4) The following data sources have been used: 2007/08 (W13, final), 2008/09 (W07, 03/03/09).
- 5) Higher Level Apprenticeships are included with Advanced Apprenticeships. Programme-Led Apprenticeships recorded in WBL ILR returns are included in the above figures.
- 6) Table 11.1 uses programme starts as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of starts at any point during the year. Learners starting more than one course will appear more than once.
- 7) Table 11.2 uses apprenticeship framework achievements as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of framework achievements at any point during the year. Learners achieving more than one course will appear more than once.
- 8) In order to be counted as a successful achievement, all elements of the framework must have been achieved.
- 9) Apprenticeship figures are provisional and subject to an upward revision once all data returns are available.
- 10) Age is calculated based on age at start of the programme.
- 11) Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 12.1: Train to Gain Starts by Level (2007/08 to 2008/09) – Starts

Level	2007/08 1 August to 31 January (final)	2008/09 1 August to 31 January (provisional)
Foundation Learning Tier	5,000	7,800
Full level 2	175,200	231,800
Full level 3	50,400	65,200
Level 4 and above	8,200	6,100
Skills for Life	14,800	74,800
No assigned level	-	400
Total	253,600	386,200

Table 12.2: Train to Gain Achievements by Level (2007/08 to 2008/09) – Achievements

Level	2007/08 1 August to 31 January (final)	2008/09 1 August to 31 January (provisional)
Foundation Learning Tier	2,100	2,700
Full level 2	76,700	102,000
Full level 3	12,400	14,800
Level 4 and above	2,100	1,800
Skills for Life	6,200	28,400
No assigned level	-	2,400
Total	99,500	152,000

Notes:

- 1) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- 2) '-' Indicates a base value of less than 50.
- 3) These figures include WBL (Train to Gain only).
- 4) The following data sources have been used; 2007/08 (W13, final), 2008/09 (W07, 03/03/09).
- 5) Table 12.1 uses programme starts as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of starts at any point during the year. Learners starting more than one course will appear more than once.
- 6) Table 12.2 uses programme achievements as a measure for comparative purposes. Full-year numbers are a count of the number of programme achievements at any point during the year. Learners achieving more than one course will appear more than once.
- 7) Data for 2005/06 does not include Employer Training Pilot (ETP) starts and achievements in the period 1 August 2005 to 31 March 2006.
- 8) Apprenticeship figures are provisional and subject to an upward revision once all data returns are available.
- 9) Age is calculated based on age at start of the programme.
- 10) Historical data for NVQs delivered in the workplace by FE organisations are included in the 2007/08 figures; for comparative purposes.
- 11) Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.