

Table 9: 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) Volumes are rounded to the nearest thousand; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
 - 2) BIS 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 GCSEs at grade G-D 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.
- 6) The LFS is a sample survey and is subject to sampling variability. Estimates should be viewed in conjunction with their associated Confidence Intervals (CIs) . CIs for 2008 and other selected statistics are available in the LFS supplementary tables.
 - 7) For further information on how these percentages are derived from the raw data, please see the LFS methodology note, which can be found here: <http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/485BA4BB-71F6-4CD5-8658-5D85AF5A304C/0/LFSmethodologynotefinal.doc>