

Table 8: 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) 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) 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 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>