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REISSUED 4TH MARCH 2010

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 Business Innovation and Skills' (BIS) Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets on Adult Attainment and Apprenticeships¹.
- 2 This SFR has been re-issued on the 4th March 2010 to allow for a change in the methodology used to calculate Skills for Life participation. Please see Table 5 of the Release for further information.
- This SFR updates information published on 22nd October 2009. It includes Learning and Skills Council (LSC) funded participation, achievement and success rates for post-16 education² (excluding schools and Higher Education) in England, between 2005/06 and 2008/09.
- 4 Final data for the 2008/09 academic year is shown for Apprenticeships and Train to Gain. Other data for 2008/09 is provisional, and final data will be presented in the March 2010 SFR, when providers return final data for the year. We would therefore expect to see an increase in learner participation and achievements, when compared with this release. Please refer to footnotes in the relevant tables for further information.

¹ For information on young people's participation and achievement please see paragraph 34 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.

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 Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) are listed below, along with the latest performance against them³.

Adult Attainment

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:

- 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 8]: 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 guarter 4 of 2008.

Performance against these targets will be updated in the March 2010 Statistical First Release.

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

Performance against this target will be updated in the March 2010 Statistical First Release.

9 **PSA Target:** In 2004 the Government set a PSA target to improve the basic skills of 2.25 million working-age adults (19 and over and 16-19 and not in full-time education) between 2001 and 2010 with a milestone of 1.5 million adults in 2007.

³ This SFR does not cover PSAs relating to young people. For information on performance against these, please see the SFRs referenced in paragraph 35 of the Supporting Data section.

Performance [Table 5]: Between 2000/01 and 2008/09 (provisional data), 3.24 million working-age adults improved their basic skills.

- 10 BIS have an aim of 95% of adults to achieve the basic skills of functional literacy and numeracy by 2020. To support this, BIS 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 in the March 2010 Statistical First Release, when we have final data for the academic year.

Apprenticeships

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

Performance [Table 6]: There were 143,400 apprenticeship completions in 2008/09, which means that this PSA target has been achieved two years early.

Other Key Indicators

12 **Apprenticeship Completion Success Rate Indicator:** An apprenticeship completion success rate target for 2007/08 of 59%, increasing to 65% in 2008/09.

Performance [Table 3.3]: The apprenticeship completion success rate was 70.9% in 2008/09, which means that this target has been achieved.

13 **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 SR2]: The FE College success rate was 80.7% in 2007/08. FE success rates for 2008/09 will be reported on in the March 2010 Statistical First Release.

- 14 This SFR includes information from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), which is used to measure progress against the PSA targets mentioned in paragraphs 6 and 7.
- 15 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 individuals. This information will be updated following the release of Quarter 4 2009 figures in March 2010.
- 16 The Office for National Statistics (ONS) and BIS have commissioned a statistical research project to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the existing method of measuring attainment using the LFS. The research is ongoing and a final report will be published in February setting out the full findings including recommendations for any improvements. In the event of improvements being identified it would be appropriate to introduce these from March or as soon as is practical. Further information can be found here:

http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/9DBED43A-CEFA-42CD-AEE4-

 $\underline{BC112547F907/0/MeasuringAdultEducationalAttainmentUsingtheLabourForceSurvev.doc}$

KEY HEADLINES FOR 2008/09

Demand Led Funding

- 17 In January 2007 BIS consulted on a new funding approach for 16 18 year olds and adults. 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.
- 18 Because of this new funding methodology, **figures from 2008/09 are not directly comparable with those for earlier years**. This has been made clear in the accompanying tables within this release.
- 19 Statistics for 2005/06 to 2007/08 reflect the FE and Skills system before the introduction of DLF. Statistics for 2008/09 show the FE and Skills system following the introduction of DLF and are therefore not directly comparable with those for earlier years. More information can be found on Demand Led Funding on the Data Service website: http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrdec09

Data for 2008/09

20 Final data for the 2008/09 academic year is shown for Apprenticeships and Train to Gain. Other data for 2008/09 is provisional, and final data will be presented in the March 2010 SFR, when colleges and providers return final data for the year. We would therefore expect to see an increase in learner participation and achievements, when compared with this release. Please refer to footnotes in the relevant tables for further information.

Young People (aged 16-18)

Participation

- 21 Provisional data for 2008/09 shows that there were 1,059,300 learners aged under 19 participating in LSC-funded learning (excluding schools and Higher Education) [Table 1.1]. Of these:
 - 503,900 were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications;
 - 294,900 were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications;
 - 371,000 were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications.

Achievement

- 22 Provisional data for 2008/09 [Table 1.2] shows that 762,200 learners aged under 19 achieved a LSC-funded qualification. Of these:
 - 321,800 young people achieved Skills for Life qualifications;
 - 149,200 young people achieved full level 2 qualifications;
 - 165,700 young people achieved full level 3 qualifications.

Adults aged 19 and over

Participation

23 Provisional data for 2008/09 shows the number of adult learners participating on key programmes funded by the LSC [Table 2.1]. In 2008/09:

- 938,700 adults were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications;
- 959,400 adults were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications;
- 423,300 adults were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications;
- 3,697,200 adults participated in LSC-funded learning (excluding Higher Education).

Achievement

- 24 Table 2.2 shows the number of adult learners achieving a LSC-funded qualification. In 2008/09, provisional data shows that:
 - 620,900 adults achieved Skills for Life qualifications;
 - 491,600 adults achieved full level 2 qualifications;
 - 169,300 adults achieved full level 3 qualifications;
 - 2,435,500 adults achieved a LSC-funded qualification.

All Ages

Participation

- 25 Table 3.1 shows the total number of learners participating on key programmes funded by the LSC. Provisional data for 2008/09 shows that:
 - 1,442,600 learners were enrolled on Skills for Life qualifications;
 - 1,254,300 learners were enrolled on full level 2 qualifications:
 - 794,300 learners were enrolled on full level 3 qualifications;
 - 4,756,600 learners participated in LSC-funded learning (excluding Higher Education and school sixth forms).

Achievement

- 26 Table 3.2 shows, the total number of learners achieving a LSC-funded qualification. In 2008/09, provisional data shows that:
 - 942,800 learners achieved Skills for Life qualifications;
 - 640,800 learners achieved full level 2 qualifications;
 - 334,900 learners achieved full level 3 qualifications;
 - 3,197,700 learners achieved a LSC-funded qualification.

Apprenticeships

Starts

- 27 The volume of apprenticeship starts in 2008/09 was at the highest level ever recorded, at 239,900 [Table 6.1]. This is an increase of 6.8 per cent compared to 2007/08. Of these:
 - 99,000 16 to 18 year olds started an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is a decrease of 7.5 per cent compared to 2007/08.
 - 84,700 19 to 24 year olds started an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is a decrease of 5.9 per cent compared to 2007/08.
 - 55,900 25 year olds and over started an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is over double the volume of starts when compared to 2007/08.

Framework Achievements

- 28 The volume of apprenticeship framework achievements in 2008/09 was at the highest level ever recorded, at 143,400 [Table 6.2], meaning that the PSA Target to increase the number of apprenticeship completions to 130,000 by 2010/11 was achieved two years early. This is an increase of 27.4 per cent compared to 2007/08. Of these:
 - 67,300 16 to 18 year olds achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is an increase of 6.9 per cent compared to 2007/08.
 - 57,800 19 to 24 year olds achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is an increase of 20.2 per cent compared to 2007/08.
 - 17,900 25 year olds and over achieved an apprenticeship framework in 2008/09. This is an increase from 1,200 achievements in 2007/08.

Apprenticeship Success Rates

29 In 2008/09:

- The Apprenticeship Success Rate for 16 to 18 year olds was 69.6%. This is an increase of 6.4 percentage points from the 2007/08 rate.
- The Apprenticeship Success Rate for 19 year olds and over was 72.2%. This is an increase of 7.5 percentage points from the 2007/08 rate.
- The Apprenticeship Success Rate for all ages was 70.9%. This is an increase of 7.0 percentage points from the 2007/08 rate.

Train to Gain

Starts

30 There were 817,400 Train to Gain starts in 2008/09 [Table 7.1]. As referenced in paragraph 16 – 18, these figures are not directly comparable with 2007/08 due to the move to Demand-Led Funding.

Achievements

31 There were 543,100 Train to Gain achievements in 2008/09 [Table 7.2]. As referenced in paragraph 13 – 15, these figures are not directly comparable with 2007/08 due to the move to Demand-Led Funding.

MARCH 2010 SFR

- 32 The next edition of this Release will be published in March 2010. We expect this Release to include:
 - Final 2008/09 data for all funding streams;
 - 2009 information from the Labour Force Survey, showing the level of highest qualification held for both working age and economically active sub-groups of the population;
 - Estimates of the number of vocational qualifications awarded in the UK in 2009;
 - Participation and achievement figures for learners at School Sixth Forms;
 - 2008/09 performance against the new Skills for Life PSA Target;
 - Success Rate Information for 2008/09 for FE colleges and providers;
 - Information on Apprenticeship and Train to Gain starts and achievements for the first six months of the 2009/10 academic year.

 Information on Learner Responsive (including Further Education, Adult Community Learning and University for Industry) participation and achievements for the first three months of the 2009/10 academic year;

SUPPORTING DATA

- 33 Additional supporting data will be available on the Data Service website http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrdec09/ on, or shortly after, 17 December. These data show breakdowns by age, gender, ethnicity, learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and/or health problems, region, local authority, parliamentary constituency, sector and funding stream.
- 34 Further post-16 education SFRs can be found on the Department for Children Schools and Families website: 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 16th June 2009;
 - <u>Level 2 and 3 Attainment by Young People in England Measured Using</u>
 <u>Matched Administrative Data: Attainment by Age 19 in 2008</u> published on March 24th 2009.

FUTURE STATISTICAL FIRST RELEASES

- 35 In September 2007, Pricewaterhouse Coopers was commissioned by the Department for Innovation Universities and Skills (now part of the Department for Business Innovation and Skills) 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.
- 36 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.
- 37 The planned publication date for the next SFR in this series is March 2010.
- 38 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 in 2008/09. The March SFR provides final participation and achievement data. The June SFR provides an updated view of in-year participation, and the October SFR provides a first view of full-year participation.

NOTES TO EDITORS

39 Should we need to make an unplanned revision to the statistics contained in this release, we will follow the procedures outlined in the Revisions Policy for this Statistical first Release. This can be found at:

http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrdec09/. This includes action to understand the impact that any revisions will have, as well as ensuring that they are clearly communicated to the reader.

- 40 A revision has been made to Skills for Life participation and achievement volumes published in the October 2009 SFR. The methodology used to calculate these numbers has changed. A detailed explanation of this issue, and the impact that this has had on learner volumes shown in the October Statistical First Release can be found here: http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrdec09
- 41 Data for 2008/09 includes provisional learner responsive data, which is based on data returns from over 93% of providers' final returns backfilled for the missing providers with near final returns. The Adult Safeguarded Learning data included for 2008/09 is based on returns from 83% of providers. The next edition of this SFR, published in March, will update these figures using complete data for 2008/09.
- 42 This Statistical First Release (SFR) shows the latest performance against the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets on Adult Attainment and Apprenticeships
- 43 It includes provisional data for 2008/09 under the new demand led funding (DLF) system, showing Learning and Skills Council (LSC) funded participation, and includes final Apprenticeship and Train to Gain starts and achievements. It also includes success rates for post-16 education⁴ (excluding schools and Higher Education) in England, based on 2007/08 data for Further Education colleges and providers, and 2008/09 data for Apprenticeships. Information for Further Education colleges and providers will be updated in the March 2010 edition of this SFR.
- 44 Statistics for 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 reflect the FE and Skills system before the introduction of DLF. Statistics for 2008/09 show the FE and Skills system following the introduction of DLF and are therefore not directly comparable with those for earlier years. More information can be found on Demand Led Funding on the Data Service website here: http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrdec09
- 45 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.
- 46 These organisations deliver a wide variety of government programmes, including:
 - College-based Learning
 - Apprenticeships
 - Train to Gain
 - Safeguarded Adult Learning.
- 47 This SFR does not contain information regarding:
 - European Social Fund (ESF) provision
 - Delivery in School Sixth Forms

⁴ 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.

- Higher education
- Privately-funded training at FE organisations/ independent training organisations.
- 48 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

49 The metrics used in this SFR are outlined below.

Metric	Definition
Starts	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.
	This measure is helpful in determining the take-up of programmes, and is a key performance measure for Apprenticeships and Train to Gain.
Learner Numbers	The number of people who are undertaking learning in a given time period, usually annually, or on a fixed date.
	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.
Achievements	'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.
	A successful apprenticeship 'framework achievement' requires all elements of the framework to be completed.
	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.
FE Success Rates	The cohort used to calculate FE success rates is based upon the academic year the qualification aim is planned to finish in.
	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.
	As success rates are calculated at a qualification aim level, learners with more than one qualification aim will be included more than once.

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.

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.

Apprenticeship Framework Success Rates

The cohort used to calculate apprenticeship framework success rates is marginally different from that used for FE.

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.

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.

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.

Data Definitions

- 50 A definitions document to accompany this release is available on the Data Service website at: http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrdec09/. The data definitions document for the October SFR is available in a supplementary document, DS/SFR3 on the Data Service website here: http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfroct09/
- 51 Data published in this SFR is categorised as either 'provisional' 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 when data are less volatile.
- 52 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.
	 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 workbased 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 (UfI), that offers courses from top up skills in English and Maths through to NVQs via a network of online learning centres.
Train to Gain	Train to Gain delivers 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	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;						
	 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: 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	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. 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.						
Adult Learner Responsive from 2008/09	Adult Learner Responsive includes post-19 education that is primarily taught in Further Education organisations (see later definition) and Entry to Employment. 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.						
Employer Responsive from 2008/09	Employer Responsive includes apprenticeships and Train to Gain (For 2008/09, Train to Gain includes FE NVQs that were delivered in the workplace).						
Age	Different age categorisations are used for planning and funding different programmes. As a result, this SFR uses different age						

	categorisations within the document.						
	For tables other than 6 and 7, age is calculated based upon the age as at 31 August of the relevant academic year. An academic year runs from 1 st August through to 31 st July. In Tables 6.1 and 6.2 age is calculated as at the start of the programme.						
	Age breakdowns for success rates are based upo	on the age:					
	 As at the start of the programme (for apprenticeships) As at 31 August of the year the qualification started (for FE). 						
	For the supplementary tables, age is disaggregat under 16, 16, 17, 18, 19-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-59, unknown age.						
Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	This is activity funded by the LSC which is below does not include any Skills for Life qualifications, separately in the Skills for Life section.						
Full Level 2	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.						
	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%					
	An apprenticeship at level 2 is counted as a full le	evel 2.					
	This operational measure using administrative da closely as possible to official target measures.	ta matches as					
First Full Level 2	Learners on a Full Level 2 who have not achieved before.	d a Full Level 2					

Full Level 3	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.						
	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%					
	Advanced apprenticeships and Higher Level Apcounted as a full level 3.	prenticeships are					
	This operational measure using administrative of closely as possible to the official target measure						
First Full Level 3	Learners on a Full Level 3 who have not achiev before.	ed a Full Level 3					
Skills for Life	Information included in this SFR relates to all LS Life provision.	SC funded Skills for					
	Progress towards the Skills for Life 2010 target retrospectively by the number of adults aged 16 improve their skills by at least one level through following nationally approved qualifications:	and over who					
	 Certificates in Adult Literacy, Numeracy of Life at entry level 3, level 1 or level 2 	or ESOL Skills for					
	 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 D-G = level 1). 						
	Each learner only counts towards the national to regardless of any subsequent achievements. Pet the target is set out in paragraph 7.	_					
Level 2	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.						
Level 3	The number of learners undertaking LSC funder	d level 3					

	qualifications. This would include all learners that are doing full level 3 programmes, as well as those that are doing other part									
		or example one AS level.								
Level 4+	The number of learner	The number of learners undertaking LSC funded level 4 and above qualifications.								
Approved Provision		Approved Provision are those courses that are approved for								
, pproved i revision	funding under section 96 or section 97 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000. The LSC also funds aims outside of this approved list.									
		Further details can be found at								
		gov.uk/lsc/National/LSC-P-NAT-								
	080077 Principles-Rules-Regulations.pdf.									
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	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. 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.								
	Sixth Form College	Although an FE organisation, these are categorised separately.								
		Almost all LSC-funded activity in Sixth Form Colleges is Further Education.								
	HE Institution	Universities. These are often included with FE organisations for reporting purposes.								
		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.								
	Independent Training Organisation	Organisations registered by Companies House, Financial Services Authority including Sole Traders and unincorporated partnerships and								

	associations.
	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.
Local Authority	Any tier of local government.
	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.
Other	This includes: 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.
	Please note that not all of these types of organisations return ILR data, so may not be included in this SFR.

Data Sources

53 Individual-level data are returned to the Data Service 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 L05 (provisional, 24 November 2009) and ILR L04 – final				
Work-based learning,	2007/08 and earlier years – ILR W13 – final				
including Apprenticeships	2008/09 - ILR E13 - final				
and Train to Gain	2009/10 – ILR E05 (provisional, 8 January 2010)				
Ufl/ Learndirect	2006/07 and earlier years – ILR U03 – final				
	2007/08 - ILR U05, final				
	2008/09 – ILR U04 (provisional, 14 September 2009)				
Safeguarded Adult	2006/07 and earlier years – ILR C03 – final				
Learning	2007/08 - ILR C03, final, C02 - final				
	2008/09 – ILR C04 (provisional, 26 November 2009)				

The Level of Highest Qualification Held By Adults

- 54 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. Further details of how this information is used to calculate the statistics presented here can be found at:

 http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/485BA4BB-71F6-4CD5-8658-5D85AF5A304C/0/LFSmethodologynotefinal.doc
- 55 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. This can be found here: Level 2 and 3 Attainment by Young People in England Measured Using Matched Administrative Data: Attainment by Age 19 in 2008

Table 1.1: Young People (Under 19s) FE and Apprenticeship Participation by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) - Learner Volumes

			2005/06	2006	5/07	2007	/08	2008/095
					% change		% change	
		Level	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	06/07 to 07/08	Full Year (provisional)
Total	Learners		1,026,400	1,026,200		1,056,400	2.9%	1,059,300
		Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	333,600	315,700	-5.4%	332,200	5.2%	289,200
		Skills for Life	498,000	488,500	-1.9%	487,200	-	503,900
		Full Level 2	296,900	300,900	1.3%	302,200	-	294,900
Participation	of which	Full Level 3	331,100	343,800	3.8%	357,800	4.1%	371,000
rarucipation	of which	Level 2	551,300	557,700	1.2%	562,700	0.9%	573,500
		Level 3	441,400	458,900	4.0%	473,600	3.2%	485,400
		Level 4+	1,200	1,000	-15.4%	1,300	34.0%	1,100
		No Level Assigned	395,100	434,400	9.9%	464,900	7.0%	579,800

Table 1.2: Young People (Under 19s) FE and Apprenticeship Achievement by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) - Learner Volumes

			LSC Funded Learners					
			2005/06	2006	5/07 2007/08		/08	2008/095
					% change		% change	
		Level	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	06/07 to 07/08	Full Year (provisional)
Tota	l Learners		666,600	679,600	1.9%	717,300 5.5%		762,200
		Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	202,200	196,600	-2.8%	218,600	11.2%	221,900
		Skills for Life	279,600	280,200	-	291,900	4.2%	321,800
		Full Level 2	119,600	133,900	12.0%	138,600	3.5%	149,200
Achievement	of which	Full Level 3	137,700	148,200	7.6%	159,800	7.8%	165,700
Achievement	or which	Level 2	276,400	301,700	9.2%	320,500	6.2%	351,200
		Level 3	260,700	278,300	6.8%	293,500	5.5%	306,700
		Level 4+	300	200	-11.8%	600	142.5%	500
		No Level Assigned	275,200	300,400	9.2%	327,700	9.1%	379,400

Table 1.3: Young People (Under 19s) FE and Apprenticeship Success Rates by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) – Percentages

		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
	Level	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)
Total Further Education Provision		75.1%	77.4%	79.9%	
	Skills for Life	69.0%	72.8%	76.0%	
	Full Level 2	67.9%	70.1%	74.1%	
of which	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					
	Apprenticeships (level 2)	51.8%	60.3%	64.2%	68.3%
of which	Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3)	44.5%	56.9%	60.7%	73.6%
	All	49.7%	59.5%	63.3%	69.6%

1) The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 and earlier years (F05 final), 2008/09 (L05 24/11/09, L04 Final); WBL - 2007/08 and earlier years (W13 final), 2008/09 (E13 Final); ACL - 2006/07 and earlier years (C03), 2007/08 (C03 final), 2008/09 (C04 26/11/09); UFI - 2007/08 and earlier years (U05 final), 2008/09 (U04 14/09/09).

2) 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.

- 3) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- 4) '-' Indicates a base value of less than fifty or a percentage of less than 0.5%.
- 5) Figures for 2008/09 are not directly comparable to earlier years as the introduction of demand led funding has changed how data is collected and how funded learners are defined from 2008/09 onwards. More information on demand led funding is available at http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/funding-policy/demand-led-funding htm.
- 6) To allow for comparison between different data sources, tables use age as at 31 August of the academic year for all provision. These tables include learners under 19, including a small number of under 16 year olds.
- 7) 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. All learners undertaking/achieving a full level 2 or 3 qualification will also appear in the level 2 or level's Category, respectively.
- 8) Success rates are calculated as the number of learning aims achieved divided by the number of learning aims expected to complete, excluding any learners who transferred on to another learning aim within the same institution.

 9) Apprenticeship success rates are based on the number of learners who meet all of the requirements of their apprenticeship framework, divided by the number of learners who have left training or successfully completed their ratining in the academic warr.
- 10) Table 1.2 reports on the actual number of achievements within the academic year without reference to those which were expected to complete. Table 1.3 reports success rates which are based on the reported achievement of individual aims that were expected to complete in the academic year.
- 11) Further breakdowns of the data shown in these tables will be available from March 2010 at The Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 2.1: Adult (19+) FE and Skills Participation by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) - Learner Volumes

Statistical First Release: DS/SFR5

			LSC Funded Learners					
			2005/06	2006/07 % change		2007/08 % change		2008/09
		Level	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	06/07 to 07/08	Full Year (provisional)
Total	Learners		3,983,800	3,206,400	-19.5%			3,697,200
		Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	1,031,800	589,500	-42.9%	532,500	-9.7%	427,000
		Skills for Life	979,400	809,900	-17.3%	826,500	2.0%	938,700
		Full Level 2	441,300	516,300	17.0%	740,100	43.3%	959,400
Participation	of which	Full Level 3	264,200	267,600	1.3%	328,100	22.6%	423,300
raiucipation	or willen	Level 2	1,235,300	1,118,400	-9.5%	1,319,400	18.0%	1,542,600
		Level 3	524,900	485,800	-7.4%	528,200	8.7%	619,300
		Level 4+	68,300	59,900	-12.2%	53,200	-11.1%	57,700
		No Level Assigned	1,050,300	842,300	-19.8%	803,600	-4.6%	862,600

Table 2.2: Adult (19+) FE and Skills Achievement by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) - Learner Volumes

•					LSC Funded	Learners		
			2005/06	2006		2007	/08 % change	2008/09
		Level	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	06/07 to 07/08	Full Year (provisional)
Total	Learners		2,931,400	2,233,100	-23.8%	2,243,600	-	2,435,500
		Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	758,100	430,200	-43.2%	406,500	-5.5%	317,500
		Skills for Life	737,800	540,900	-26.7%	520,700	-3.7%	620,900
		Full Level 2	216,500	235,600	8.8%	320,300	35.9%	491,600
Achievement	of which	Full Level 3	110,000	115,000	4.6%	134,400	16.9%	169,300
Acmevement	OI WINCH	Level 2	759,200	660,600	-13.0%	734,700	11.2%	895,500
		Level 3	285,600	271,400	-5.0%	285,600	5.2%	312,100
		Level 4+	33,100	30,300	-8.4%	25,800	-14.9%	26,700
		No Level Assigned	866,600	689,700	-20.4%	682,800	-1.0%	652,800

Table 2.3: Adult (19+) FE and Apprenticeship Success Rates by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) - Percentages

		Level	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
			Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)
Total Further Education Provis	ion		76.8%	76.5%	80.5%	
		Skills for Life	65.3%	67.9%	73.1%	
		Full Level 2	68.3%	69.4%	71.4%	
	of which	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						
		Apprenticeships (level 2)	50.9%	60.1%	64.8%	72.8%
	of which	Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3)	41.4%	56.0%	64.5%	71.2%
		All	46.9%	58.5%	64.7%	72.2%

1) The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 and earlier years (F05 final), 2008/09 (L05 24/11/09, L04 Final); WBL - 2007/08 and earlier years (W13 final), 2008/09 (E13 Final); ACL - 2006/07 and earlier years (C03), 2007/08 (C03 final, C02 final), 2008/09 (C04 26/11/09); UFI - 2007/08 and earlier years (U05 final), 2008/09 (U04 14/09/09), Employer Training Pilot (ETP) - 2006/07 and earlier years (ETP database).

2) 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

- 3) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- 4) '-' Indicates a base value of less than fifty or a percentage of less than 0.5%.
- 5) Figures for 2008/09 are not directly comparable to earlier years as the introduction of demand led funding has changed how data is collected and how funded learners are defined from 2008/09 onwards. More information on demand led funding is available at http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/funding-policy/demand-led-funding.htm.
- 6) To allow for comparison between different data sources, tables use age as at 31 August of the academic year for all provision.
- 7) 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. All learners undertaking/achieving a full level 2 or 3
- 8) Success rates are calculated as the number of learning aims achieved divided by the number of learning aims expected to complete, excluding any learners who transferred on to another learning aim within the same institution.
- 9) Apprenticeship success rates are based on the number of learners who meet all of the requirements of their apprenticeship framework, divided by the number of learners who have left training or successfully completed their training
- 10) Table 2.2 reports on the actual number of achievements within the academic year without reference to those which were expected to complete. Table 2.3 reports success rates which are based on the reported achievement of individual aims that were expected to complete in the academic year.
- 11) Further breakdowns of the data shown in these tables will be available from March 2010 at The Data Service website; www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 3.1: Overall FE and Skills Participation by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) - Learner Volumes

					LSC Funde	d Learners		
			2005/06	2006	3/07 % change	2007	/08 % change	2008/09 ;
		Level	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	06/07 to 07/08	Full Year (provisional)
Total	Learners		5,010,200	4,232,500	-15.5%	4,362,400	3.1%	4,756,600
		Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	1,365,500	905,200	-33.7%	864,700	-4.5%	716,200
		Skills for Life	1,477,500	1,298,400	-12.1%	1,313,700	1.2%	1,442,600
		Full Level 2	738,300	817,200	10.7%	1,042,300	27.5%	1,254,300
Participation	of which	Full Level 3	595,300	611,400	2.7%	685,900	12.2%	794.300
raracipation	or winch	Level 2	1,786,600	1,676,100	-6.2%	1,882,100	12.3%	2,116,000
		Level 3	966,300	944,700	-2.2%	1,001,800	6.0%	1,104,700
		Level 4+	69,400	60,900	-12.3%	54,600	-10.4%	58,800
		No Level Assigned	1,445,500	1,276,700	-11.7%	1,268,600	-0.6%	1,442,500

Table 3.2: Overall FE and Skills Achievement by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) - Learner Volumes

					LSC Funde	d Learners		
			2005/06	2006		2007		2008/09
			Full Year	Full Year	% change	F. II V		FII V
		Level	full fear (final)	(final)	05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	06/07 to	Full Year (provisional)
Total	Learners		3,598,000	2,912,700	-19.0%	2,960,900	1.7%	3,197,700
		Below Level 2 (excluding Skills for Life)	960,300	626,800	-34.7%	625,100	-	539,400
		Skills for Life	1,017,300	821,100	-19.3%	812,600	00 1.7% 00 -1.0% 00 24.2% 00 11.8% 00 9.7% 00 5.4% 10 -13.6%	942,800
		Full Level 2	336,100	369,500	9.9%	458,800		640,800
Achievement	of which	Full Level 3	247,700	263,200	6.3%	294,300	11.8%	334,900
Acmevement	oi which	Level 2	1,035,600	962,300	-7.1%	1,055,200	9.7%	1,246,600
		Level 3	546,300	549,700	0.6%	579,100	5.4%	618,700
		Level 4+	33,400	30,600	-8.4%	26,400	-13.6%	27,100
		No Level Assigned	1,141,800	990,000	-13.3%	1,010,500	2.1%	1,032,200

Table 3.3: Overall FE and Apprenticeship Success Rates by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) - Percentages

	Level	2005/06 Full Year (final)	2006/07 Full Year (final)	2007/08 Full Year (final)	2008/09 Full Year (final)
Total Further Education Provision	Skills for Life Full Level 2 of which Full Level 3 Level 2		76.8%	80.2%	
	Skills for Life	66.7%	69.8%	74.2%	
	Full Level 2	68.1%	69.7%	72.7%	
of which	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					
	Apprenticeships (level 2)	51.5%	60.2%	64.4%	70.4%
of which	Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3)	42.9%	56.4%	62.8%	72.1%
	All	48.6%	59.0%	63.9%	70.9%

1) The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 and earlier years (F05 final), 2008/09 (L05 24/11/09, L04 Final); WBL - 2007/08 and earlier years (W13 final), 2008/09 (E13 Final); ACL - 2006/07 and earlier years (C03), 2007/08 (C03 final), 2008/09 (C04 26/11/09); UFI - 2007/08 and earlier years (U05 final), 2008/09 (U04 14/09/09), Employer Training Pilot (ETP) - 2006/07 and earlier years (ETP database).

2) 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.

- 3) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred; percentages are calculated based on pre-rounded data.
- 4) '-' Indicates a base value of less than fifty or a percentage of less than 0.5%.
- 5) Figures for 2008/09 are not directly comparable to earlier years as the introduction of demand led funding has changed how data is collected and how funded learners are defined from 2008/09 onwards. More information on demand led funding is available at http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/funding-policy/demand-led-funding.htm.
- 6) To allow for comparison between different data sources, tables use age as at 31 August of the academic year for all provision. These tables include learners under 19, including a small number of under 16 year olds.
- 7) 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. All learners undertaking/achieving a full level 2 or 3 qualification will also appear in the level 2 or 1 evel 3 category, respectively.
- 8) Success rates are calculated as the number of learning aims achieved divided by the number of learning aims expected to complete, excluding any learners who transferred on to another learning aim within the same institution.
- 9) Apprenticeship success rates are based on the number of learners who meet all of the requirements of their apprenticeship framework, divided by the number of learners who have left training or successfully completed their training in the academic year.
- 10) Table 3.2 reports on the actual number of achievements within the academic year without reference to those which were expected to complete. Table 3.3 reports success rates which are based on the reported achievement of individual aims that were expected to complete in the academic year.
- 11) Further breakdowns of the data shown in these tables will be available from March 2010 at The Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 4: FE and Skills - Participation and Achievement by Level and Provision Type (2008/09) - Learner Volumes

	Provision Typ	е		LSC Funde 2008	
				Participation Full Year	Achievement Full Year
			Level	(provisional)	(provisional)
Total Learners				4,756,600	3,197,70
	Total Learners	·		1,059,300	762,20
	Under 19 Furti	ner Education Pro	vision	792,500	664,30
		of which	Below Level 2	267,800	208,50
			of which Foundation Learning Tier	246,600	188,9
			Skills for Life	372,900	261,9
Youth			Full Level 2	164,600	108,9
			Full Level 3	326,900	159,60
			No Level Assigned	491,600	341,20
	Under 19 Appr	entices		173,900	46,10
		of which	Full Level 2	129,800	40,00
			Full Level 3	44,100	6.10
	Entry to Emple	ovment		78,100	42.10
	Total Learners			2,997,700	1,922,10
		of which	Below Level 2	447,400	328,9
			of which Foundation Learning Tier	279,700	196,5
Adult			Skills for Life	689,700	496,2
			Full Level 2	959,600	491,8
			Full Level 3	458,800	130,2
			No Level Assigned / Other TtG	250,100	182,70
	Total Learners	1		1,744,700	1,263,2
		of which	Below Level 2	437,600	323,6
			of which Foundation Learning Tier	269,900	191,2
Adult Learner Responsive			Skills for Life	579,200	398,1
			Full Level 2	138,700	77,20
			Full Level 3	144,100	61,70
			No Level Assigned	249,900	176,60
	Total Learners	1		1,252,900	658,9
	Apprenticeshi	ps		270,900	97,10
		of which	Full Level 2	143,800	58,00
			Full Level 3	127,000	39,10
	Train to Gain			957,200	543,0
Employer Responsive		of which	Below Level 2	9,800	5,3
Employer Responsive			of which Foundation Learning Tier	9,800	5,3
			Skills for Life	110,500	98,10
			Full Level 2	677,100	356,60
			Full Level 3	187,700	68,40
			No Level Assigned / Other TtG	200	6,2
	Other Employe	Responsive Progr	ammes	24,900	18,90
eguarded Adult Learning				737,700	537,1
<u> </u>		of which	Skills for Life	53,400	38,00
		d Adult Learning		3,697,200	2,435,50

¹⁾ The following data sources have been used; FE - 2008/09 (L05 24/11/09, L04 Final); WBL - 2008/09 (E13 Final); ACL - 2008/09 (C04 26/11/09); UFI - 2008/09 (U04 14/09/09).

²⁾ 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.

³⁾ Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred.

⁵⁾ Figures in this table are based on demand-led funding methodology; see http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/funding-policy/demand-led-funding.htm for more information on demand-led funding.

⁶⁾ Achievements in this table are provisional and will rise when all final data is returned. Revised information will be in shown in the March 2010 SFR when final data is available.

⁷⁾ To allow for comparison between different data sources, the table uses age as at 31 August of the academic year for all provision. The table include learners under 19, including a small number of under 16 year olds.

⁸⁾ Full-year numbers are a count of the number of learners that participated at any point during the year. Learners undertaking 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. Where possible learners are not counted more than once in overall youth and adult totals.

⁹⁾ Foundation Learning Tier totals are those aims that are Below Level 2 and approved.

¹⁰⁾ Train to Gain No Level Assigned includes SME flexibilities which are thin Level 2 and 3 and Level 2 and 3 units. The policy for SME flexibilities was introduced in January 2009.

¹¹⁾ Skills for Life is shown where it is a distinct programme. Skills for Life is not shown where it is an integral part of WBL programmes (including Entry to Employment). Full Skills for Life figures

¹²⁾ Further breakdowns of these are available at The Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 5.1: FE and Skills - Skills for Life Participation and Achievement by Level (2005/06 to 2008/09) – Learner Volumes Re-issued on 4 March 2010

Measure	Level	2005/06	2006/	07 ^R	2007/	2008/094	
		Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	% change 05/06 to 06/07	Full Year (final)	% change 06/07 to 07/08	Full Year (provisional)
,	Total Learners	1,472,500	1,293,000	-12.2%	1,308,400	1.2%	1,438,700
	of which literacy	1,079,500	876,600	-18.8%	912,900	4.1%	1,010,400
	of which entry level	219,700	160,200	-27.1%	163,400	2.0%	166,300
	of which level 1 of which level 2	387,900 395,500	385,000 399,800	-0.7% 1.1%	411,800 402,300	6.9% 0.6%	461,000 455,100
	of which numeracy	826,000	711,000	-13.9%	764,100	7.5%	895,700
Participation	of which entry level	134,900	104,200	-22.8%	117,800	13.1%	151,800
· u.upuuo	of which level 1	358,700	354,200	-1.3%	382,300	7.9%	438,400
	of which level 2	307,500	308,300	-	323,400	4.9%	377,300
	of which ESOL	266,600	243,900	-8.5%	217,800	-10.7%	210,200
	of which entry level	119,100	202,500	70.0%	186,200	-8.0%	179,400
	of which level 1	28,500	33,600	18.0%	26,300	-21.6%	26,200
	of which level 2	10,100	12,400	22.9%	10,000	-19.2%	10,100
	Total Learners	1,015,700	819,200	-19.3%	810,800	-1.0%	941,600
	of which literacy	688,800	524,600	-23.8%	544,500	3.8%	614,100
	of which entry level	162,100	115,100	-29.0%	113,300	-1.6%	102,600
	of which level 1	206,500	225,600	9.3%	234,600	4.0%	279,800
	of which level 2	199,500	215,900	8.2%	211,100	-2.2%	250,000
	of which numeracy	483,400	402,200	-16.8%	424,200	5.5%	567,100
Achievement	of which entry level	97,200	73,900	-24.0%	77,600	5.1%	95,300
	of which level 1	177,200	207,700	17.2%	216,200	4.1%	270,300
	of which level 2	146,600	147,000		159,400	8.4%	197,000
	of which ESOL	219,600	166,000	-24.4%	155,900	-6.1%	146,800
	of which entry level	84,900	138,800	63.4%	134,700	-3.0%	126,000
	of which level 1	16,700	21,800	30.1%	17,000	-21.9%	16,800
	of which level 2	5,300	7,700	46.2%	6,600	-14.6%	6,500
	2010 target-bearing achievements	518,200	597,800	15.4%	651,400	9.0%	553,600
	Annual discounted achievements	437,500	502,400	14.8%	547,000	8.9%	465,800
Under 16	Participation	4,900	5,400	10.3%	5,200	-3.2%	3,900
	Achievement	1,600	1,800	12.7%	1,800	-1.6%	5,300

Table 5.2: FE and Skills - Learners (Aged 16+) Skills for Life Achievement (2000/01 to 2008/09) - Accumulated Learner Volumes

		2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 (provisional)
Achievement										-
	Accumulated	159,400	377,100	588,500	865,200	1,286,700	1,724,200	2,226,600	2,773,600	3,239,400

R) Skills for Life participation figures have been revised due to a change in the methodology used to analyse University for Industry learners. For more information see http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/6FAAB506-1C51-45CF-85BB-DF8BEEA064FF/0/dsrevisiontouniversityforlifesflmethodology.pdf.

1) The following data sources have been used; FE - 2007/08 and earlier years (F05 final), 2008/09 (L05 24/11/09, L04 Final); WBL - 2007/08 and earlier years (W13 final), 2008/09 (E13 Final); ACL - 2006/07 and earlier years (C03), 2007/08 (C03 final, C02 final), 2008/09 (C04 26/11/09); UFI - 2007/08 and earlier years (U05 final), 2008/09 (U04 14/09/09), Employer Training Pilot (ETP) - 2006/07 and earlier years (ETP database).

- 2) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred
- 3) '-' Indicates a base value of less than fifty.
- 4) Figures for 2008/09 are not directly comparable to earlier years as the introduction of demand led funding has changed how data is collected and how funded learners are defined from 2008/09 onwards. More information on demand led funding is available at http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/funding-policy/demand-led-funding.htm.
- 5) To allow for comparison between different data sources, tables use age as at 31 August of the academic year for all provision.
- 6) 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 i different data collections, whether that relates to different years or different funding streams, will be counted more than once.
- 7) Table 5.2 only includes those achievements counting towards the 2010 Skills for Life target, and not all achievements.
- 8) More information on the revisions to Skills for Life figures is available at http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/sfrdec09.
- 9) Further breakdowns of the data shown in these tables will be available from March 2010 at The Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 6.1: Apprenticeship Programme Starts by Level and Age (2005/06 to 2009/10 early estimates)

Level	Age	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09		2007	/08			2008	/09	<u></u>	2009/10
		Full Year (final)	Full year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Quarter 1 (final)	Quarter 2 (final)	Quarter 3 (final)	Quarter 4 (final)	Quarter 1 (final)	Quarter 2 (final)	Quarter 3 (final)	Quarter 4 (final)	Quarter 1 (provisional)
Apprenticeship (level 2)	Under 16	500	500	500	300	100	-	-	400	100	-	-	200	100
	16-18	76,600	80,300	81,500	73,800	39,700	13,900	13,600	14,400	36,900	13,300	11,300	12,300	34,400
	19-24	45,600	46,500	55,200	52,600	16,300	10,700	14,900	13,200	18,000	12,000	12,800	9,800	19,500
	25+	100	100	14,600	31,700	800	1,400	4,100	8,300	9,900	8,700	8,500	4,600	7,500
	Total	122,800	127,400	151,800	158,500	56,900	26,000	32,600	36,200	64,900	34,000	32,600	27,000	61,500
Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3)	Under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	16-18	22,400	24,800	25,500	25,100	14,800	3,900	3,200	3,600	15,400	3,200	2,900	3,600	14,200
	19-24	29,500	32,100	34,900	32,100	12,400	6,400	8,600	7,500	13,500	6,500	6,700	5,400	14,700
	25+	200	100	12,600	24,200	900	1,300	3,900	6,500	8,400	6,100	6,100	3,500	5,500
	Total	52,100	57,000	73,000	81,400	28,000	11,600	15,800	17,500	37,400	15,800	15,700	12,500	34,300
All Apprenticeships	Under 16	500	500	500	400	100	-	-	400	100	-	-	300	100
	16-18	99,000	105,100	107,000	99,000	54,500	17,800	16,800	18,000	52,300	16,400	14,300	15,900	48,500
	19-24	75,200	78,600	90,100	84,700	28,700	17,200	23,600	20,600	31,500	18,500	19,500	15,200	34,200
	25+	300	300	27,200	55,900	1,600	2,700	8,000	14,700	18,300	14,900	14,600	8,100	13,000
	Total	175,000	184,400	224,800	239,900	84,900	37,600	48,400	53,800	102,300	49,800	48,300	39,500	95,800

Table 6.2: Apprenticeship Framework Achievements by Level and Age (2005/06 to 2009/10 early estimates)

Level	Age	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09		2007	/N8				2009/10		
	3	Full Year (final)	Full year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Quarter 1 (final)	Quarter 2 (final)	Quarter 3 (final)	Quarter 4 (final)	Quarter 1 (final)	2008 Quarter 2 (final)	Quarter 3 (final)	Quarter 4 (final)	Quarter 1 (provisional)
Apprenticeship (level 2)	Under 16	400	400	300	300	100	-	100	100	100	-	100	200	100
	16-18	44,600	49,700	46,800	49,900	10,700	8,200	9,100	18,800	11,600	8,300	9,100	20,900	11,100
	19-24	25,300	28,200	28,400	35,500	6,300	5,500	6,500	10,000	7,500	7,000	8,400	12,600	8,300
	25+	-	100	900	12,500	-	-	200	600	900	1,900	3,300	6,300	4,700
	Total	70,300	78,400	76,300	98,100	17,000	13,800	15,800	29,600	20,100	17,300	20,900	39,900	24,100
Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3)	Under 16	100	100	-	=	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	16-18	13,900	15,500	16,200	17,500	3,600	3,000	3,300	6,300	4,000	2,800	3,600	7,100	4,000
	19-24	14,300	17,800	19,700	22,400	4,500	3,700	4,300	7,200	5,400	4,300	4,800	7,900	5,700
	25+	100	100	300	5,400	-	-	100	200	300	500	1,200	3,300	2,700
	Total	28,400	33,400	36,200	45,200	8,100	6,700	7,600	13,700	9,700	7,600	9,600	18,300	12,400
All Apprenticeships	Under 16	500	500	300	300	100	-	100	100	100	-	100	200	100
	16-18	58,500	65,200	63,000	67,300	14,300	11,200	12,300	25,200	15,600	11,100	12,700	27,900	15,100
	19-24	39,600	46,000	48,100	57,800	10,800	9,300	10,800	17,200	12,900	11,300	13,200	20,500	14,000
	25+	100	200	1,200	17,900	-	100	200	800	1,200	2,500	4,600	9,600	7,400
	Total	98,700	111,800	112,600	143,400	25,200	20,600	23,500	43,400	29,800	24,900	30,500	58,100	36,500

¹⁾ The following data sources have been used; Work-based learning (WBL) - 2007/08 and earlier years (W13 final), 2008/09 (E13 final), 2009/10 (E05 08/01/10).

²⁾ Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred.

^{3) &#}x27;-' Indicates a base value of less than fifty.

⁴⁾ Unlike participation figures, figures for 2008/09 onwards are comparable with earlier years as demand led funding rules are not applied to starts and achievements

⁵⁾ Apprenticeship starts and achievements for 2009/10 are provisional and subject to an upward revision once all data returns are available.

⁶⁾ Age is calculated based on age at start of the programme rather than based on 31 August.

⁷⁾ In Table 6.1 full-year numbers are a count of the number of starts at any point during the year. Learners starting more than one framework will appear more than once.

⁸⁾ In Table 6.2 full-year numbers are a count of the number of framework achievements at any point during the year. Learners achieving more than one framework will appear more than once.

⁹⁾ Higher Level Apprenticeships are included with Advanced Apprenticeships. Programme-Led Apprenticeships recorded in WBL ILR returns are included in the above figures.

¹⁰⁾ In order to be counted as a successful achievement, all elements of the framework must have been achieved.

¹¹⁾ Quarter 1 - 1 August to 31 October; Quarter 2 - 1 November to 31 January; Quarter 3 - 1 February to 30 April; Quarter 4 - 1 May to 31 July.

¹²⁾ Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 7.1: Train to Gain Starts by Level (2005/06 to 2009/10 early estimates)

Level	2005/06 April to	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 ⁴		200	7/08			2009/104			
	July 2006	Full year	Full Year	Full Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1
	(final)	(finall)	(final)	(final)	(final)	(final)	(final)	(final)	(final)	(final)	(final)	(final)	(provisional)
Foundation Learning Tier	-	-	-	8,100	-	-	-	-	2,000	1,700	2,700	1,700	900
Full Level 2	27,700	172,400	263,900	516,900	57,200	59,300	70,500	76,900	120,800	128,200	174,200	93,600	97,000
Other Level 2	-	-	-	1,700	-	-	-	-	-	200	1,100	400	100
Full Level 3	500	14,600	43,000	135,000	8,100	8,200	11,700	15,000	39,900	32,800	40,900	21,400	27,200
Other Level 3	-	-	-	400	-	-	-	-	-	100	300	100	200
Level 4 and above	-	-	-	11,700	-	-	-	-	4,100	2,700	3,300	1,500	1,600
Skills for Life	3,500	19,300	39,200	143,400	7,600	7,800	10,700	13,100	31,900	38,400	50,300	22,800	19,100
No Level Assigned	700	100	-	300			<u> </u>	-	100		100	-	200
Total	32,400	206,300	346,200	817,400	72,900	75,300	92,900	105,100	198,800	204,100	272,900	141,500	146,300

Table 7.2: Train to Gain Achievements by Level (2005/06 to 2009/10 early estimates)

Level	2000/00 2000/01 2001/00					200	7/08				2009/104		
	April to July 2006 (final)	Full year (final)	Full Year (final)	Full Year (final)	Quarter 1 (final)	Quarter 2 (final)	Quarter 3 (final)	Quarter 4 (final)	Quarter 1 (final)	Quarter 2 (final)	Quarter 3 (final)	Quarter 4 (final)	Quarter 1 (provisional)
Foundation Learning Tier		-	-	5,300	-	-	-	-	900	1,000	1,400	2,000	1,000
Full Level 2	5,000	60,400	153,400	356,700	28,500	32,200	41,500	51,200	58,900	70,700	94,500	132,600	76,000
Other Level 2	-	-	-	900	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	700	200
Full Level 3	700	2,600	14,100	68,400	1,600	2,700	3,700	6,100	8,200	11,600	16,200	32,500	18,200
Other Level 3	-	-	-	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	200
Level 4 and above	-	-	-	7,300	-	-	-	-	1,100	1,400	1,700	3,100	1,500
Skills for Life	700	7,800	19,000	98,100	2,800	3,400	5,300	7,500	10,500	19,000	32,000	36,600	13,900
No Level Assigned		300	100	6,200				_	1,500	1,700	1,500	1,500	600
Total	6,500	71,100	186,500	543,100	32,900	38,300	50,500	64,800	81,100	105,300	147,500	209,200	111,600

ETP Achievements	2005/06 April to July 2006 (final)	2006/07 Full year (final)		
Full Level 2	22,600	16,200		
Skills for Life	4,600	1,800		
Total	27,200	18,000		
Total with ETP	33,700	89,100		

- 1) The following data sources have been used; Work-based learning (WBL) 2007/08 and earlier years (W13 final), 2008/09 (E13 Final), 2009/10 (E05 08/01/10), Employer Training Pilot (ETP) 2006/07 and earlier years (ETP database).
- 2) Volumes are rounded to the nearest hundred.
- 3) '-' Indicates a base value of less than fifty or 'not applicable'.
- 4) Demand led funding rules are not applied to starts and achievements. However, figures for 2008/09 onwards are not comparable with earlier years as from 2008/09 NVQs delivered in the workplace previously funded by FE are now funded by Train to Gain. There were 181,000 starts and 132,000 achievements in NVQs delivered in the workplace in 2007/08 (Source FE 2007/08 F05 Final).
- 5) Train to Gain starts and achievements for 2009/10 are provisional and subject to an upward revision once all data returns are available.
- 6) 'Other Level 2' and 'Other Level 3' qualifications includes learners starting Train to Gain courses accessed through new funding flexibilities. These include thin Level 2 and 3, and Level 2 and 3 units, for 2008/09 onwards. These were made available from January 2009.
- 7) Data for NVQs delivered in the workplace by FE organisations are included in the figures for 2008/09 onwards.
- 8) In Table 7.1 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.
- 9) In Table 7.2 full-year numbers are a count of the number of achievements at any point during the year. Learners achieving more than one course will appear more than once.
- 10) Table 7.2 includes Employer Training Pilot data from April 2006 onwards.
- 11) Quarter 1 1 August to 31 October; Quarter 2 1 November to 31 January; Quarter 3 1 February to 30 April; Quarter 4 1 May to 31 July.
- 12) Further breakdowns of the data are available at the Data Service website: www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics.

Table 8: Level of Highest Qualification Held by People aged 19-59/64 in England (Quarter 4 2008) - Volumes, Percentages

	All people aged 19-59/64 (thousands)	Percentage of people aged 19-59/64 qualified at each level								
Calendar			Level 4 and			Level 3 and		Level 2 and	Below	No
Year		Level 7-8	Level 4-6	above	Level 3	above	Level 2	above	Level 2	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

- 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 guarters.
- 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 conjuction 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

Table 9: Level Of Highest Qualification Held By Economically Active Adults In England (Quarter 4 2008) - Volumes, Percentages

Calendar Year	All Economically			Percentage of economically active adults qualified at each level						
	Active Adults (thousands)			Level 4 and	L	Level 3 and	Level 2	Level 2 and above	Below Level 2	No qualifications
		Level 7-8 Lev	Level 4-6	above	Level 3	above				
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

- 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 conjuction 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