



Statistical Bulletin

Professional and Technical Enrolments in the Northern Ireland Further Education Sector for 2012/13

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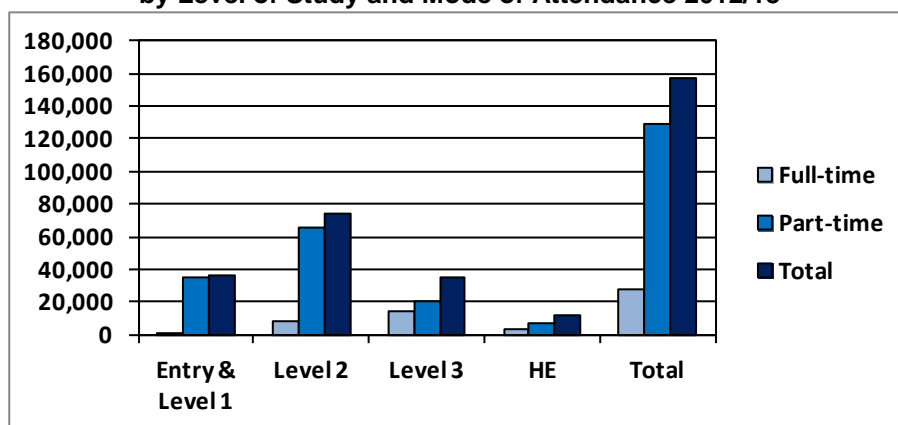
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Introduction

This Statistical Bulletin has been produced by the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) using data collected in the Further Education Statistical Record (FESR). It gives details of full year student enrolments on Professional and Technical courses at Further Education Institutions in Northern Ireland for 2012/13.

**Professional and Technical Enrolments in the NI FE Sector
 by Level of Study and Mode of Attendance 2012/13**



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Introduction

The statistics within this bulletin were compiled in accordance with Official Statistics guidelines. They aim to meet identified user needs; are accessible and explained; are produced in accordance with sound methods; and are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest

Coverage

This statistical bulletin has been produced by DEL and presents a range of analysis regarding student enrolments in the NI FE Sector in the 2012/13 academic year. The statistics presented in this bulletin cover enrolment characteristics and trends across a range of variables including subject area, college, level of study, mode of provision, gender and age.

Policy and Operational Context

FE colleges are the main providers of professional and technical education and training in NI, and the sector plays a central role in raising literacy levels, and in up-skilling and re-skilling the population through a broad range of courses leading to qualifications, particularly at NQF/QCF levels 2 and 3 and equivalents. DEL is responsible for the policy, strategic development and financing of the statutory further education sector. Analysis of data trends against key strategic priorities remains a crucial component of data development within DEL.

Who will be interested in this bulletin?

The data presented in this statistical bulletin will be of interest to a wide variety of people. They will inform policy development within DEL, they can be used by the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) to guide inspections, and they can be used by the colleges and students as well as the general public.

Key Points

- There were a total of 156,806 enrolments on Professional and Technical assessed courses at Northern Ireland (NI) Further Education (FE) Institutions in 2012/13. This represents a 2% increase from the 2011/12 figure and also a 10% increase in enrolments from the 2007/08 academic year, the first in which the current six college configuration became operational.
- Between 2011/12 and 2012/13 full time enrolments increased marginally from 27,903 to 27,935. Over the same period part time enrolments increased (by 3%) from 125,173 to 128,871.
- Between these two academic years FE Level (up to NQF/QCF Level 3) enrolments have increased by 3% and Higher Education (HE) Level enrolments have increased by 1%. FE increased from 141,760 to 145,353 while HE increased from 11,316 to 11,453.
- In 2012/13, DEL funded provision in NI FE Institutions accounted for the most enrolments (109,408) followed by Government Training and Employment Programmes (22,360), Entitlement Framework (12,634) and Full Cost Recovery (12,404).
- In 2012/13, 51% (79,577) of Professional and Technical assessed enrolments were male and 49% (77,229) female.
- In 2012/13 the Education and Training subject area had the most enrolments (32,223) followed by Preparation for Life & Work (22,480), Retail & Commercial Enterprise (17,048) and Health Public Services & Care (14,790). History, Philosophy & Theology had the least number of enrolments (614) in 2012/13 followed by Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care (1,178).
- In terms of gender the most popular subject for both males and females in 2012/13 was Education and Training, followed by Retail & Commercial Enterprise (12,838) for females and Preparation for Life & Work (12,997) for males.
- The majority of male enrolments were aged 19 years and under in 2012/13 (54,710). The majority of female enrolments were also aged 19 years and under (40,402) in 2012/13.
- The majority of enrolments in 2012/13 were on courses at NQF/QCF Level 2 or equivalent (73,647), representing 47% of total enrolments. Some 77% of Professional and Technical Enrolments in 2012/13 were on courses at Level 2 or higher.

Notes to Readers

General

1. The statistics in this statistical bulletin have been derived from the Further Education Statistical Record (FESR), a computerised return consisting of an individual record for each enrolment on assessed professional and technical courses in Northern Ireland Further Education Institutions.
2. Data on DEL funded provision including Government Training is included within this report in addition to Entitlement Framework and Cost Recovery courses. Recreational courses and Keyskills enrolments are omitted, as the former do not relate to qualifications and the latter are subcomponents of programmes of study.
3. The figures in this statistical bulletin are a full year count of student enrolments, it should be noted that students may be enrolled on more than one course at a given time and will therefore be counted as two or more student enrolments. This report includes data relating to the 2012/13 academic year. Data for the previous academic years can be found at:

<http://www.delni.gov.uk/es/fe-statistical-bulletin-2011-12-doc.pdf>

Definition of Higher Education

4. Higher Education (HE) is defined as a course leading to a qualification above A2 level standard. This includes postgraduate study, first degrees, BTEC Higher National Diploma (HND) and Certificate (HNC) courses, Foundation degrees and a number of professional qualifications. HE is NQF/QCF Level 4 (and equivalent) and above.

Definition of Further Education

5. Further Education (FE) is defined as NQF/QCF Level 3 (and equivalent) and below. Only assessed courses are included within the scope of this publication

Mode of Attendance

6. Mode of attendance identifies enrolments studying full-time or part-time:
 - (a) Full-time enrolments include all enrolments whose attendance is:
 - i. full-time (for at least 15 hours and at least 7 sessions per week, or for more than 21 hours per week, with no sessional requirement);
 - ii. on sandwich courses; or
 - iii. on short courses (single self-contained periods of full-time study of under 4 weeks' duration, within one academic year, which do not have to satisfy the hour and session requirement of i. above).
 - (b) Part-time enrolments include all enrolments whose attendance is:
 - i. part-time day;
 - ii. block release;
 - iii. evening only;
 - iv. open/distance learning; or
 - v. linked to their attendance at a school on a full-time basis.

Age

7. Age is at 1st July 2012.
8. The age group of '25 years and over' includes a small component (less than 1%) of those of unknown age.

Changes to Subject Classification

9. The standard classification subject groups listed in tables 3a to 3e and table 6 are new sector and subject categories which were developed by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA), the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) and the ACCAC, the Welsh authority, along with other key educational bodies according to industry sector and academic subject area. They aim to allow more consistent reporting of data across the UK.

Tables

Table 1: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, 2012/13.

- Details professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college and mode of attendance for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 2: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Level of Study, 2012/13.

- Details professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college and level of course, i.e. whether the qualification aim of the course is Higher Education (HE) or Further Education (FE), for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 3a: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, Level of Study and Sector & Subject Category 2012/13.

- Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories by whether they are HE or FE and by mode of attendance for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 3b: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for DEL Funded Further Education Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2012/13.

- Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories and by mode of attendance for DEL Funded Further Education Provision for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 3c: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Full Cost Recovery Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2012/13.

- Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories and by mode of attendance for Full Cost Recovery Provision for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 3d: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Entitlement Framework Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2012/13.

- Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories and by mode of attendance for Entitlement Framework Provision for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 3e: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Government Training and Employment Programmes at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2012/13.

- Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories and by mode of attendance for Government Training and Employment Programmes for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 4: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Gender, 2012/13.

- The table details the professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college, mode of attendance and gender for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 5: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by NQF/QCF Level (or equivalent), 2012/13.

- Details all professional and technical enrolments by regional college and NQF/QCF level or equivalent for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 6: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Sector & Subject Category, Gender and Age Group, 2012/13.

- The table details the professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories, gender and age group for the academic year 2012/13.

Table 7: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges, (2008/09 to 2012/13).

- The table details all professional and technical enrolments by regional college for the academic years 2008/09 to 2012/13.

Table 1: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, 2012/13

Mode of Attendance	College						Overall FE Sector Total
	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Full time	5,411	4,228	5,423	5,120	3,110	4,643	27,935
Part time	28,748	15,260	26,689	24,926	18,799	14,449	128,871
Total	34,159	19,488	32,112	30,046	21,909	19,092	156,806

Table 2: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Level of Study, 2012/13

Level of Study	College						Overall FE Sector Total
	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Higher Education	3,324	1,548	1,588	1,857	1,576	1,560	11,453
Further Education	30,835	17,940	30,524	28,189	20,333	17,532	145,353
Total	34,159	19,488	32,112	30,046	21,909	19,092	156,806

Table 3a: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, Level of Study and Sector & Subject Category, 2012/13

Sector & Subject Category	2012/13				Overall Total
	Full-Time		Part-Time		
	HE ¹	FE ²	HE ¹	FE ²	
Health, Public Services & Care	629	3,352	1,965	8,844	14,790
Science & Mathematics	91	991	129	5,294	6,505
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	31	364	42	741	1,178
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	299	3,423	1,216	6,461	11,399
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	417	2,312	342	4,569	7,640
Information & Communication Technology	747	1,931	349	8,532	11,559
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	90	3,648	398	12,912	17,048
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	456	2,248	314	2,600	5,618
Arts, Media & Publishing	660	2,732	269	3,097	6,758
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	-	-	614	614
Social Sciences	-	433	73	2,223	2,729
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	-	76	7,585	7,661
Education & Training	-	186	207	31,830	32,223
Preparation for Life & Work	-	1,118	46	21,316	22,480
Business, Administration & Law	510	1,267	2,097	4,730	8,604
FE Sector Total	3,930	24,005	7,523	121,348	156,806

¹HE = Higher Education is equivalent to NQF Level 4 and above

²FE = Further Education is equivalent to NQF Level 3 and below

The symbol (-) represents 0

Table 3b: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments for DEL Funded Further Education Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category, 2012/13

Sector & Subject Category	2012/13		
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Health, Public Services & Care	3,844	6,753	10,597
Science & Mathematics	949	4,447	5,396
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	314	200	514
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	1,346	3,502	4,848
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	1,031	969	2,000
Information & Communication Technology	2,578	6,940	9,518
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	3,129	7,924	11,053
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	2,697	2,114	4,811
Arts, Media & Publishing	3,302	2,600	5,902
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	612	612
Social Sciences	433	2,020	2,453
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	7,283	7,283
Education & Training	10	23,110	23,120
Preparation for Life & Work	1,031	12,776	13,807
Business, Administration & Law	1,729	5,765	7,494
FE Sector Total	22,393	87,015	109,408

The symbol (-) represents 0

Table 3c: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments for Full Cost Recovery Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category, 2012/13

Sector & Subject Category	2012/13		
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Health, Public Services & Care	44	2,601	2,645
Science & Mathematics	-	36	36
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	-	113	113
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	90	1,426	1,516
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	14	610	624
Information & Communication Technology	25	474	499
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	97	3,879	3,976
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	7	449	456
Arts, Media & Publishing	11	22	33
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	*	*
Social Sciences	-	*	*
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	310	310
Education & Training	-	851	851
Preparation for Life & Work	30	623	653
Business, Administration & Law	18	671	689
FE Sector Total	336	12,068	12,404

* denotes a figure < 5. These have been masked due to data disclosure issues.

The symbol (-) represents 0

Table 3d: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments for Entitlement Framework Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category, 2012/13

Sector & Subject Category	2012/13
	Total (All Part-Time)
Health, Public Services & Care	802
Science & Mathematics	916
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	383
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	1,274
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	1,293
Information & Communication Technology	717
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	524
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	242
Arts, Media & Publishing	435
History, Philosophy & Theology	-
Social Sciences	210
Languages, Literature & Culture	-
Education & Training	246
Preparation for Life & Work	5,507
Business, Administration & Law	85
FE Sector Total	12,634

The symbol (-) represents 0

Table 3e: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments for Government Training and Employment Programmes at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category, 2012/13

Sector & Subject Category	2012/13		
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Health, Public Services & Care	93	653	746
Science & Mathematics	133	24	157
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	81	87	168
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	2,286	1,475	3,761
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	1,684	2,039	3,723
Information & Communication Technology	75	750	825
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	512	983	1,495
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	-	109	109
Arts, Media & Publishing	79	309	388
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	-	-
Social Sciences	-	65	65
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	68	68
Education & Training	176	7,830	8,006
Preparation for Life & Work	57	2,456	2,513
Business, Administration & Law	30	306	336
FE Sector Total	5,206	17,154	22,360

The symbol (-) represents 0

Table 4: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Gender, 2012/13

		College						Overall FE Sector Total
Mode of Attendance	Gender	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Full time	Female	2,376	1,613	2,345	2,148	1,269	2,340	12,091
	Male	3,035	2,615	3,078	2,972	1,841	2,303	15,844
Full time Total		5,411	4,228	5,423	5,120	3,110	4,643	27,935
Part time	Female	15,206	7,241	12,445	13,758	8,497	7,991	65,138
	Male	13,542	8,019	14,244	11,168	10,302	6,458	63,733
Part time Total		28,748	15,260	26,689	24,926	18,799	14,449	128,871
Total	Female	17,582	8,854	14,790	15,906	9,766	10,331	77,229
	Male	16,577	10,634	17,322	14,140	12,143	8,761	79,577
Overall Total		34,159	19,488	32,112	30,046	21,909	19,092	156,806

Table 5: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by NQF Level (or equivalent), 2012/13

		College						Overall FE Sector Total
Level of Study		Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Entry & Level 1		5,361	7,398	7,649	4,018	6,589	5,761	36,776
Level 2		16,820	5,894	17,759	17,146	9,384	6,644	73,647
Level 3		8,654	4,648	5,116	7,025	4,360	5,127	34,930
HE ¹		3,324	1,548	1,588	1,857	1,576	1,560	11,453
Total		34,159	19,488	32,112	30,046	21,909	19,092	156,806

¹HE = Higher Education and is equivalent to NQF Level 4 and above

Table 6: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Sector & Subject Category, Gender and Age Group, 2012/13

Sector & Subject Category	Male				Female				Total			
	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over ¹	Total	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over ¹	Total	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over ¹	Overall Total
Health, Public Services & Care	1,050	269	1,189	2,508	6,165	1,603	4,514	12,282	7,215	1,872	5,703	14,790
Science & Mathematics	1,929	421	471	2,821	2,194	616	874	3,684	4,123	1,037	1,345	6,505
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	378	52	117	547	439	44	148	631	817	96	265	1,178
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	7,129	1,070	2,179	10,378	406	114	501	1,021	7,535	1,184	2,680	11,399
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	6,005	469	925	7,399	161	23	57	241	6,166	492	982	7,640
Information & Communication Technology	4,140	585	2,083	6,808	1,466	315	2,970	4,751	5,606	900	5,053	11,559
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	2,315	571	1,324	4,210	6,256	2,083	4,499	12,838	8,571	2,654	5,823	17,048
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	2,793	499	426	3,718	1,365	227	308	1,900	4,158	726	734	5,618
Arts, Media & Publishing	2,416	331	663	3,410	2,092	257	999	3,348	4,508	588	1,662	6,758
History, Philosophy & Theology	254	29	7	290	292	18	14	324	546	47	21	614
Social Sciences	751	200	206	1,157	742	338	492	1,572	1,493	538	698	2,729
Languages, Literature & Culture	602	414	1,924	2,940	856	743	3,122	4,721	1,458	1,157	5,046	7,661
Education & Training	11,840	1,295	3,650	16,785	8,652	1,413	5,373	15,438	20,492	2,708	9,023	32,223
Preparation for Life & Work	11,422	774	801	12,997	7,624	837	1,022	9,483	19,046	1,611	1,823	22,480
Business, Administration & Law	1,686	512	1,411	3,609	1,692	939	2,364	4,995	3,378	1,451	3,775	8,604
Overall FE Sector Total	54,710	7,491	17,376	79,577	40,402	9,570	27,257	77,229	95,112	17,061	44,633	156,806

¹25 years & over age group includes 115 of unknown age (53 male & 62 female)

Table 7: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges (2008/09 -2012/13)

College	Year				
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Belfast Metropolitan College	37,594	42,567	35,217	32,094	34,159
Northern Regional College	19,822	21,654	20,277	21,010	19,488
South Eastern Regional College	23,465	26,044	26,623	27,397	32,112
Southern Regional College	27,309	32,839	31,652	30,694	30,046
South West College	17,148	20,005	20,705	21,908	21,909
North West Regional College	17,148	20,241	20,951	19,973	19,092
Total	142,486	163,350	155,425	153,076	156,806

Further Enquiries

Further details about any of the statistics in this statistical bulletin can be obtained from

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