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is so that we can continue to track the prices within the sector, year-on-year. Last year's report is available on our website.

The accompanying report, 'Qualification price index: supplementary analysis for 2020' captures the different awarding organisations and centre activities related to the delivery of qualifications in 2020. It gives details on new and saved costs in the sector and includes information about the qualification fee rebates provided to centres. Between 2019 and 2020, the overall price of all qualifications increased by

For this year's qualification price index we analysed changes to the published prices of

regulated qualifications in England between 2019 and 2020. We analysed these prices

as if examinations and other qualification assessments had gone ahead as normal. This

Q

3.2% This is a smaller proportional increase compared with qualifications prices between

2018 and 2019 which rose by 4.5%. From 2019 to 2020, vocational and technical qualifications increased by 2.9%, and general qualifications increased by 3.3%, using weighted averages. Over the same period the consumer price index increased at a

slower rate. Changes in qualification prices over time

120 qualifications All qualifications Index Vocational & technical qualifications 110 Consumer price index 100

Year All qualifications **General qualifications** Vocational & technical qualifications

2018

2019

2020

Not included due to

smaller sample size

Not included due to

smaller sample size





6.4%

2019

2020

£101.44

2020

General qualifications (GCSE, AS and A level) commentary The general qualifications market underwent substantial disruption in 2020 due to the

£101.44 The weighted average price for A level qualifications increased by 3.5% from 2019 to 2020. The simple average price increased marginally more over the same period (3.9%).

AS prices The weighted average price for AS qualifications increased by 2.3% from 2019 to 2020.

this is less representative.

Preparation for life and work Arts, media and publishing Health and public services 1,374,396 certificates 1,168,951 certificates 781,439 certificates

The number of AS certificates awarded in 2018 to 2019 (98,744 certificates) is

reform. Due to the reduced number of certificates in 2018 to 2019, and a smaller

significantly reduced from 2017 to 2018 (236,175 certificates), due to AS qualification

sample of qualifications, we do not include further price analysis for AS qualifications as

2019 Index: 117.2

2019 Index: 107.2 Index: 109.7 Construction and planning Retail and commercial enterprise Business, administration and law 417,748 certificates 422,081 certificates 366,713 certificates

3.6% 2020

Index: 113.6

1.3% 2020

Index: 107.1

ofqua

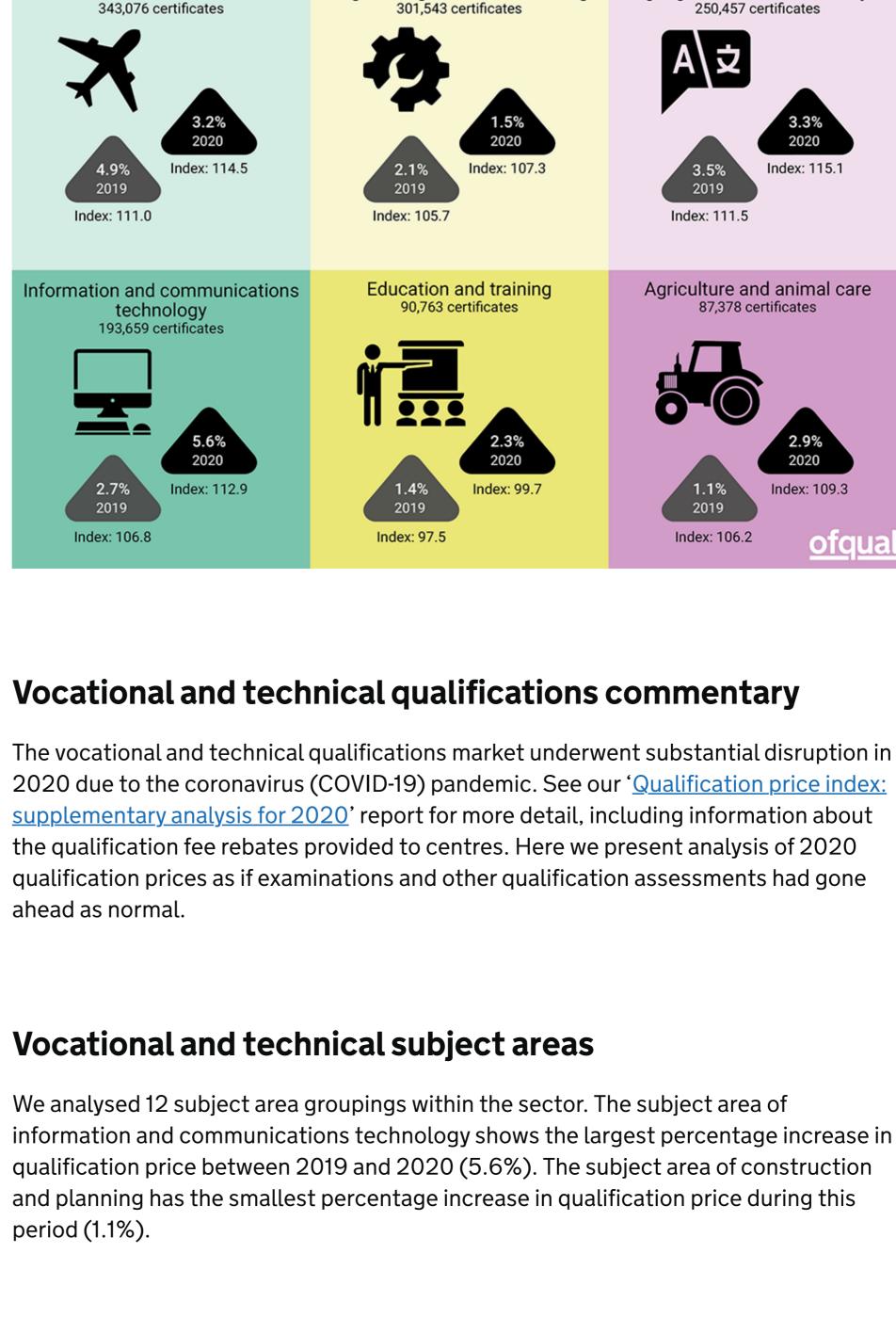
3.6%

5.1%

2019

Index: 105.7

Languages and academic subjects



general qualifications certificates issued. Prices for 2020 are applicable to the 2019 to 2020 academic year, which covers November 2019 re-takes and the cancelled summer 2020 examinations.

included from last year, and includes a range of qualification types. For 2020 we abbreviate the analysis in the report and do not include price changes for different qualification levels within the subject areas. This streamlines our analysis and reduces statistical concerns about small sample sizes. For the 2021 qualification price index we will evolve our methodology to use newly published awarding organisation information based on our revised general condition F1.

qualifications, covering 35% of vocational and technical qualification certificates issued

Series 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 **All qualifications** 100.0 103.8 108.3 113.1 116.7 **General qualifications** 100.0 104.6 110.8 117.0 120.9 Vocational & technical qualifications 100.0 102.9 105.6 109.1 112.2

Weighted average price index: overview

Series	2019 % increase	2020 % increase	
GCSE	6.6%	4.0%	•
A level	6.4%	3.9%	

Health & public services 2.6% 107.2 2.4% Arts, media & publishing 109.7 3.6% 3.6% 3.2% 106.8 1.1% **Construction & planning**

Languages & academic subjects	3.5%	111.5	3.3%	115.1
Information & communications technology	2.7%	106.8	5.6%	112.9
Education & training	1.4%	97.5	2.3%	99.7
Agriculture & animal care	1.1%	106.2	2.9%	109.3
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2016

2017

2020 6.6% 2019 Weighted average price

£42.02 2020 £39.31 2019

A level prices

Weighted average price £97.76 2019 coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. See our 'Qualification price index: supplementary analysis for 2020' report for more detail, including information about the qualification fee rebates provided to centres. Here we present analysis of 2020 qualification prices as if examinations and other qualification assessments had gone ahead as normal.

The weighted average price for an A level in 2020 was

GCSE prices The weighted average price for a GCSE in 2020 was £42.02 The weighted average price for GCSE qualifications increased by 3.3% from 2019 to 2020. The simple average price increased marginally more over the same period (4.0%).

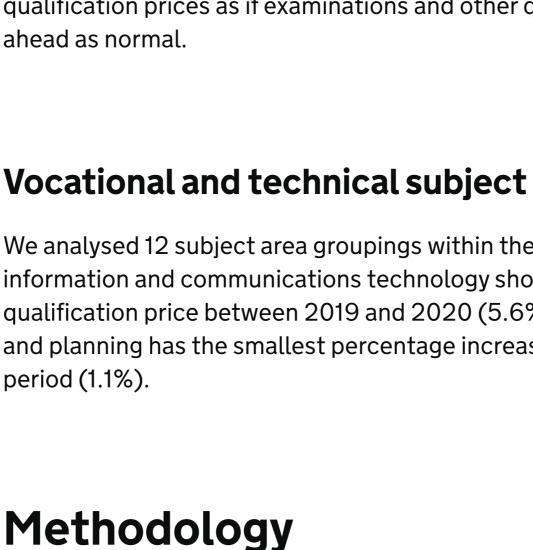
analysis

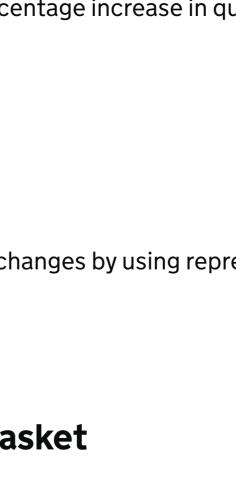
2.4%

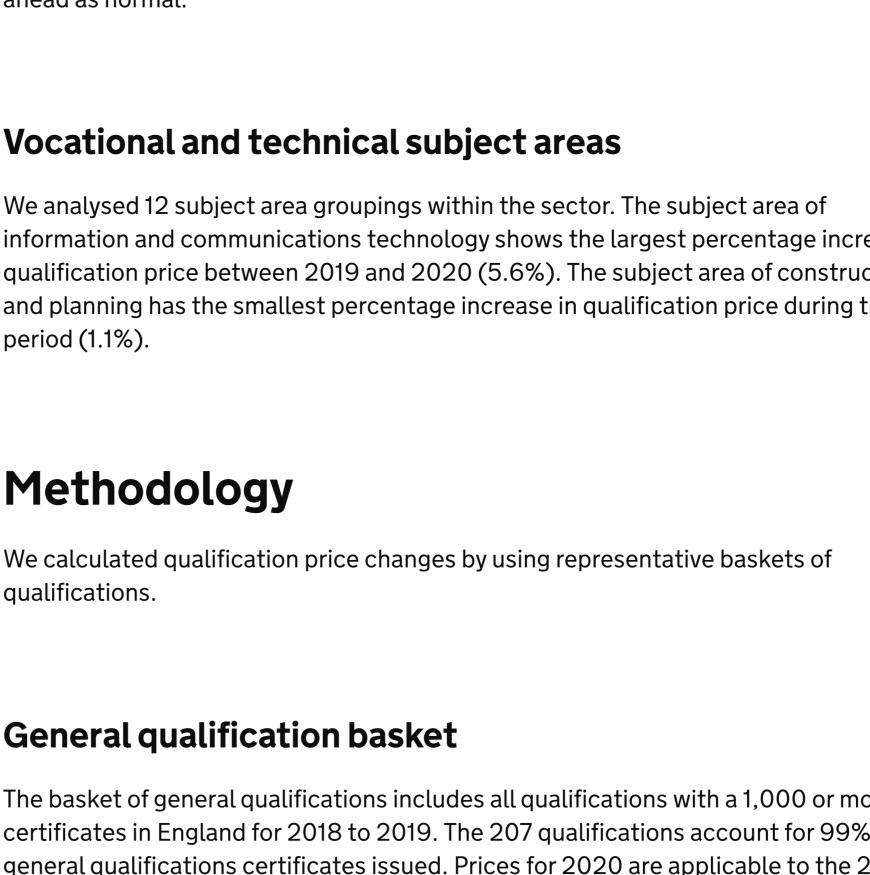
2019

Index: 106.8

2020 3.2%







qualifications funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and certificates data to construct a sample which represents the current market. The vocational and technical qualifications in the sample cover all subject area groupings

We continued our approach from 2019 where we used both a database of all

academic year 2018 to 2019. 5. The product diversity within the vocational and technical qualifications market makes a simple average price index less representative than for the more uniform general

2. The simple average price changes are the average of all qualification price increases,

Consumer price index 100.0 103.0 105.5 107.4 108.0

U.UU_					
A level	5.8%	105.4	3.5%	109.0	
AS	10.2%	127.6	2.3%	130.6	
Sim	ple avera	ge price	e index: g	eneral (qualifications
Series	2019 % increase	2020 % incre	ease		
GCSE	6.6%	4.0%			

3.3%

109.2 **Business, administration & law** 4.1% 105.7 Retail & commercial enterprise 5.1% 4.9% 111.0 Leisure, travel & tourism

Education & training	1.4%	97.5	2.3%	99.7	_	
Agriculture & animal care	1.1%	106.2		109.3	_	
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Births, deaths, marriages and care

Citizenship and living in the UK Money and tax Passports, travel and living abroad

Qualification price index from 2016 to 2020

Weighted average price index: general qualifications Series 2019 % increase 2019 index 2020 % increase 2020 index **GCSE** 5.4% 118.1

Series 2019 price 2020 price

Preparation for life & work

Engineering & manufacturing

£42.02

£101.44

GCSE £39.31

Alevel £97.76

Business and self-employed Childcare and parenting

Benefits

Crime, justice and the law

Disabled people

Driving and transport

Coronavirus (COVID-Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidano **Services and information**

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Working, jobs and pensions

Vocational and technical qualifications price 2020 2020 Index: 120.8 2.6% Index: 109.9 2019 3.3% 2020 4.1% Index: 107.9 Index: 112.8 2019 Index: 109.2 Engineering and manufacturing Leisure, travel and tourism 301,543 certificates

General qualification basket The basket of general qualifications includes all qualifications with a 1,000 or more certificates in England for 2018 to 2019. The 207 qualifications account for 99% of all Vocational and technical qualification basket The basket of vocational and technical qualifications includes a sample of 212

qualifications.

in 2018 to 2019.

Technical notes

1. All indices began at 100 in 2016.

irrespective of certificate volumes.

3. Changes in weighted averages are based on prior year volumes. 4. For information we include certificate numbers for the full relevant market from the qualifications market, hence we do not include in this report. 6. General qualifications include GCSE, AS and A level. 7. Vocational and technical qualifications subject area groupings are based on

categories from the Ofqual Register of Regulated Qualifications.

Data for included charts and graphs

Series 2019 % increase 2019 index 2020 % increase 2020 index 4.5% 3.2% 116.7 **All qualifications** 113.1 120.9 **General qualifications** 5.6% 117.0 3.3% Vocational & technical qualifications 3.3% 109.1 2.9% 112.2

122.0

Weighted average price index: vocational and technical qualifications 2019 % increase 2019 index 2020 % increase 2020 index Subject area 3.1%

2.4%

2.1%

117.2

105.7

3.3%

1.3%

3.2%

1.5%

120.8

109.9

113.6

107.9

112.8

107.1

114.5

107.3

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