

## Destinations of leavers from Higher Education Institutions: Longitudinal Survey (2006/07 Cohort)

The Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) Survey is carried out by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). The DLHE consists of two survey periods: the Early DLHE Survey looks at the activities of students who have completed higher education courses in the UK around six months after graduation, and the longitudinal DLHE survey looks at a sample of the destinations of those students who responded to the Early Survey three and a half years after graduation.

This bulletin provides information from the Longitudinal DLHE survey of leavers from UK Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) who qualified in 2006/07. These students were asked about their main activities as at 29 November 2010. The bulletin focuses on the 3,010 UK domiciled higher education students who qualified from Welsh institutions and the 3,345 Welsh domiciled higher education students who qualified from UK institutions and also responded to the survey.

### Summary of main findings

- At three and a half years after graduation, the proportion of graduates in employment had increased compared with when they were first surveyed at around 6 months after graduation, however had decreased slightly compared to the same point for the previous cohort of graduates (2004/05).
- Part-time qualifiers from Welsh institutions and part-time Welsh domiciled qualifiers were more likely to be in some kind of employment compared to full-time qualifiers.
- Postgraduate qualifiers from Welsh institutions and Welsh domiciled postgraduate qualifiers were more likely to be in employment than first degree or other undergraduate qualifiers.
- Around two thirds of all graduates remained in or returned to Wales for employment. Qualifiers from Welsh institutions were much more likely to remain in Wales for employment (66 per cent) compared to the previous cohort of graduates (44 per cent).
- The majority of graduates were satisfied with their career to date (84 per cent for qualifiers from Welsh institutions and 85 per cent for Welsh domiciled qualifiers).
- Qualifiers from Welsh institutions who studied Creative Arts and Design and Welsh domiciled qualifiers who studied Mass Communication and Documentation were the most likely to be unemployed.

Substantial changes have been made to the format and content of this bulletin, aiming to provide more useful commentary and detail. We welcome feedback and suggestions from users, via the contact details below.

**Statistician:** Amira Irshad

**Tel:** 029 2082 3528

**E-mail:** [post16ed.stats@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:post16ed.stats@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

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Cyhoeddwyd gan Y Gwasanaethau Gwybodaeth a Dadansoddi

Llywodraeth Cymru, Parc Cathays, Caerdydd, CF10 3NQ

Ffôn – Swyddfa'r Wasg **029 2089 8099**, Ymholiadau Cyhoeddus **029 2082 3332**

**[www.cymru.gov.uk/ystadegau](http://www.cymru.gov.uk/ystadegau)**

Issued by Knowledge and Analytical Services

Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

Telephone – Press Office **029 2089 8099**, Public Enquiries **029 2082 5050**

**[www.wales.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.wales.gov.uk/statistics)**



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## Wider context

Employment levels and trends in employment for UK qualifiers from Welsh HEIs and Welsh domiciled qualifiers from UK HEIs provided in this bulletin should be considered against the context of the effect of the recent recession. In general, employment trends have shown a slight decrease in the number of employed graduates compared to the previous cohort of graduates that were surveyed three and a half years after graduation (2004/05 cohort).

## Policy context

In September 2011 the Welsh Government introduced the Programme for Government, which translates its manifesto into a clear plan to deliver for the people of Wales. One of the key actions set out is to drive Growth and Sustainable jobs in Wales. This includes investing in infrastructure, skills, innovation and improving business environment. The Welsh Government will require Higher Education Institutions to work together and deliver these results, benefiting those qualifiers that return to or remain in Wales for employment. A link to the program for government is given below.

[Welsh Government | Programme for Government 2011-2016](#)

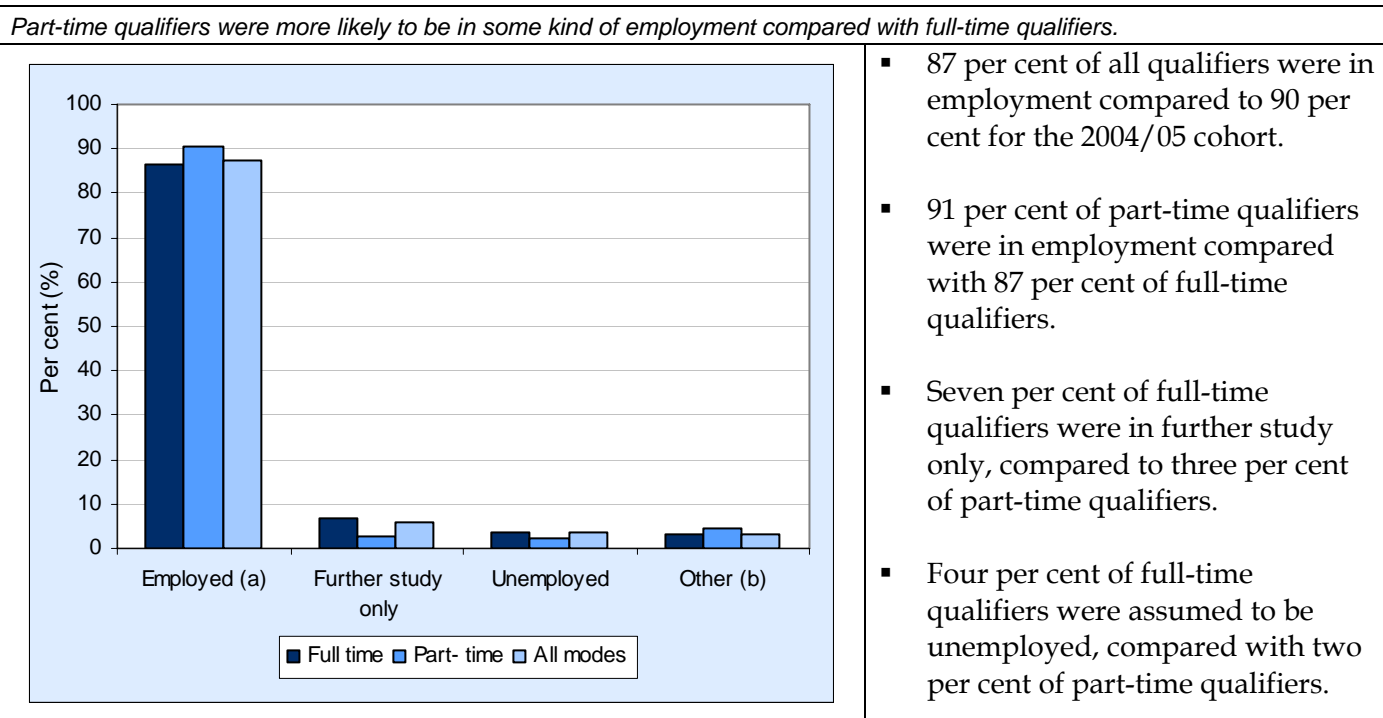
## Section A- Qualifiers from Welsh HEIs

This section covers the main activity, subject of study, location of employment, and satisfaction to date of UK qualifiers from Welsh HEIs, derived from the response that best described employment and education circumstances from a list of statements provided on the survey.

Chart A.1 and Chart A.2 look at what the 2006/07 qualifiers were doing in 2010 by mode and level of study.

### Chart A.1: Main activity of graduates from Welsh HEIs by mode of study

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,010)



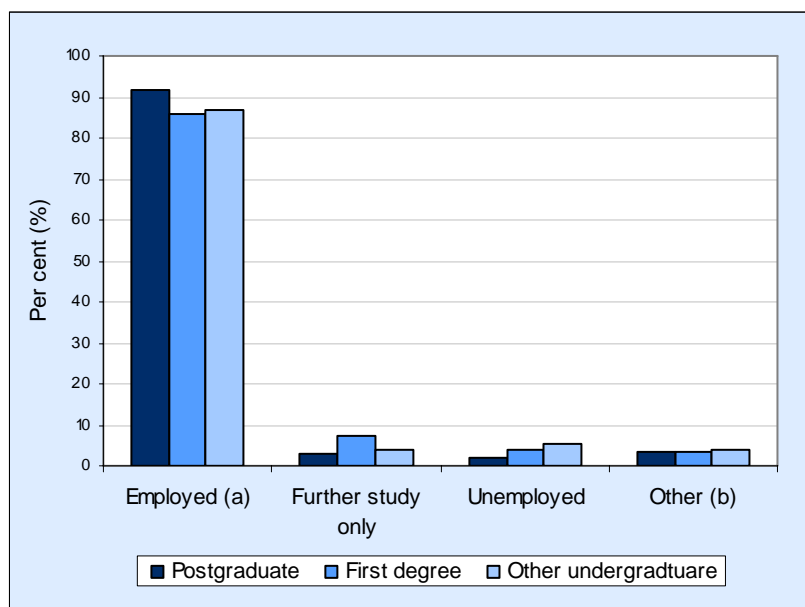
(a) 'Employed' includes full-time paid work only, part-time paid work only, employed – mode unknown, voluntary/ unpaid work and work & further study.

(b) 'Other' includes not available for employment, creating a portfolio and other.

## Chart A.2: Main activity of qualifiers from Welsh HEIs by level of study

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,010)

*Postgraduates were more likely to be in employment than first degree or other undergraduate qualifiers.*



- 92 per cent of postgraduates were in employment, compared with only 86 per cent of first degree qualifiers.
- First degree qualifiers were the most likely to be in further study (seven per cent) compared with other undergraduates<sup>1</sup> (four per cent) and postgraduates (three per cent).
- Other undergraduates<sup>1</sup> were the most likely to be unemployed (five per cent) and postgraduates the least likely (two per cent).

(a) 'Employed' includes full-time paid work only, part-time paid work only, employed – mode unknown, voluntary/ unpaid work and work & further study.

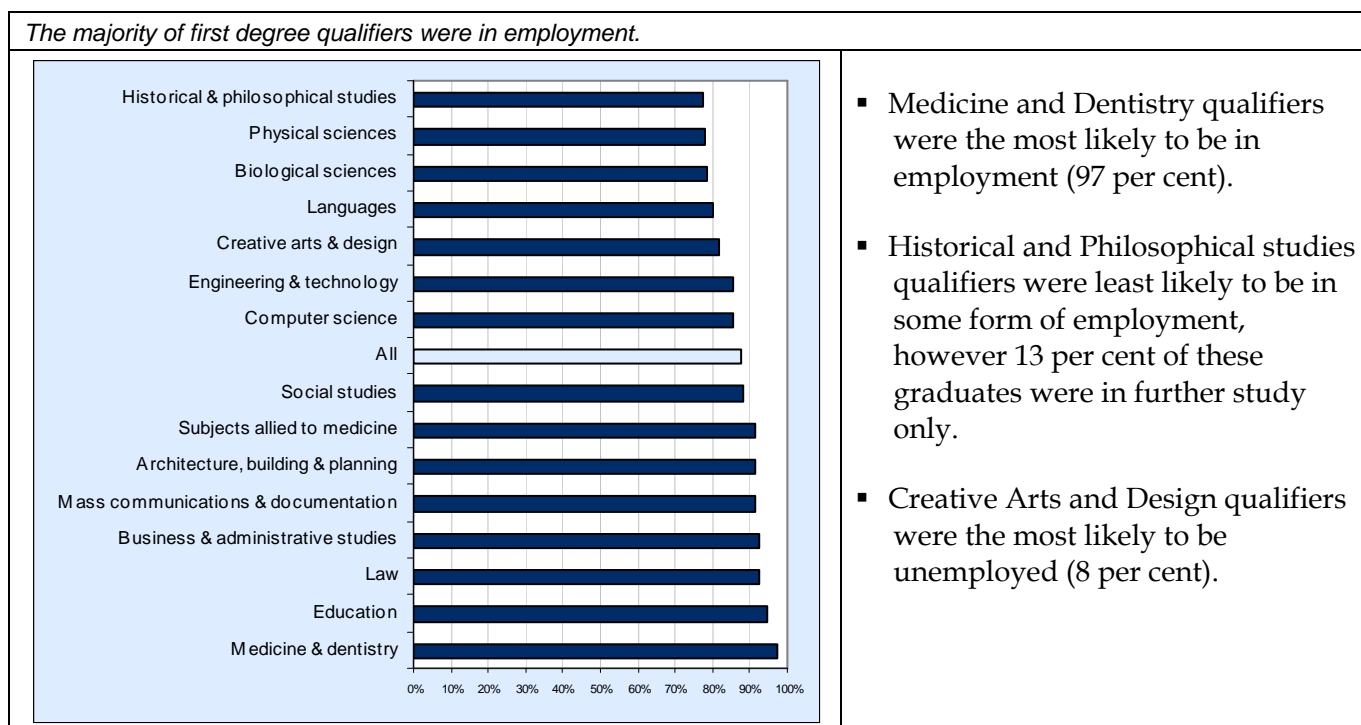
(b) 'Other' includes not available for employment, creating a portfolio and other.

<sup>1</sup> Other undergraduate qualifications include Foundation Degrees, HNDs, HNCs, etc.

Chart A.3 looks at what subjects qualifiers in employment studied.

**Chart A.3: Proportion of first degree qualifiers from Welsh HEIs in employment by subject of study (a),(b)**

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,010)



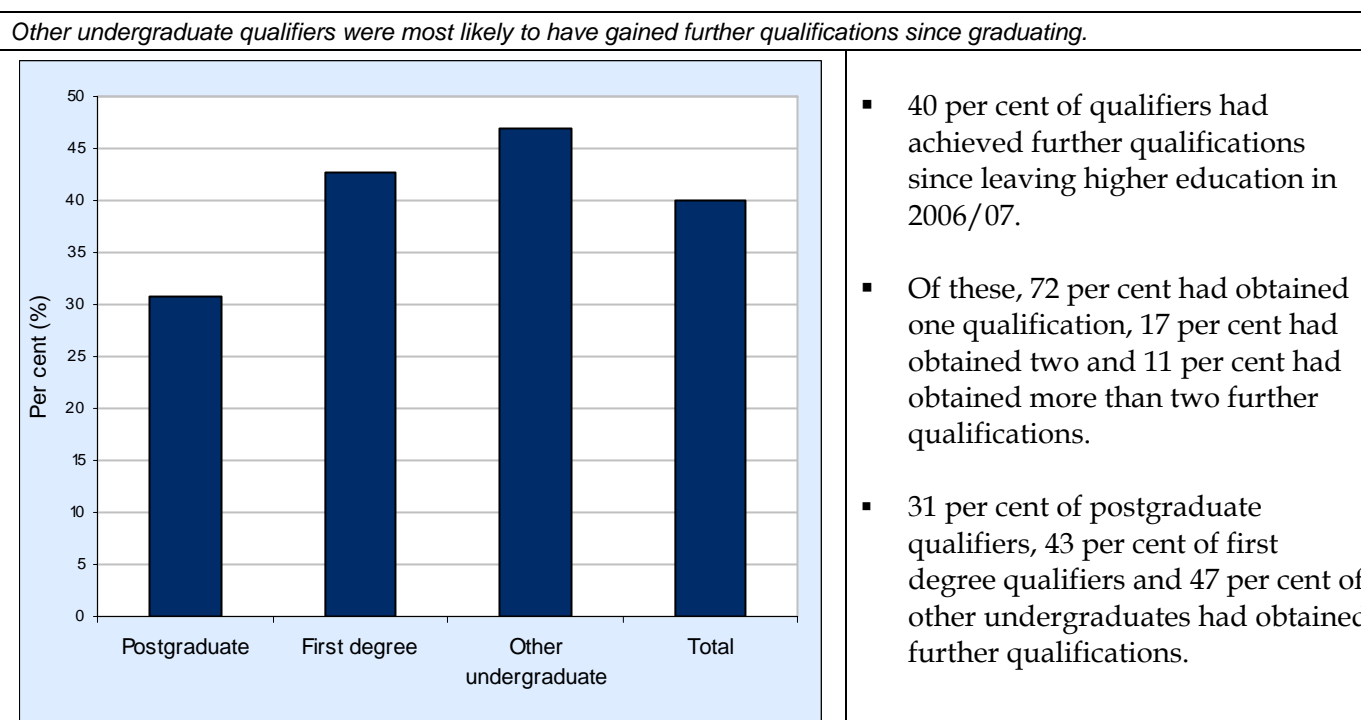
(a) Agriculture and related subjects, Mathematical Sciences; and Combined are not listed as the un-weighted sample of each subject is less than 52 individuals.

(b) Subject studied information is given in terms of Full Person Equivalents (FPEs), see paragraph 3.5 in Notes section.

Chart A.4 looks at whether respondents had obtained further qualifications since graduating.

**Chart A.4: Graduates gaining further qualifications**

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,010)

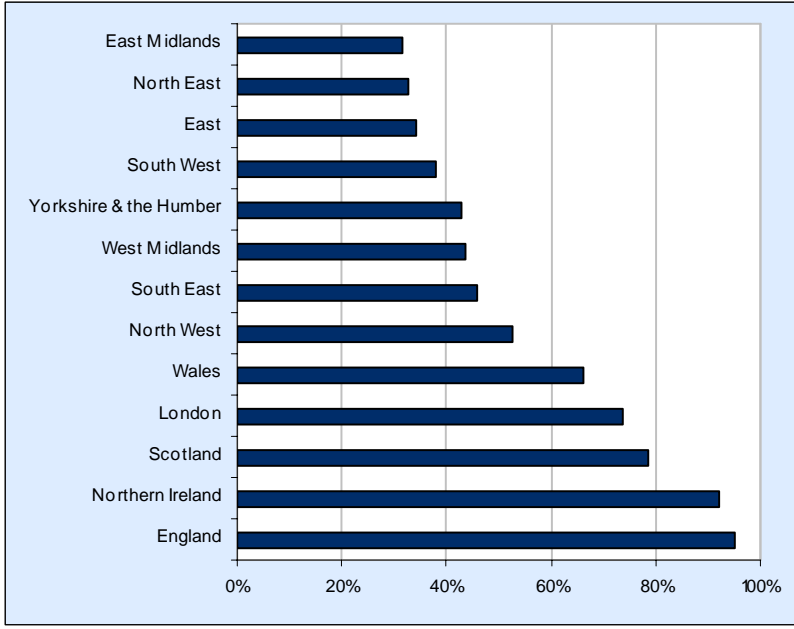


Charts A.5 and A.5a look at where the 2006/07 qualifiers from Welsh HEIs were working in 2010.

**Chart A.5: Proportion of first degree qualifiers in employment in region (or country) of HEI attended**

(Un-weighted base: UK domiciled employed first degree qualifiers 23,310)

*Around two thirds of qualifiers from Welsh HEIs remained in Wales for employment.*

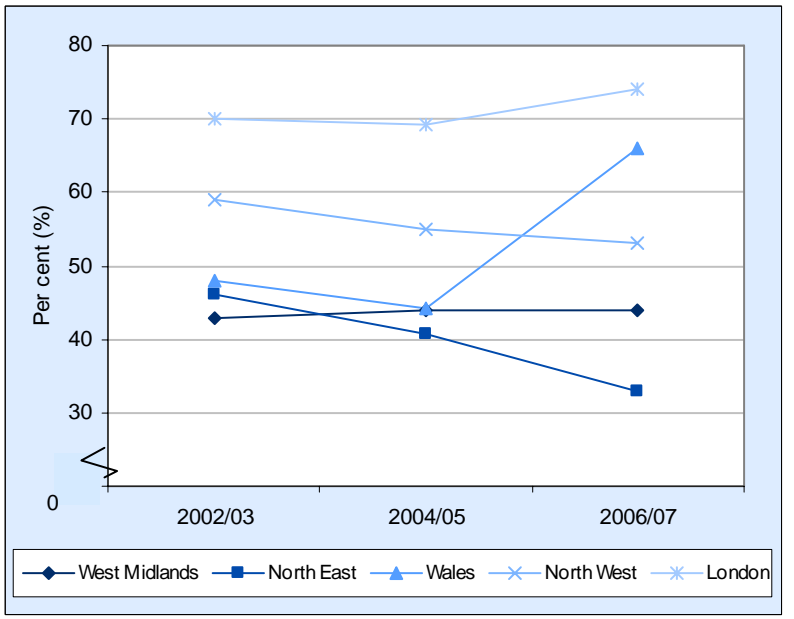


- 66 per cent of first degree qualifiers who studied in Welsh HEIs were employed in Wales compared to 44 per cent from the 2004/05 cohort.
- Qualifiers who studied at Welsh HEIs were less likely to remain in Wales for employment when compared to other UK countries (79 per cent for Scotland, 92 percent for Northern Ireland and 95 per cent for England).
- Wales' retention rate is higher than all English regions other than London (74 per cent).

Chart A.5a shows the progression of the retention rates of the four regions that had the most similar retention rates to Wales in 2002/03 across the 2002/03, 2004/05 and 2006/07 cohorts.

**Chart A.5a: Proportion of first degree qualifiers in employment in the region (or country) of HEI attended for selected regions by 2002/03, 2004/05 and 2006/07 cohorts**

*There has been an increase of qualifiers from Welsh HEIs remaining in Wales to work compared to the previous cohort.*



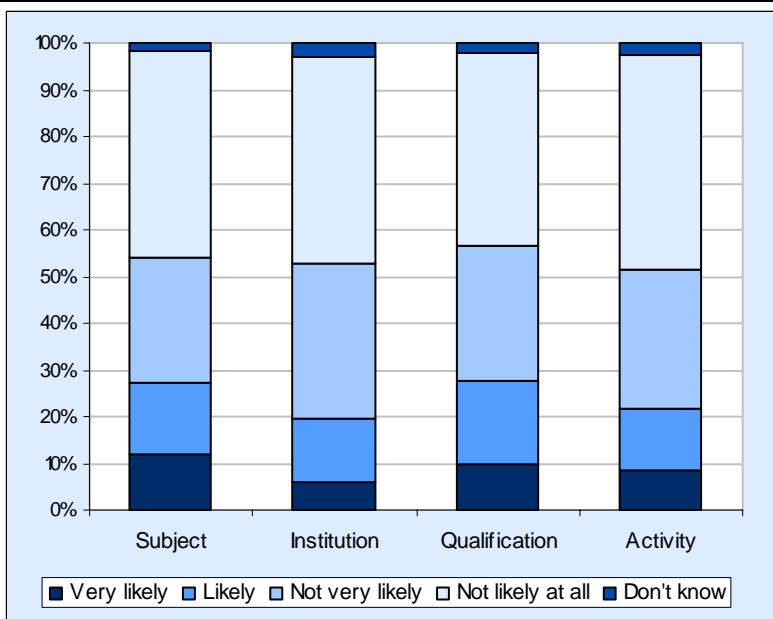
- The retention of graduates from Welsh HEIs has increased from 48 per cent in 2002/03 to 66 per cent in 2006/07 cohort.
- Outside of Wales, the retention value for the West Midlands has remained constant, whilst the retention of qualifiers from Northern England has fallen over the time series. London's retention value remains higher than Wales'.

Chart A.6 and A.7 look at whether qualifiers were satisfied with their choice of study and their careers.

### Chart A.6: Likelihood of a graduate making a different study choice

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,005-3,010)

*Qualifiers were least likely to have made a different choice of institution.*

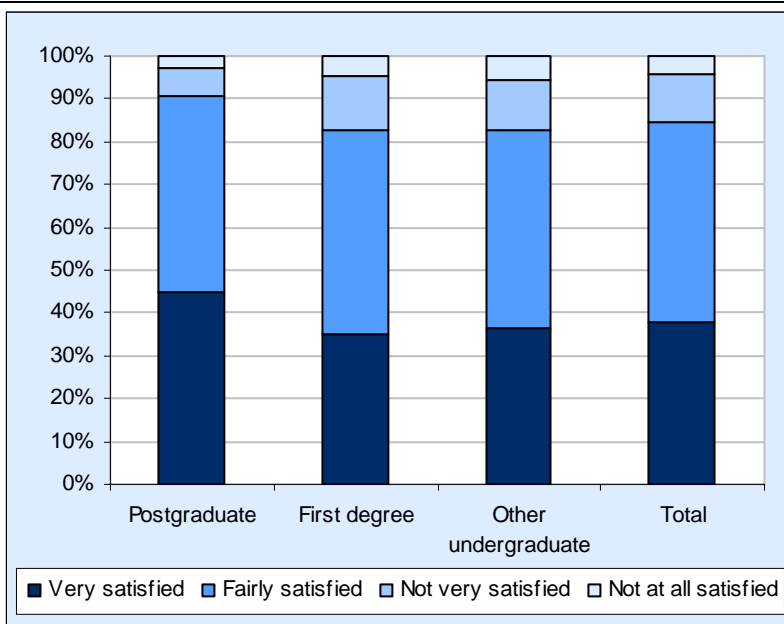


- The majority of graduates were satisfied with their choice of subject, institution, qualification type and would not have chosen to do something other than study, as they were least likely to have changed these study choices if they were able to start over.
- Qualifiers were most likely to change their choice of qualification (28 per cent were either 'very likely' or 'likely' to choose a different qualification).

### Chart A.7: Overall satisfaction with career to date

(Un-weighted base: All answering 2,975)

*The majority of graduates were satisfied with their careers to date.*



- Postgraduate qualifiers were most satisfied with their career to date compared to first degree and other undergraduate qualifiers<sup>1</sup>. 90 per cent of qualifiers were either 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with their careers.
- 82 per cent of both first degree and other undergraduate<sup>1</sup> qualifiers were either 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with their career to date.

<sup>1</sup> Other undergraduate qualifications include Foundation Degrees, HNDs, HNCs, etc.

## Section B- Welsh domiciled qualifiers from UK HEIs

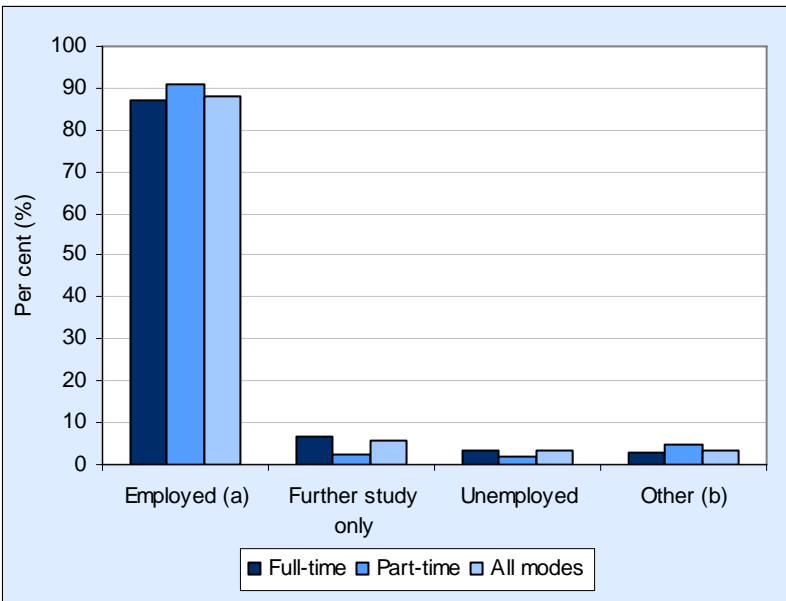
This section looks at the main activity, subject of study, location of employment and satisfaction of date of Welsh domiciled qualifiers from UK HEIs in 2006/07, derived from the response that best described employment and education circumstances from a list of statements provided on the survey.

Chart B.1 and Chart B.2 look at what 2006/07 Welsh domiciled qualifiers were doing in 2010.

### Chart B.1: Main activity of Welsh qualifiers by mode of study

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,345)

*Part-time qualifiers were more likely to be in employment than full-time qualifiers.*



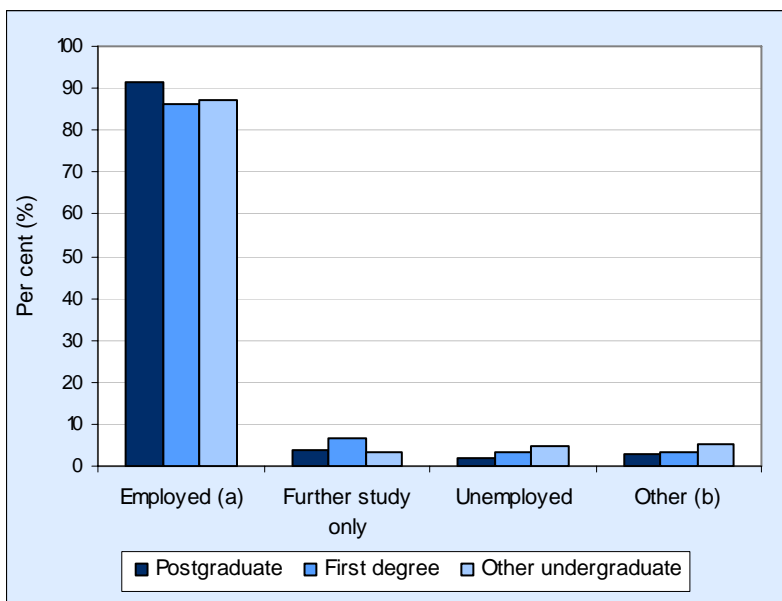
- 88 per cent of all qualifiers were in employment compared with 90 per cent for the 2004/05 cohort.
- 91 per cent of part-time qualifiers were in employment compared with 87 per cent of full-time qualifiers.
- Seven per cent of full-time qualifiers were in further study only compared with only two per cent of part time qualifiers.
- Three per cent of qualifiers were assumed to be unemployed.

- (a) 'Employed' includes full-time paid work only, part-time paid work only, employed – mode unknown, voluntary/ unpaid work and work & further study.
- (b) 'Other' includes not available for employment, creating a portfolio and other.

## Chart B.2: Main activity of Welsh qualifiers by level of study

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,345)

*Postgraduates were more likely to be in employment than first degree or other undergraduate qualifiers<sup>1</sup>.*



- 91 per cent of postgraduate qualifiers were in employment compared with 86 per cent of first degree qualifiers.
- First degree qualifiers were the most likely to be in further study only (7 per cent).
- Other undergraduates<sup>1</sup> were the most likely to be unemployed (5 per cent) and most likely to be in the 'other' category (five per cent).

(a) 'Employed' includes full-time paid work only, part-time paid work only, employed – mode unknown, voluntary/ unpaid work and work & further study.

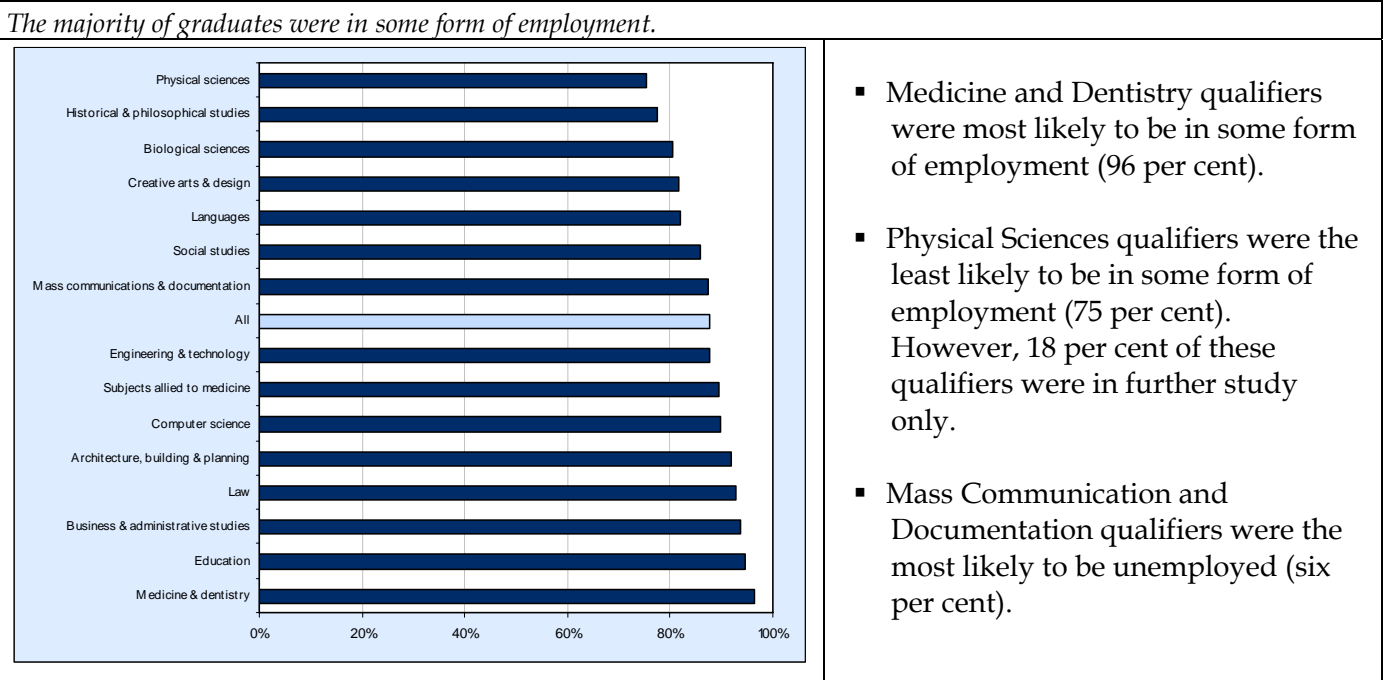
(b) 'Other' includes not available for employment, creating a portfolio and other.

<sup>1</sup> Other undergraduate qualifications include Foundation Degrees, HNDs, HNCs, etc.



Chart B.3 looks at what subjects Welsh domiciled qualifiers in employment studied.

**Chart B.3: Proportion of first degree Welsh qualifiers in employment by subject of study**  
(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,345)



- (a) Agriculture and related subjects, Veterinary science, Mathematical Sciences; and Combined are not listed as the un-weighted sample of each subject is less than 52 individuals.
- (b) Subject studied information is given in terms of Full Person Equivalents (FPEs), see paragraph 3.5 in Notes section.

Chart B.4 looks at whether respondents had obtained further qualifications since graduating.

**Chart B.4: Graduates gaining further qualifications**  
(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,345)

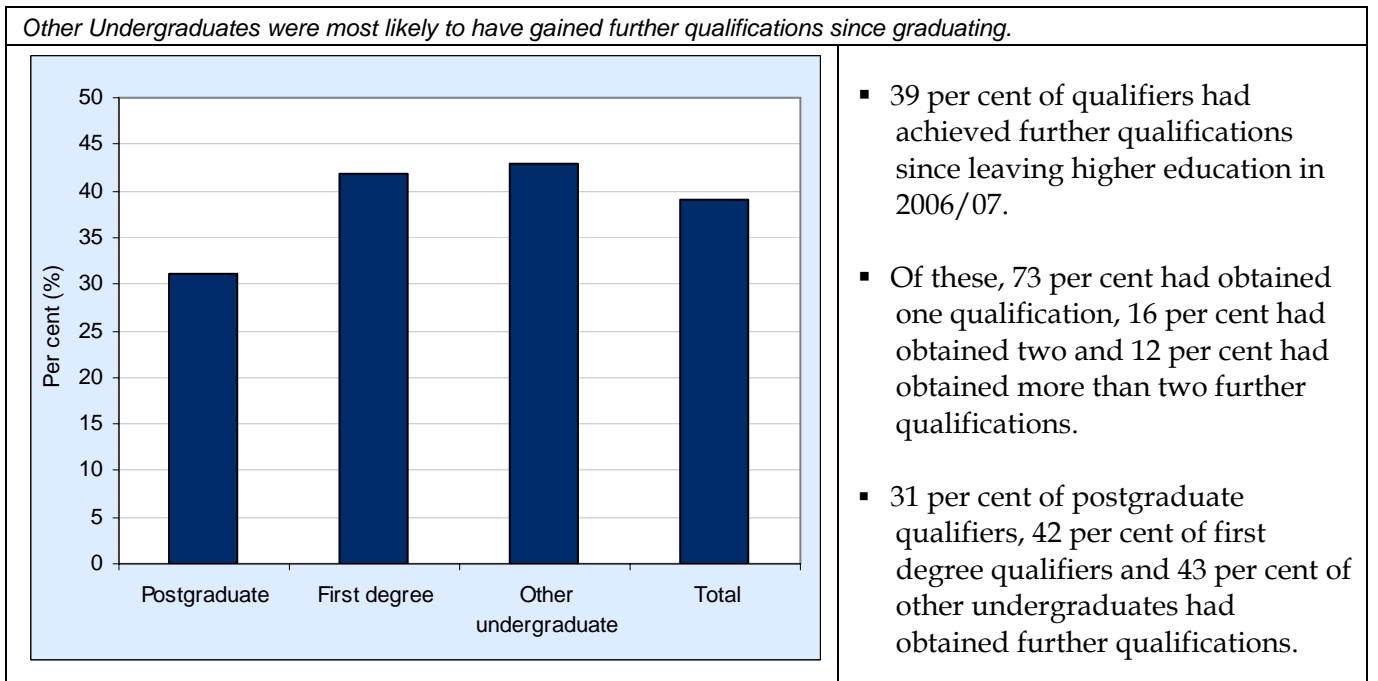
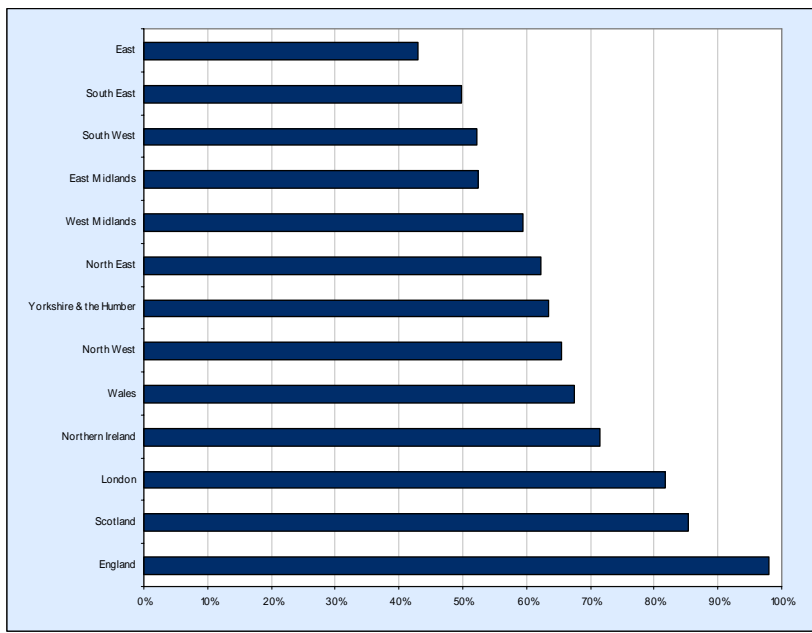


Chart B.5 and Chart B.5a look at where 2006/07 Welsh domicile qualifiers were working in 2010.

**Chart B.5: Proportion of first degree qualifiers in employment in region (or country) of domicile**  
 (Un-weighted base: UK domiciled employed first degree qualifiers 23,310)

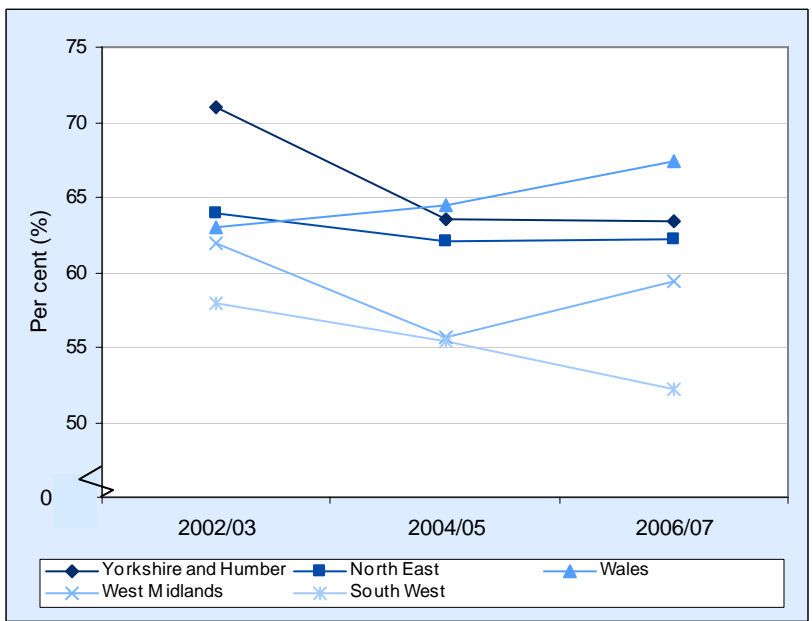
*Around two thirds of Welsh domiciled graduates remained in or returned to Wales for employment.*



- Welsh domicile qualifiers were less likely to remain in or return to Wales for employment after gaining qualifications (67 per cent) when compared with the equivalent retention rate for other UK countries (71 per cent for Northern Ireland, 85 per cent for Scotland and 98 per cent for England).
- Wales' retention figure is higher than for all English regions except London (82 per cent).

**Chart B.5a: Proportion of first degree qualifiers in employment in region (or country) of domicile for selected regions by 2002/03, 2004/05 and 2006/07 cohorts.**

*The Welsh retention rate has continued to increase across the time series.*

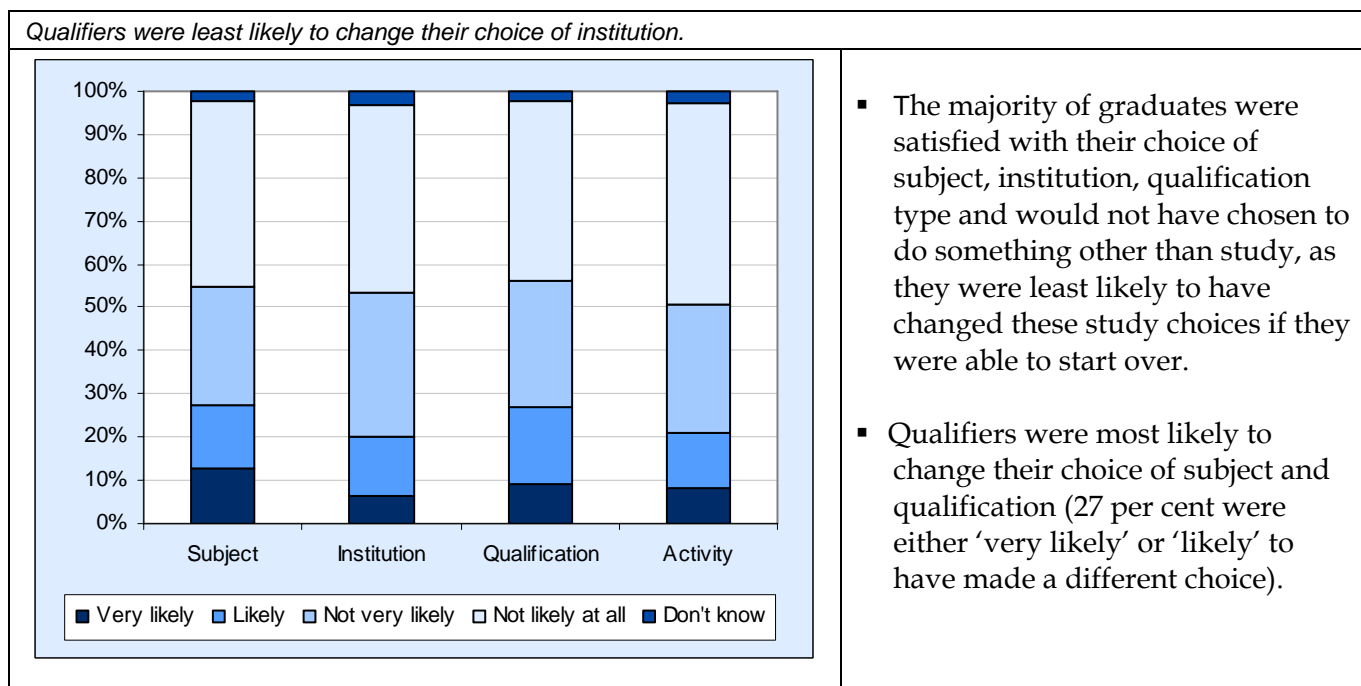


- The retention of graduates from Welsh HEIs has increased from 63 per cent in 2002/03 to 67 per cent in 2006/07.
- Outside of Wales, the retention rates for the four regions most similar to Wales in 2002/03 have all fallen. The retention rate for Yorkshire and the Humber fell from 71 to 63 per cent.

Chart B.6 and B.7 look at whether qualifiers were satisfied with their choice of study and their careers.

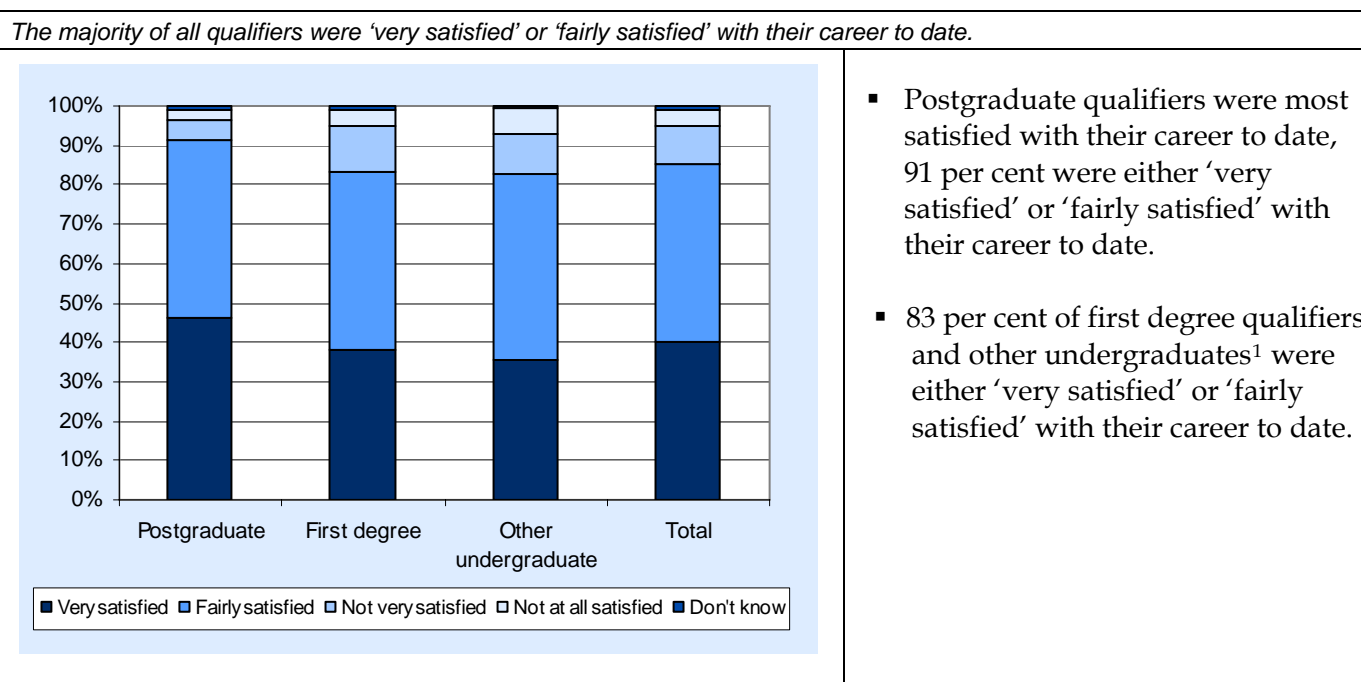
### Chart B.6: Likelihood of a graduate making a different study choice

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,335-3,345)



### Chart B.7: Overall satisfaction with career to date

(Un-weighted base: All answering 3,300)



<sup>1</sup> Other undergraduate qualifications include Foundation Degrees, HNDs, HNCs, etc.

## Section C- Graduate flows

This section looks at the flow of full-time, undergraduates to and from Wales, derived from the location of employment as at 29 November 2010. Where actual figures are quoted, these have been estimated by applying proportions, generated through the sample, to the population of qualifiers. Therefore, these figures should be treated with caution.

### Welsh Graduates

Welsh graduates are those graduates who were domiciled in Wales prior to entering Higher Education.

- There are 7,390 Welsh graduates who attended Welsh HEIs working in Wales three and a half years after qualifying (85 per cent of all Welsh graduates who attended Welsh HEIs).
- Of the Welsh graduates who studied outside Wales, 2,700 were employed outside Wales three and a half years after qualification (55 per cent of all Welsh graduates who studied outside Wales).

### Non- Welsh graduates

- Only 17 per cent of non-Welsh graduates who attended Welsh HEIs were working in Wales three and a half years after qualifying.
- The majority of non-Welsh graduates who attended HEIs outside of Wales remained outside Wales for employment (99 per cent).

### Net flow to and from Wales

- For full-time undergraduates in employment there has been a net flow of graduates out of Wales. There were 610 more Welsh graduates employed outside Wales than there were non-Welsh graduates employed in Wales.
- Wales has retained 715 more graduates from the 2006/07 cohort compared with the 2004/05 cohort.

	2004/05	2006/07
'Welsh' graduates in Wales	10,185	9,635
'Welsh' graduates outside Wales	4,420	3,975
'Non-Welsh' graduates in Wales	3,095	3,370
Net flow of graduates (c)	-1,325	-610
		Source: (HESA)
(a) Welsh graduates were those who are domiciled in Wales before entering Higher Education.		
(b) Figures include other undergraduate and first degree qualifiers who are in employment.		
(c) The net flow of graduates excludes Welsh graduates in employment in Wales.		
(d) These figures are estimates based on the sample.		

**Table A.1: Destinations of UK qualifiers from Welsh HEIs by mode of study, level of qualification and gender (Activity on the 27th November 2010 - Per cent) (a)**

			Full-time paid work only	Part-time paid work only (b)	Voluntary/ unpaid work only	Work & further study	Further study only	Assumed to be unemployed	Other (c)	Base Number (un-weighted)	Base Number (weighted)	
<b>Full-time</b>	Postgraduate	Male	82	5	1	6	5	1	1	260	240	
		Female	76	12	-	5	2	2	3	180	160	
		Persons	78	9	-	5	3	2	2	440	400	
	First degree	Male	72	7	-	5	8	6	2	1,090	990	
		Female	66	12	-	7	7	3	4	615	565	
		Persons	68	10	-	6	8	4	3	1,705	1,555	
	Other undergraduate	Male	67	18	-	1	3	9	2	60	65	
		Female	60	16	-	2	7	6	9	70	70	
		Persons	64	17	-	2	5	8	5	130	135	
All qualifications	Male	73	8	-	5	7	5	1	1,410	1,295		
	Female	68	12	-	6	6	3	4	870	795		
	Persons	70	11	-	6	7	4	3	2,280	2,090		
<b>Part-time</b>	Postgraduate	Male	77	10	1	2	5	3	3	215	200	
		Female	69	16	-	5	2	2	6	140	125	
		Persons	72	14	-	4	3	2	5	355	325	
	First degree	Male	85	4	-	5	2	1	2	120	100	
		Female	60	23	1	7	2	-	6	65	50	
		Persons	69	17	1	6	2	-	5	185	150	
	Other undergraduate	Male	81	2	-	9	2	5	1	125	115	
		Female	62	17	1	9	4	3	4	70	65	
		Persons	69	11	1	9	3	3	3	195	175	
	All qualifications	Male	80	7	-	4	3	3	2	465	410	
		Female	65	18	1	7	3	2	5	270	240	
		Persons	70	14	1	6	3	2	4	735	650	
	<b>All modes</b>	Postgraduate	Male	80	7	1	4	5	2	2	475	435
			Female	73	14	-	5	2	2	4	320	285
			Persons	75	11	-	5	3	2	3	795	720
First degree		Male	73	7	-	5	8	5	2	1,210	1,090	
		Female	66	13	-	7	7	3	4	680	615	
		Persons	68	11	-	6	7	4	3	1,890	1,705	
Other undergraduate		Male	73	10	-	5	3	7	1	185	175	
		Female	62	16	1	6	5	4	6	140	135	
		Persons	67	14	1	6	4	5	4	325	310	
All qualifications		Male	75	8	-	5	6	5	2	1,875	1,705	
		Female	67	14	-	6	5	3	4	1,140	1,035	
		Persons	70	11	-	6	6	3	3	3,010	2,740	

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

(a) Base: All UK domiciled qualifiers. Percentages less than 0.5 are represented by '-'.  
 (b) Part-time paid work only includes 'employed - mode unknown'  
 (c) Other includes not available for employment, creating a portfolio and other

<b>Table A.2: Proportion of qualifiers employed in region of HEI attended (a)</b>				
		<b>Per cent</b>	<b>Base Number (unweighted)</b>	<b>Base Number (weighted)</b>
<b>Postgraduate</b>	North East	49%	325	300
	North West	63%	805	895
	Yorkshire & the Humber	54%	775	815
	East Midlands	47%	625	615
	West Midlands	54%	790	815
	East	46%	505	440
	London	70%	1,790	1,990
	South East	61%	865	885
	South West	57%	630	655
	England(c)	94%	7,415	7,730
	Wales	69%	695	635
	Scotland	85%	1,100	1,055
	Northern Ireland	89%	510	275
<b>First Degree</b>	North East	33%	1,070	1,165
	North West	53%	2,185	2,430
	Yorkshire & the Humber	43%	2,290	2,580
	East Midlands	31%	1,975	2,225
	West Midlands	44%	1,765	1,930
	East	34%	1,210	1,335
	London	74%	2,570	2,600
	South East	46%	2,345	2,570
	South West	38%	1,880	2,055
	England(c)	95%	17,835	19,375
	Wales	66%	1,550	1,415
	Scotland	79%	2,485	2,445
	Northern Ireland	92%	1,440	735
<b>Other undergraduate</b>	North East	84%	135	100
	North West	80%	515	445
	Yorkshire & the Humber	75%	300	275
	East Midlands	63%	235	210
	West Midlands	72%	370	290
	East	69%	205	210
	London	69%	575	520
	South East	72%	485	435
	South West	77%	250	240
	England(b)	96%	3,140	2,795
	Wales	90%	270	260
	Scotland	93%	215	240
	Northern Ireland	98%	100	65
Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)				
(a) Base: UK employed UK domiciled qualifiers.				
(b) For all students who studied at the Open University, the region of HEI attended will be England.				

**Table B.1: Destinations of Welsh domiciled qualifiers from UK HEIs by mode of study, level of qualification and gender (Activity on the 27th November 2010 - Per cent) (a)**

			Full-time paid work only	Part-time paid work only (b)	Voluntary/ unpaid work only	Work & further study	Further study only	Assumed to be unemployed	Other (c)	Base Number <i>(un-weighted)</i>	Base Number <i>(weighted)</i>
<b>Full-time</b>	Postgraduate	Male	81.6	4.7	-	3.5	7.2	2.4	0.6	310	320
		Female	77.3	9.9	-	3.6	3.6	1.5	3.6	205	195
		All	78.9	7.9	-	3.6	5.0	1.9	2.5	515	515
	First Degree	Male	73.5	6.7	-	5.7	7.9	4.8	1.1	1,140	1,170
		Female	67.9	10.8	0.7	6.7	6.9	3.1	3.8	695	735
		All	70.0	9.2	0.6	6.3	7.3	3.8	2.8	1,840	1,900
	Other Undergraduate	Male	70.4	17.6	-	1.3	2.0	7.0	1.7	70	85
		Female	57.1	17.5	-	2.6	6.5	5.6	10.7	75	75
		All	63.3	17.5	-	2.0	4.4	6.2	6.5	145	155
All	Male	74.8	7.1	-	4.9	7.3	4.5	1.1	1,525	1,570	
	Female	69.2	11.0	0.7	5.9	6.2	2.9	4.1	975	1,000	
	All	71.4	9.5	0.5	5.5	6.6	3.6	2.9	2,495	2,570	
<b>Part-time</b>	Postgraduate	Male	82.3	5.9	-	2.9	4.1	2.5	2.2	250	250
		Female	71.5	13.9	-	7.4	1.8	1.6	3.7	145	140
		All	75.3	11.0	-	5.8	2.6	1.9	3.2	395	385
	First Degree	Male	85.0	2.8	-	3.7	4.1	1.0	3.5	165	145
		Female	58.5	21.7	0.9	6.3	1.4	1.1	10.2	85	70
		All	67.3	15.4	0.6	5.5	2.3	1.0	7.9	250	220
	Other Undergraduate	Male	82.2	1.7	-	7.5	0.9	5.7	2.1	130	115
		Female	65.5	15.0	1.2	8.3	2.8	2.2	5.0	75	70
		All	71.7	10.1	0.7	8.0	2.1	3.5	3.9	200	185
All	Male	83.0	4.1	-	4.3	3.3	2.9	2.5	545	510	
	Female	66.4	16.4	0.6	7.3	1.9	1.6	5.8	305	280	
	All	72.3	12.0	-	6.2	2.4	2.0	4.7	845	790	
<b>All modes</b>	Postgraduate	Male	81.9	5.2	-	3.2	5.9	2.5	1.3	560	565
		Female	74.7	11.6	-	5.3	2.8	1.6	3.6	350	335
		All	77.4	9.2	-	4.5	4.0	1.9	2.8	910	900
	First Degree	Male	74.5	6.3	-	5.5	7.6	4.5	1.3	1,310	1,310
		Female	66.8	12.0	0.8	6.7	6.3	2.9	4.5	780	805
		All	69.8	9.9	0.6	6.2	6.8	3.5	3.3	2,090	2,120
	Other Undergraduate	Male	76.2	9.8	-	4.3	1.5	6.3	1.9	200	200
		Female	62.0	16.1	0.7	5.9	4.3	3.6	7.4	145	145
		All	67.9	13.5	-	5.3	3.1	4.7	5.1	345	345
	All	Male	76.6	6.4	-	4.8	6.5	4.2	1.4	2,070	2,080
		Female	68.5	12.3	0.6	6.2	5.1	2.6	4.6	1,275	1,280
		All	71.6	10.1	0.5	5.7	5.6	3.2	3.3	3,345	3,360

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

(a) Base: All UK domiciled qualifiers. Percentages less than 0.5 are represented by '-'.  
(b) Part-time paid work only includes 'employed - mode unknown'  
(c) Other includes not available for employment, creating a portfolio and other

**Table B.2: Proportion of qualifiers employed by region of domicile (a)**

		<b>Per cent</b>	<b>Base Number (unweighted)</b>	<b>Base Number (weighted)</b>
<b>Postgraduate</b>	North East	67%	270	260
	North West	69%	830	880
	Yorkshire & the Humber	69%	625	655
	East Midlands	63%	555	560
	West Midlands	70%	730	745
	East	50%	645	650
	London	81%	1,485	1,555
	South East	60%	1,220	1,235
	South West	62%	710	705
	England	98%	7,115	7,250
	Wales	71%	800	800
	Scotland	88%	1,120	1,095
	Northern Ireland	78%	645	455
	<b>First Degree</b>	North East	62%	605
North West		65%	1,990	2,175
Yorkshire & the Humber		63%	1,595	1,755
East Midlands		53%	1,470	1,625
West Midlands		59%	1,775	1,945
East		43%	1,985	2,125
London		82%	3,010	3,010
South East		50%	3,210	3,465
South West		52%	1,670	1,785
England		98%	17,365	18,540
Wales		67%	1,730	1,770
Scotland		85%	2,215	2,225
Northern Ireland		71%	1,920	1,280
<b>Other undergraduate</b>		North East	89%	135
	North West	90%	480	405
	Yorkshire & the Humber	87%	270	260
	East Midlands	75%	230	205
	West Midlands	82%	360	285
	East	81%	250	245
	London	87%	475	435
	South East	81%	575	495
	South West	86%	265	245
	England	99%	3,050	2,685
	Wales	90%	295	290
	Scotland	92%	235	260
	Northern Ireland	87%	130	100
			Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)	
(a) Base: UK employed UK domiciled qualifiers.				



## NOTES

### 1 Related publications

The Early DLHE Survey (EDLHE) looks at the activities of individuals who have completed higher education courses in the UK around six months after graduation. The bulletin that looks at the 2006/07 cohort of graduates from the EDLHE is called the 'Destinations of Students Gaining Qualifications from Higher Education Institutions, 2006/07' and can be found here:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/post16ed2008/hdw200809241/?lang=en>.

The longitudinal DLHE survey looks at the destinations of those students who responded to the EDLHE three and a half years after graduation and is biennial (takes place once every two years). This publication is the most recent which looks at the 2006/07 cohort of graduates. The publications that look at the 2002/03 and 2004/05 cohorts of graduates three and a half years after graduation can be found at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/post16ed2008/hdw200802286/?lang=en>

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/post16ed2009/hdw200912222/?lang=en>

### 2 Data source

The **Longitudinal DLHE survey** was introduced by HESA for qualifiers from the 2002/03 academic year onwards.

Guidelines for use of the longitudinal DLHE Survey Dataset can be found here:

[http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php/component/option,com\\_studrec/task,show\\_file/Itemid,233/mnl,06019/href,Guidlines\\_for\\_use\\_of\\_the\\_DLHE\\_Longitudinal\\_Survey\\_Dataset.html/](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php/component/option,com_studrec/task,show_file/Itemid,233/mnl,06019/href,Guidlines_for_use_of_the_DLHE_Longitudinal_Survey_Dataset.html/)

### 3 Definitions

#### 3.1 Coverage

The 2006/07 Longitudinal DLHE Survey involved re-contacting a sample of leavers from the 2006/07 cohort who responded to the Early DLHE Survey and inviting them to complete a follow-up questionnaire. There were 453,880 graduates in 2006/07 that could have taken part in the Early DLHE survey, of which 332,110 took part, therefore the response rate for the EDLHE is 73.2%.

The Longitudinal Survey is based on two sub-samples of the 332,110 leavers who responded to the Early Survey in 2006/07. For Sample A, 70,960 were selected from across all institutions (29,340 responses were received), but with some groups of graduates being over-sampled relative to other groups, so that the sample is intentionally skewed towards foundation degree graduates, research graduates completing a Masters or Doctoral degree and non-white graduates (the rationale for the over-sampling was to ensure that the Longitudinal Survey would have sufficient numbers of graduates in key sub-groups to allow for separate statistical analyses of these groups). In addition 153,630 of the remaining 261,150 graduates for whom an email address was available were contacted resulting in a further 19,725 responses to the survey. After some work to determine if feasible to do so, it was agreed by IFF Research and HESA that it was possible to combine Sample A and Sample B for analysis purposes. The total number of responses is therefore 49,065. Of these 55 leavers had replied to the survey but the responses were not sufficiently complete in order to be counted as valid and have therefore been excluded from all further analysis.

## 3.2 Level of study

**Higher Education (HE) qualifiers** are those students who qualify from programmes of study for which the level of instruction is above that of level 3 of the National Qualifications Framework, i.e. courses leading to the Advanced Level of the General Certificate of Education (GCE A-levels), the Advanced Level of the Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE A-levels) or the Advanced Higher Grade and Higher Grade of the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA Advanced Highers/Highers).

**Further Education (FE) qualifiers** are those students who qualify from programmes of study for which the level of instruction is equal to or below that of level 3 of the National Qualifications Framework, i.e. courses leading to the Advanced Level of the General Certificate of Education (GCE A-levels), the Advanced Level of the Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE A-levels) or the Advanced Higher Grade and Higher Grade of the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA Advanced Highers/Highers).

## 3.3 Mode of study

**Full-time** includes full-time and sandwich study, plus those writing-up theses following full-time study.

**Part-time** includes part-time study, full-time study on courses lasting less than 24 weeks, block release or studying during the evenings, plus those writing-up theses following part-time study.

## 3.4 Domicile

This bulletin focuses only on **UK domiciled qualifiers**. UK domiciled students are those whose normal residence prior to entering HE was in the UK, including the Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The Longitudinal DLHE survey also covers EU domiciled students. However, these are not included in this bulletin.

Qualifiers classified as **Welsh domiciled** are those whose home postcode on entry to a higher education institution was in Wales.

## 3.5 Full Person Equivalent

This is a process of apportionment, where each headcount is, where necessary, divided in a way that in broad-brush terms reflects the pattern of the programme split.

For split programmes not involving an initial teaching training (ITT) component, the apportionment algorithm is as follows:

- 50%:50% for a balanced two-way split
- 66.667%: 33.333% for a major/minor two-way split
- 33.333%:33.333%:33.333% for a balanced three-way split FPE figures are derived by splitting each student between the different subjects that make up their qualification aim.

## 3.8 HESA employment and study definitions

**Employment only** includes those graduates who reported that they were in full-time paid work, part-time paid work, voluntary/unpaid work, and those qualifiers who were in employment but whose employment mode was unknown.

**Full-time employment only** includes those who reported that they were in full-time paid work and who were not also in study, training or research.

**Combination of work and further study** includes those who reported that they were in full-time paid work, part-time paid work, voluntary or unpaid work, employment mode unknown and who were also in full-time or part-time study, training or research.

**Assumed to be unemployed** includes those students who gave their employment circumstances as unemployed and looking for employment, further study or training, and who were also either in part-time study, training or research or not studying, plus those who were due to start a job within the next month and who were also either in part-time study, training or research or not studying.

**Further study only** includes those who gave their employment circumstances as temporarily sick or unable to work, looking after the home or family, not employed but not looking for employment, further study or training, or something else and who were also either in full-time or part-time study, training or research, plus those who were due to start a job within the next month or unemployed and looking for employment, further study or training and who were also in full-time study, training or research.

This year our employment definition has changed and is not inline with HESA's definitions. See the footnotes of the relevant charts and graphs for details.

## 4 Rounding strategy

The presentation of figures in this Statistical Bulletin follows the principles of the current HESA rounding strategy. The strategy is intended to prevent the disclosure of personal information about any individual. A summary of the strategy is as follows:

- Numbers 0, 1, 2 are rounded to 0 and are represented as '\*'.
- All other numbers are rounded to the nearest 5.

So for example 3 is represented as 5, 22 is represented as 20, 3286 is represented as 3285 while 20, 55 and 3510 remain unchanged.

Total figures are also subject to this rounding methodology; the consequence of which is that the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown precisely. Percentage changes have been calculated using precise raw numbers.

Percentages less than 0.5 per cent are represented by '-'.

## 5 Key quality information

This section provides a summary of information on this output against five dimensions of quality: Relevance; Accuracy; Timeliness and Punctuality; Accessibility and Clarity; and Comparability. It also describes the quality management tool applied to this area of work. Between September and November 2010 we conducted a public consultation on our Education Statistics outputs, in which we asked for feedback on the quality of the outputs. A summary of responses has been published and is available here:

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/statistics/education/?lang=en>

### 5.1 Relevance

HESA is the official agency for the collection, analysis and dissemination of quantitative information about higher education. It was set up by agreement between the relevant government departments, the higher education funding councils and the universities and colleges. The primary purpose of the Longitudinal DLHE data collection is to provide each of the bodies listed above with accurate and comprehensive statistical information regarding the destinations of leavers three and a half years after graduation.

The statistics are used both within and outside the Welsh Government to monitor educational trends and as a baseline for further analysis of the underlying data. Some of the key users are:

- Ministers and the Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales;
- Officials in the Welsh Government;

- Other government departments;
- The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales;
- Higher Education Institutions and representative bodies including institutional career advice;
- Students, researchers, and academics;
- Individual citizens, private companies, and the media;
- Go-Wales and Careers Wales;

These statistics are used in a variety of ways. Some examples of these are:

- Informing students about potential career paths based on subject of study ;
- To help to understand the migration of graduates into, between and away from administrations.

## 5.2 Accuracy

- Tables show both un-weighted and weighted bases, although all statistics are calculated on weighted data. The un-weighted bases show the raw sample sizes; the weighted bases show the sample sizes after weights have been applied.
- The response rate to sample A of the survey was 41 per cent while the response rate to the on-line survey was 13 per cent.
- An assessment of robustness and fitness for purpose of the Longitudinal DLHE, including sample design, response rates for key sub-groups and standard errors for key estimates, is available on the [HESA internet site](#).

## 5.3 Timeliness and punctuality

Throughout this bulletin the 2006/07 cohort refers to those students who qualified from higher education institutions in 2006/07, who took part in the early DLHE survey six months later and then answered questions about their activities on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2010. HESA produced their own publication covering leavers from institutions across the whole of the UK as at 1 September 2011. This bulletin, covering Welsh domiciled leavers and leavers from institutions in Wales, has met the previously announced date of publication.

## 5.4 Accessibility and clarity

This statistical bulletin is pre-announced and then published on the Statistics section of the Welsh Government website.

## 5.5 Comparability

The Department for Employment and Learning in Northern Ireland (DELNI) provide a page on their website devoted to Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) releases. The page contains Early DLHE reports from 2002/03 to 2009/10 and also a series of reports that preceded the DLHE – The First Destinations of Students (from 1996/97 to 2001/02). Longitudinal DLHE reports for the 2002/03 and 2004/05 cohorts are also presented here. We have been informed that DELNI will produce a report towards the end of 2011. Here is a link to the DELNI site:

[http://www.delni.gov.uk/indexstatsandresearch/higher-education-stats/he\\_destination\\_of\\_leavers.htm](http://www.delni.gov.uk/indexstatsandresearch/higher-education-stats/he_destination_of_leavers.htm)

Neither the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) nor the Scottish Government releases any publication relating to the Longitudinal DLHE survey.

The Longitudinal DLHE report published by HESA can be found here:

[http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php/component/option,com\\_studrec/task,show\\_file/Itemid,233/mnl,06019/href,default.html/](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php/component/option,com_studrec/task,show_file/Itemid,233/mnl,06019/href,default.html/)

## **5.6 Quality management**

The Welsh Government has published a Statistical Quality Management Strategy, which describes our strategic objectives for quality and how we implement them. It also covers our commitment to ensure that our statistics are fit for purpose, use appropriate processes and transparent methods and that the factual and presentational quality meets the requirement of our users. The full strategy can be found via the following link: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/about/compliance/statisticsquality/?lang=en>