



Statistics Bulletin

Northern Ireland Qualifications Quarterly:
July–September 2012



November 2012

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Executive summary

This bulletin is published jointly with the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA).

In this bulletin we present achievements awarded for all regulated qualifications in Northern Ireland (excluding GCSEs, GCEs¹ and the Diploma and its components) for the quarter July–September 2012.

Achievements are included in the quarter when the final qualification certificate is issued. Each quarter, awarding organisations submit data to us on the number of achievements they have awarded for regulated qualifications (excluding GCSEs and GCEs). We also collect data on behalf of CCEA on the number of achievements awarded in Northern Ireland. All regulated qualifications are included, regardless of the age of the student, the type of school or college and the funding status of the qualification.

- There were 73,132 achievements awarded in Northern Ireland this quarter, covering 1,653 individual qualifications from 84 different awarding organisations.
 - The awarding organisation that awarded the most achievements was City & Guilds with 20,201 (28 per cent of all achievements during July–September 2012).
 - The qualification with the most achievements awarded was the City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills – Application of Number with 2,815 (4 per cent of all achievements awarded this quarter).
 - The type of qualification with the most achievements awarded was the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) with 45,174 (62 per cent of total achievements awarded).
 - The sector subject area preparation for life and work had the most achievements awarded with 19,906 (27 per cent of total achievements awarded).
 - Level 2 qualifications had the most achievements awarded with 33,479 (46 per cent of all levels).

¹ Data for GCSEs and GCEs can be found on the Joint Council for Qualifications website at: www.jcq.org.uk/examination-results or at www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/raw-data/ .

- There were 45,174 QCF achievements awarded in Northern Ireland, covering 1,201 individual QCF qualifications from 70 different awarding organisations.
 - The QCF qualification with the most achievements awarded was the Chartered Institute in Environmental Health (CIEH) Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering with 1,833 achievements (4 per cent of all QCF achievements awarded).
 - The awarding organisation that awarded the most achievements in QCF qualifications was Pearson Education Limited (Edexcel) with 10,406 achievements (23 per cent of achievements awarded in QCF qualifications).
 - The sector subject area with the most achievements awarded in QCF qualifications was arts, media and publishing with 12,199 (27 per cent of the total QCF achievements awarded).
 - There were 22,430 achievements awarded at level 2 in QCF qualifications (50 per cent of the total QCF achievements awarded).

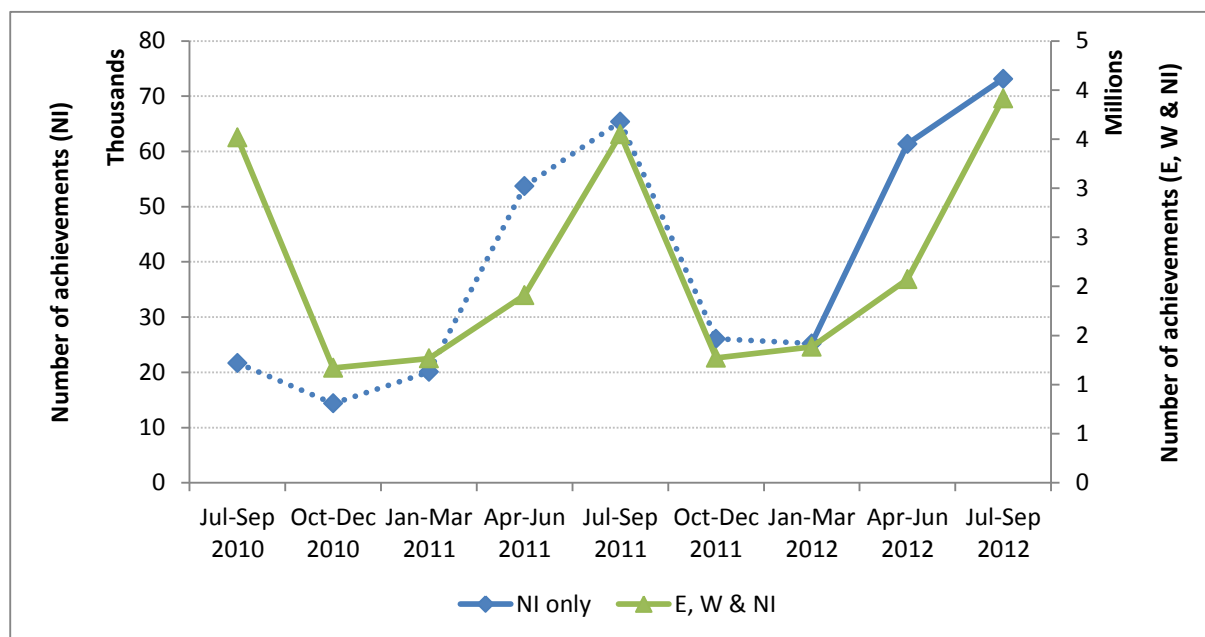
Achievements

This section presents the number of achievements awarded by type of qualification, awarding organisation, sector subject area and level of qualification. Due to the range of the qualifications on the QCF, there is further analysis of QCF qualifications in Northern Ireland (see page 13).

At the point of accreditation, all regulated qualifications are classified into 18² qualification types (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*³ for a full listing.)

There were 73,132 achievements awarded in Northern Ireland during July–September 2012 for all qualification types except GCSE, GCE and the Diploma (see figure 1 and table 1 in the appendix).

Figure 1: Number of achievements awarded in regulated qualifications in Northern Ireland and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, July–September 2010 to July–September 2012



Note: Dashed series represents partial data which we cannot use to make conclusions. In 2011, 80 per cent of the awarding organisations supplied the data, and in 2012 we have a complete dataset from all awarding organisations.

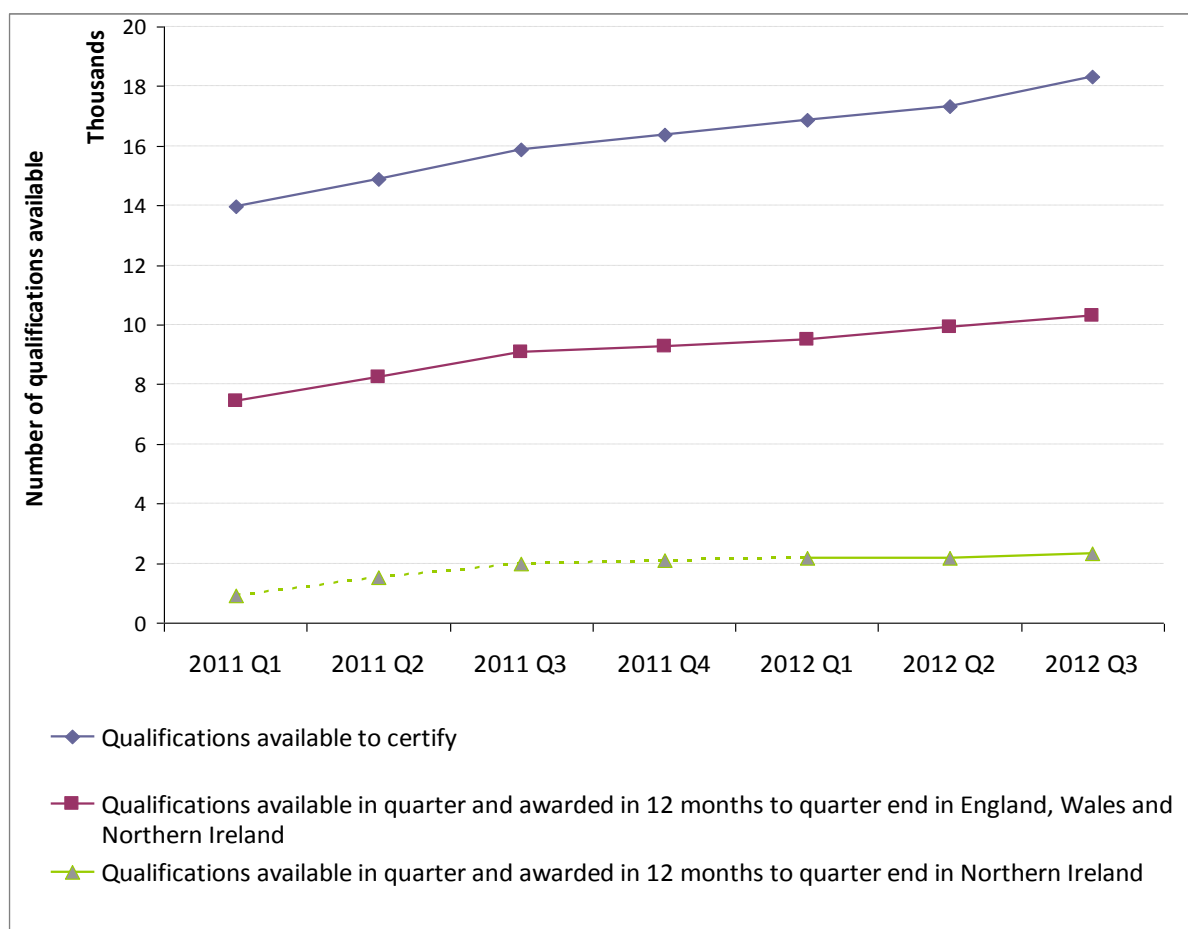
² Including GCSEs and GCEs

³ www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf

We can see from figure 1 that, each year, there is a peak in the number of achievements awarded during the July–September quarter, following the summer exam series. This is true for England, Wales and Northern Ireland combined, and for Northern Ireland alone. Interestingly, more qualifications are awarded in Northern Ireland in the April–June quarter, each year, compared with the three countries combined, for the same quarter.

Over the past year, there has been a steady increase in the number of qualifications that are available for certification/achievement, across England, Wales and Northern Ireland (see figure 2). During July–September 2012, 56 per cent of these qualifications awarded achievements in the 12-month period to September 2012 across the three countries combined, and 13 per cent in Northern Ireland alone. And, looking at figure 2, we see this percentage has increased this quarter, albeit very slightly.

Figure 2: Number of qualifications in Northern Ireland and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, January 2011–September 2012



Dashed series represents partial data which we cannot use to make conclusions. In 2011, 80 per cent of the awarding organisations supplied the data, and in 2012 we have a complete dataset from all awarding organisations.

Figure 3: Number of achievements awarded in regulated qualifications in Northern Ireland and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, July–September 2012

Qualification type	July- Sept 2012			
	NI only		E, W & NI	
QCF	45,174	62%	2,428,400	62%
Key skills	11,470	16%	209,600	5%
Other general qualification	5,877	8%	325,300	8%
Entry level	3,824	5%	88,900	2%
Vocationally related qualification	2,266	3%	273,650	7%
Basic skills	1,821	2%	134,550	3%
Higher level	935	1%	6,700	0%
ESOL	917	1%	94,500	2%
NVQ	805	1%	24,150	1%
Functional skills	36	0%	305,300	8%
Occupational qualification	5	0%	900	0%
Free-standing mathematics qualification	2	0%	22,450	1%
Total number of achievements	73,132	100%	3,914,450	100%

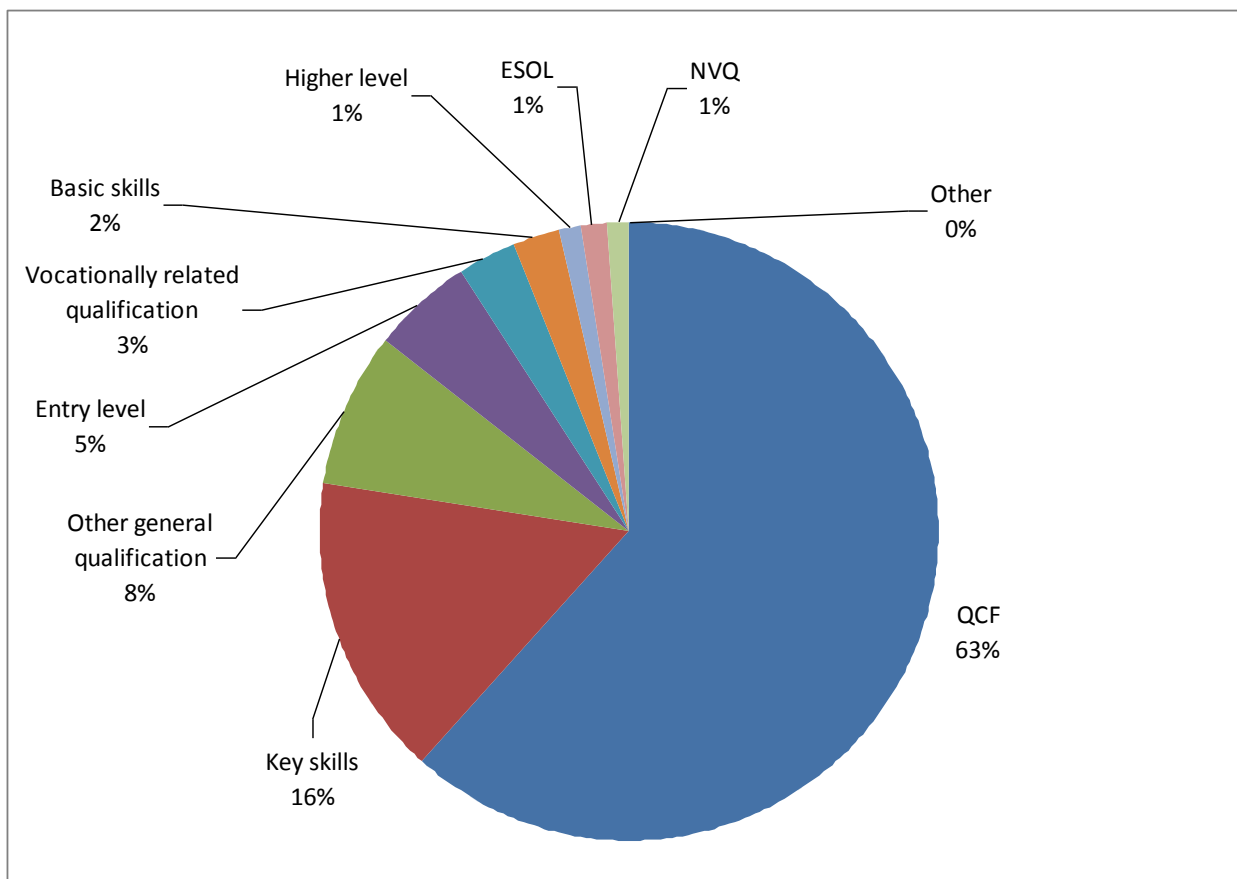
Key: QCF: The Qualifications and Credit Framework; ESOL: English for speakers of other languages; NVQ: National Vocational Qualification; E: England; W: Wales; and NI: Northern Ireland. Figures for the three countries combined are rounded to the nearest 50. Note: country-level data were collected from 2011 onwards. Actual numbers of achievements awarded in Northern Ireland are shown due to the small numbers in some qualification types.

From figure 3 above and figure 4 below, we can see that QCF qualifications dominate in Northern Ireland (62 per cent), and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (also 62 per cent). The second most frequently awarded type of qualification was key skills, with 11,470 achievements awarded (16 per cent of all achievements awarded in Northern Ireland).

Key skills, entry level and higher level qualifications have a greater percentage of the achievements awarded in Northern Ireland than they do in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. In contrast, there are a lower proportion of achievements awarded in vocationally related, basic skills, English for speakers of other languages (ESOL), functional skills and free-standing mathematics qualifications.

Figure 4 shows the share of achievements awarded in Northern Ireland by type of qualification.

Figure 4: Achievements awarded in Northern Ireland by qualification type, July–September 2012



Key: QCF: The Qualifications and Credit Framework; ESOL: English for speakers of other languages; NVQ: National Vocational Qualification.

Figure 5 lists the qualifications with the most achievements awarded in July–September 2012 in Northern Ireland.

Figure 5: The 20 qualifications with the highest number of achievements awarded in Northern Ireland, July–September 2012

Qualification	Achievements, July – Sept 2012	% of total
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number	2,815	3.8
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	2,244	3.1
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	1,833	2.5
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Information and Communication Technology	1,568	2.1
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Information and Communication Technology	1,461	2.0
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	1,202	1.6
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,199	1.6
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number	1,136	1.6
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	991	1.4
CCEA Level 3 Certificate in Personal Effectiveness	788	1.1
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	765	1.0
CCEA Level 3 Key Skills in Information and Communication Technology	757	1.0
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	733	1.0
CCEA Entry Level Certificate in Religious Studies	719	1.0
City & Guilds Entry Level Certificate in Essential Skills - Adult Literacy	645	0.9
City & Guilds Entry Level Certificate in Essential Skills - Adult Numeracy	578	0.8
ASDAN Level 2 Certificate of Personal Effectiveness	554	0.8
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	551	0.8
BSC Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness (Entry 3) (QCF)	551	0.8
AQA Level 2 Certificate in Preparation for Working Life	487	0.7

The qualification with the greatest number of achievements awarded was the City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills – Application of Number (2,815). Six of the ten qualifications were in essential skills. Table 2 in the appendix shows the 40 qualifications with the greatest number of achievements awarded.

Awarding organisations

In July–September 2012 there were 18,321 available qualifications (excluding GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, offered by 166 awarding organisations.

In Northern Ireland, 84 awarding organisations awarded achievements across 1,653 qualifications.

The awarding organisation that awarded the most achievements in Northern Ireland during July–September 2012 was City & Guilds with 20,201 (28 per cent of all achievements awarded in Northern Ireland; see figures 6 and 7).

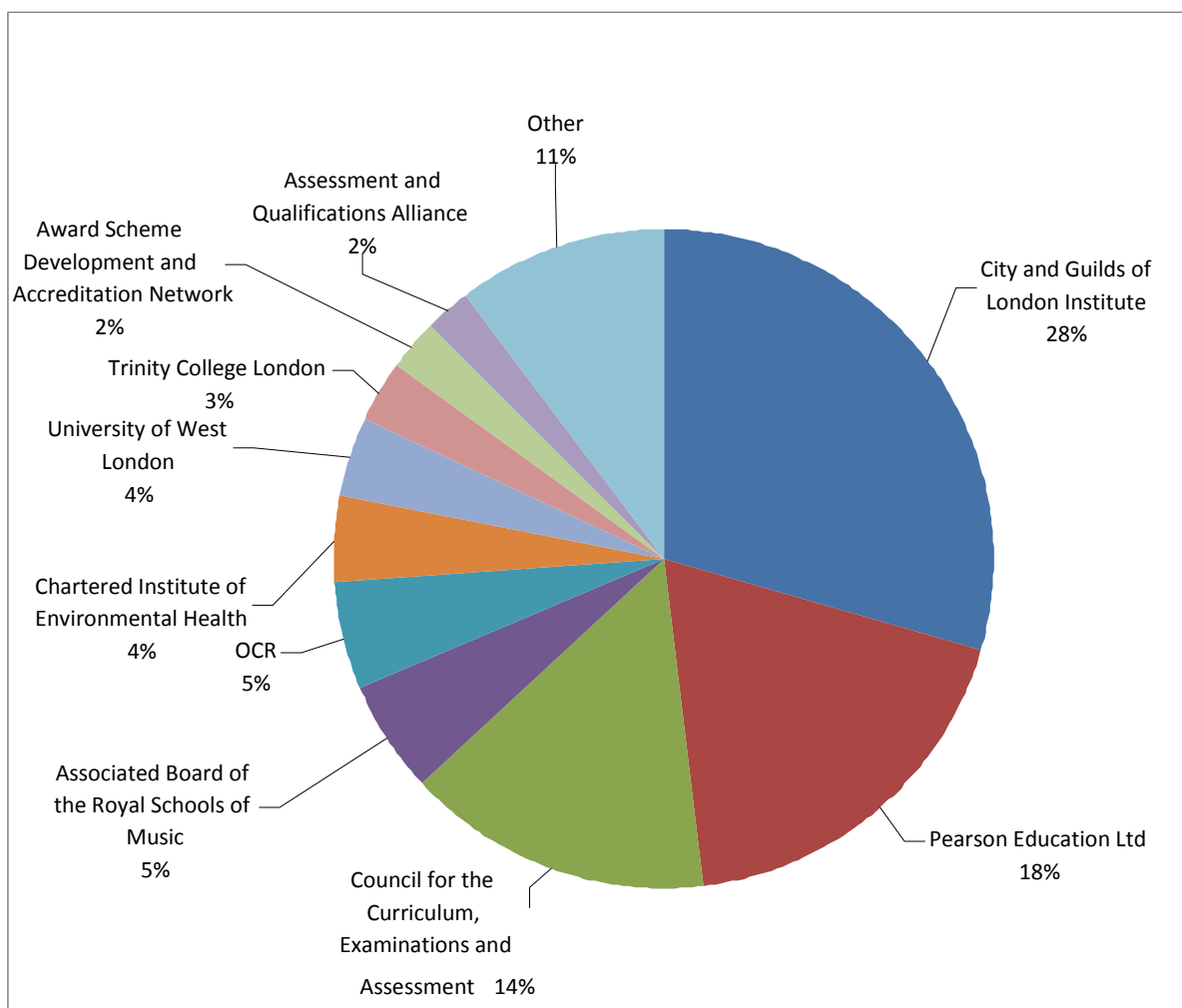
Figures for the 40 awarding organisations that awarded the highest number of achievements are shown in table 3 in the appendix.

Figure 6: The 20 awarding organisations that awarded the most achievements across all qualification types (excluding GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma) for Northern Ireland, July–September 2012

Awarding organisation	Achievements July – Sept 2012	% of total
City and Guilds of London Institute	20,201	27.6
Pearson Education Ltd	12,833	17.5
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	10,382	14.2
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	3,854	5.3
OCR	3,512	4.8
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	2,879	3.9
University of West London	2,631	3.6
Trinity College London	2,195	3.0
Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network	1,688	2.3
Assessment and Qualifications Alliance	1,651	2.3
EDI	1,401	1.9
National Open College Network	1,267	1.7
Cskills Awards	903	1.2
British Safety Council	838	1.1
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	620	0.8
University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations	494	0.7
Institute of Leadership & Management	417	0.6
Royal Society for Public Health	375	0.5
Signature	334	0.5
Royal Academy of Dance	328	0.4

Figure 7 shows the ten awarding organisations that awarded the highest number of achievements in July–September 2012 in Northern Ireland.

Figure 7: Achievements awarded by the ten awarding organisations with the highest number of achievements awarded compared with all other awarding organisations in Northern Ireland, July–September 2012

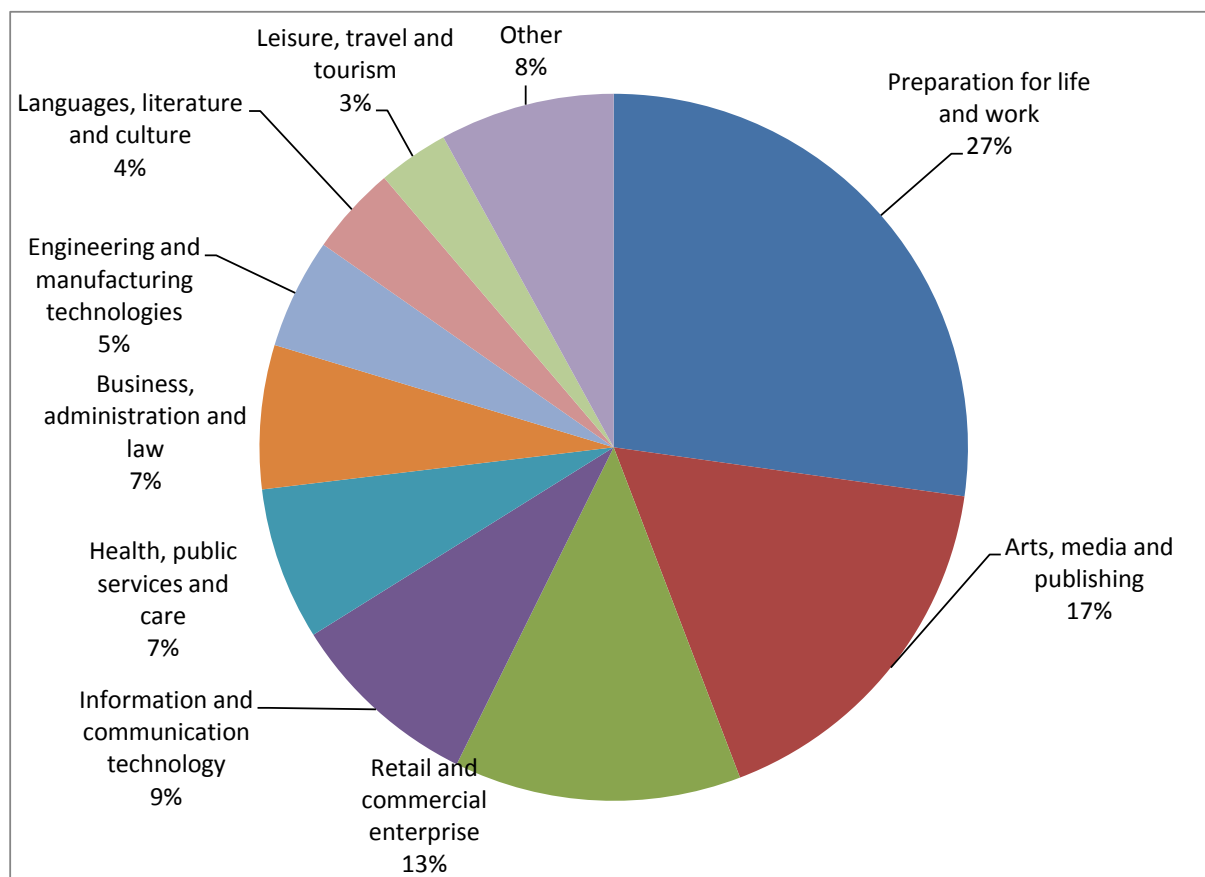


Sector subject area

Regulated qualifications are allocated to one of 15 sector subject area codes (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*⁴ for further details.)

The sector subject area with the highest number of achievements awarded in Northern Ireland during July–September 2012 was preparation for life and work with 19,906 (27 per cent of all achievements awarded (see figure 8)). The second most common sector subject area was arts, media and publishing with 12,416 achievements, representing 17 per cent of all achievements awarded. Full details of the number of achievements awarded for each sector subject area are given in table 4 in the appendix.

Figure 8: Achievements awarded in Northern Ireland by sector subject area, July–September 2012



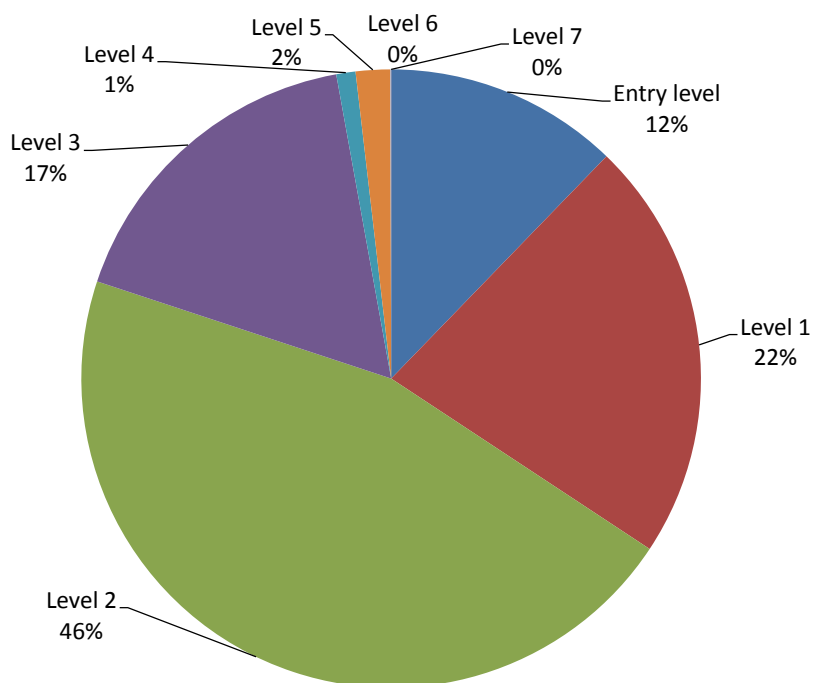
⁴ www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf

Level of qualification

All regulated qualifications are assigned a level, ranging from entry, then 1 to 8 (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*⁵ for full details.)

In July–September 2012 in Northern Ireland, level 2 saw the greatest proportion of achievements awarded with 33,479, representing 46 per cent of achievements awarded (see figure 9). Full details of the number of achievements awarded for each level are given in table 5 in the appendix.

Figure 9: Achievements awarded in Northern Ireland by level, July–September 2012



Note: There were no achievement awarded for level 8 qualifications this quarter

⁵ www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf

Qualifications and Credit Framework in Northern Ireland

Please note: these figures refer to full qualifications, not units.

The QCF is a credit-based framework that lets students build up and transfer credit towards a regulated qualification. It is designed to give students, learning providers and employers an inclusive and flexible regulated qualifications framework, containing units and qualifications that recognise the widest possible range of quality-assured student achievements. The QCF introduces a standard currency for student achievement across the qualifications system through the award of credits. One credit is equivalent to ten hours of learning. There are three sizes of QCF qualification: award, certificate and diploma. Awards consist of 1 to 12 credits, certificates 13 to 36 credits, and diplomas 37 credits or more.

In July – September 2012, 45,174 QCF achievements were recorded at all levels in Northern Ireland. The QCF achievements covered 1,201 different qualifications, offered by 70 awarding organisations. In July – September 2012, achievements awarded in QCF qualifications represented 62 per cent of the achievements awarded in regulated qualifications in Northern Ireland.

The QCF qualification with the greatest number of achievements awarded was the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering, with 1,833 (see figure 10). The 40 QCF qualifications with the highest number of achievements awarded are detailed in table 6 in the appendix.

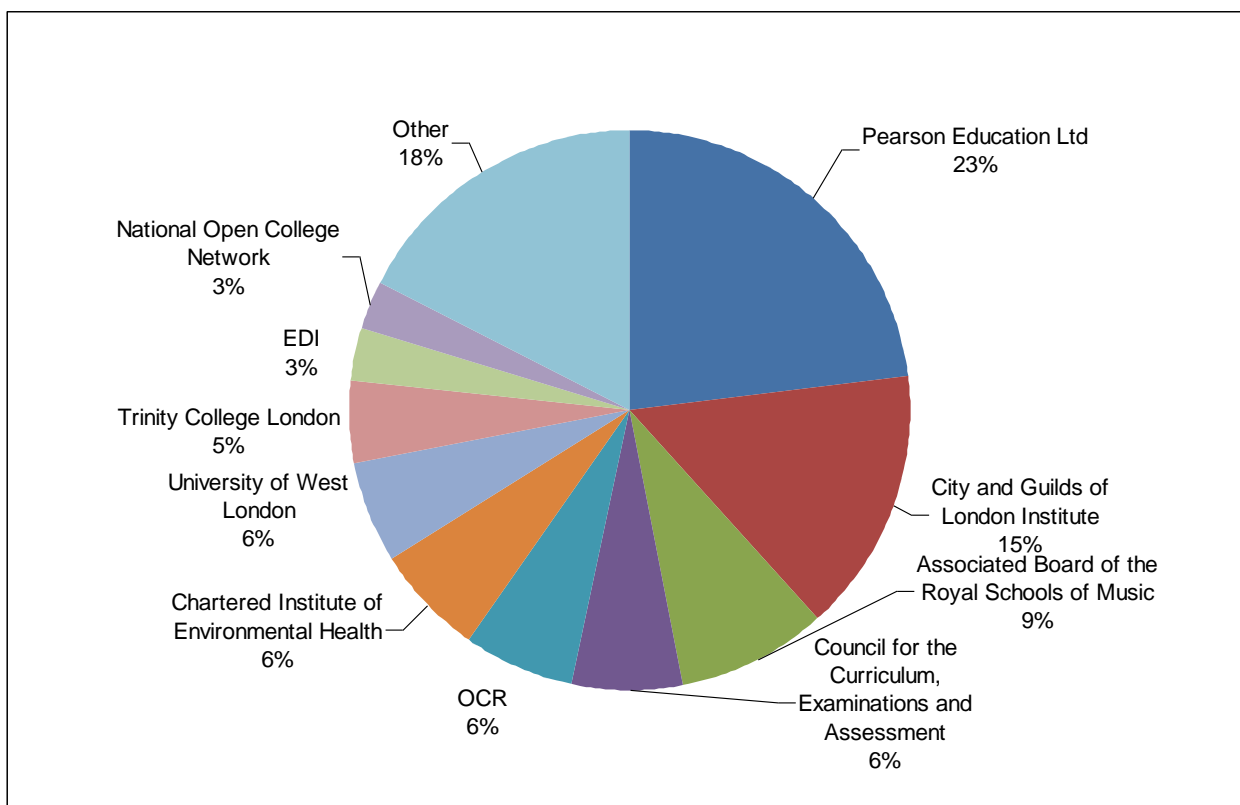
Figure 10: The 20 QCF qualifications with the most achievements awarded in Northern Ireland, July – September 2012

Qualification	Achievements July – Sept 2012	% of total
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	1,833	2.51
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	1,202	1.64
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,199	1.64
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	765	1.05
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	733	1.00
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	551	0.75
BSC Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness (Entry 3) (QCF)	551	0.75
CCEA Level 2 Award in Understanding Business Enterprise (QCF)	472	0.65
CCEA Level 2 Award in Creative Craft (QCF)	429	0.59
CCEA Level 2 Award in Employability (QCF)	395	0.54
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	391	0.53
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 4) (QCF)	370	0.51
City & Guilds Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Hairdressing (QCF)	359	0.49
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Manufacturing (QCF)	353	0.48
TCL Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	333	0.46
TCL Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	333	0.46
City & Guilds Entry Level Award for IT Users (Start IT - iTQ) (Entry 3) (QCF)	326	0.45
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	323	0.44
CIEH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace (QCF)	309	0.42
HABC Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	307	0.42

Note: Two decimal places are used to show the differences between the small values.

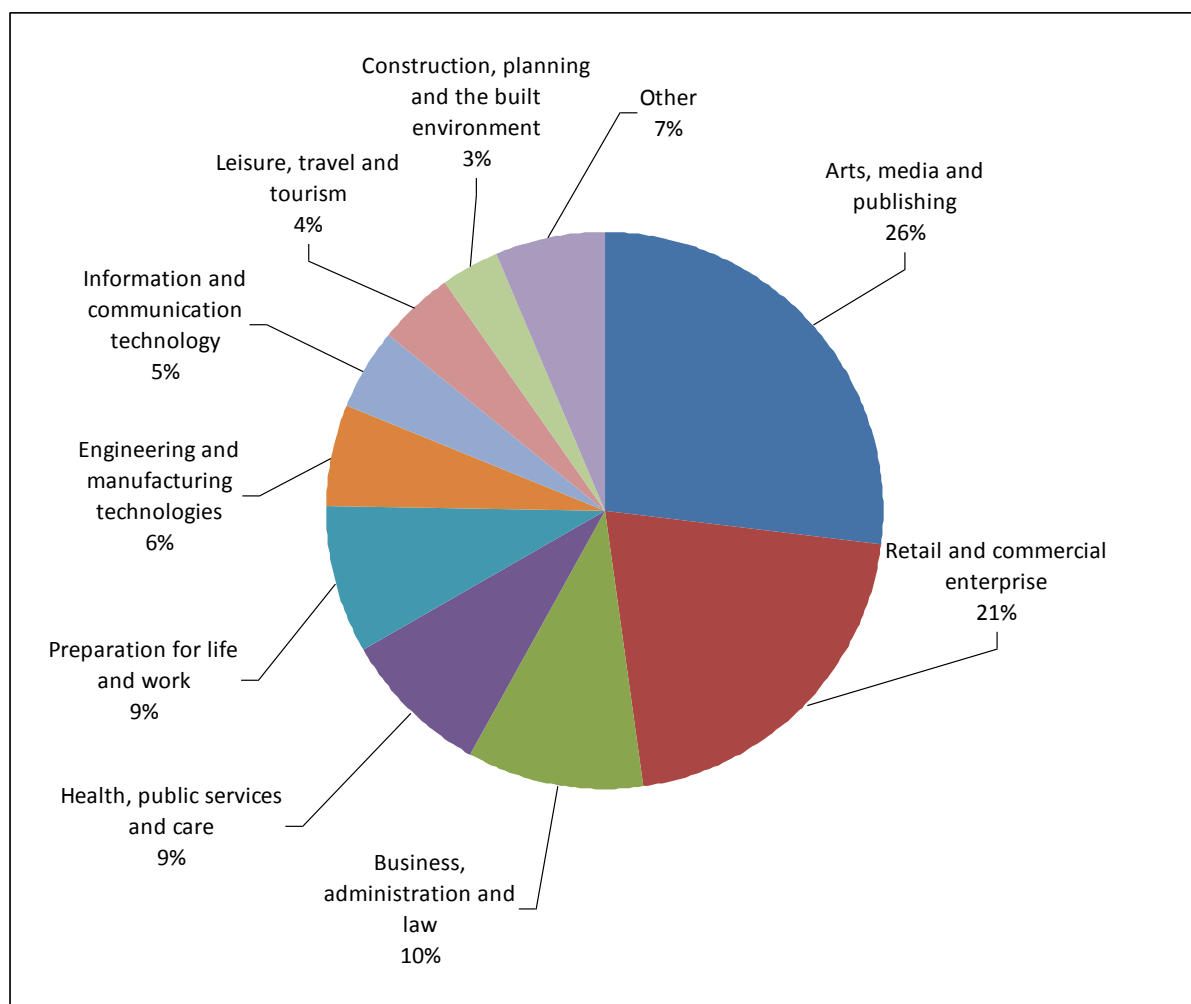
Pearson Education Limited (Edexcel) awarded almost a quarter of all QCF achievements (10,406 achievements, 23 per cent of all QCF achievements (see figure 11)). The 40 awarding organisations that awarded the highest number of achievements are shown in table 7 in the appendix.

Figure 11: QCF achievements awarded in Northern Ireland by awarding organisation, July – September 2012



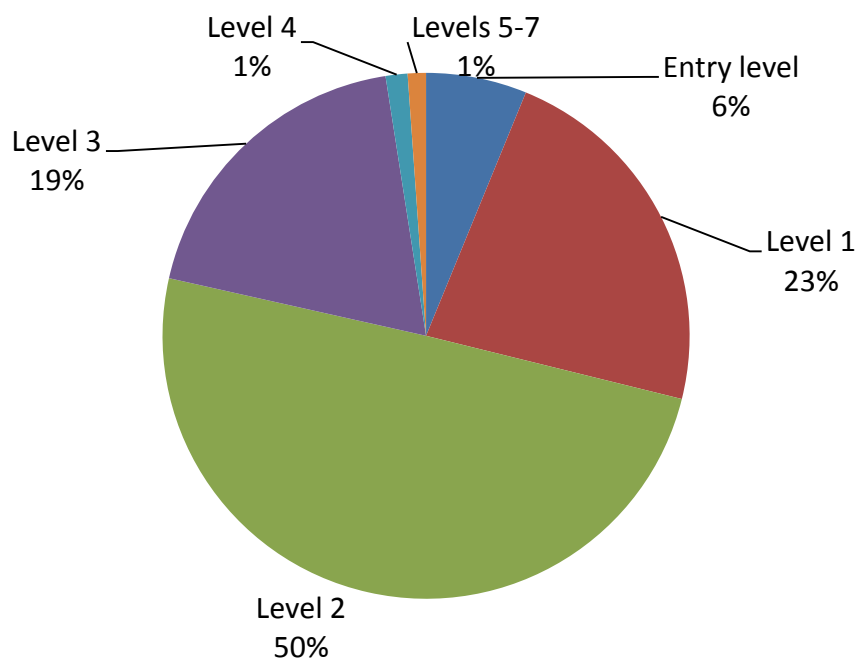
The sector subject area with the highest number of achievements awarded in the QCF was arts, media and publishing with 12,199 (27 per cent of QCF achievements awarded (see figure 12)). If we consider all regulated qualifications (not just those in the QCF) then this sector subject area had the second highest number of achievements awarded. The sector subject area with the next highest number of achievements awarded was retail and commercial enterprise with 9,427 (21 per cent of QCF achievements awarded). If we consider all regulated qualifications (not just those in the QCF) then this sector subject area had the third highest number of achievements awarded. Full details of the number of achievements awarded for each sector subject area are in table 8 in the appendix.

Figure 12: QCF achievements awarded in Northern Ireland by sector subject area, July – September 2012



Fifty per cent of QCF achievements awarded in July-September 2012 in Northern Ireland were at level 2 with 22,430 (see figure 13). Full details of the number of achievements awarded for each level are in table 9 in the appendix.

Figure 13: QCF achievements awarded in Northern Ireland by level, July – September 2012



Note: There were no achievement awarded for level 8 qualifications this quarter

Background information

Each quarter, awarding organisations submit data to us on the number of achievements they have awarded for the quarter. For Northern Ireland, we also collect these data on behalf of CCEA. Achievements are included only in the quarter when the final certificate is issued. All regulated qualifications are included, regardless of the age of the student, the type of school or college and the funding status of the qualification.

Geographical coverage

This bulletin covers the regulated qualifications of all awarding organisations recognised by us and/or CCEA for Northern Ireland. Four of these awarding organisations are based in Ireland: CCEA, Engineering Training Council Awards Limited (ETCAL), Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCNNI), and Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI).

The remaining awarding organisations recognised by us and/or CCEA to award qualifications in Northern Ireland have their headquarters elsewhere.

Qualification type

At the point of accreditation, regulated qualifications are classified into 18⁶ qualification types. These are used to classify the qualifications in this bulletin. We recognise that the classification system is not ideal, as very similar qualifications may appear under different qualification types, for example NVQs and the QCF.

This bulletin presents figures on all types of qualifications awarded in Northern Ireland, except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.

Revisions

Once published, data on the number of achievements awarded for any qualification are not usually subject to change. But, data may be changed in subsequent bulletins due to late data or if an error is found. Qualifications may also be re-categorised to a different type, level, sector subject area or awarding organisation. In some cases, previous data may be altered to reflect the new categorisation.

In this bulletin some figures have been revised since the April – June 2012 bulletin. These revisions were made because of updates from two awarding organisations. Some of these updates have affected data since July – September 2010.

⁶ Including GCSEs and GCEs

Completeness of the data

Awarding organisations send us data each quarter. We contact any awarding organisation that does not return a complete set of data within the collection period to make sure that the data are as complete as possible. For this quarter, we received data from all the awarding organisations.

We started collecting country-level data at the beginning of 2011 and we collected a complete set of data for the first time at the beginning of 2012. By 2013, we expect to be able to make comparisons with data from the same quarter of the previous year. Data for Northern Ireland are complete for 2012. In 2011, 80 per cent of awarding organisations supplied data, and, prior to this, data are only partially complete and should be considered with caution.

Definitions

Some of the key terms used in this bulletin are defined as follows:

- Accreditation – a process that reviews and confirms achievement to specific criteria and standards.
- Achievement – any award that is not graded as U, absent or X or fail.
- Available qualification – a qualification eligible for an award or a qualification that has made an award.
- Awarding organisation – an organisation recognised to develop, deliver and award descriptions of qualifications.
- Active qualification – a qualification eligible for award to students, even if the qualification is no longer available for enrolment.
- Certification – a formal acknowledgement of student achievement.
- Recognition – an evidence-based process of achieving compliance with the criteria for recognition.

Our *Statistical Publications Glossary* provides further details on sector subject area classifications and qualification types and levels. It is available as a separate document in the statistical section of our website⁷.

⁷ www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf

In this bulletin, quarter refers to calendar quarters. So quarter 1 (Q1) refers to January–March, quarter 2 (Q2) to April–June, quarter 3 (Q3) to July–September, and quarter 4 (Q4) to October–December.

We are continually striving to improve the quality and coverage of information in these quarterly updates, and we welcome any suggestions or comments you have regarding this bulletin. Our contact details are at the end of this bulletin.

Appendix

Table 1: Summary data, July – September 2012
Northern Ireland

	Awarding organisations regulated	Awarding organisations offering qualifications	Awarding organisations awarding	Available qualifications	Qualifications with achievements awarded	Total achievements awarded
July to September 2012	176	166	84	18,321	1,653	73,132

Table 2: The 40 regulated qualifications with the highest number of achievements awarded (except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma), July – September 2012

Northern Ireland

Qualification	Achievements
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number	2,815
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	2,244
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	1,833
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Information and Communication Technology	1,568
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Information and Communication Technology	1,461
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	1,202
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,199
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number	1,136
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	991
CCEA Level 3 Certificate in Personal Effectiveness	788
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	765
CCEA Level 3 Key Skills in Information and Communication Technology	757
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	733
CCEA Entry Level Certificate in Religious Studies	719
City & Guilds Entry Level Certificate in Essential Skills - Adult Literacy	645
City & Guilds Entry Level Certificate in Essential Skills - Adult Numeracy	578
ASDAN Level 2 Certificate of Personal Effectiveness	554
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	551
BSC Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness (Entry 3) (QCF)	551
AQA Level 2 Certificate in Preparation for Working Life	487
CCEA Level 2 Award in Understanding Business Enterprise (QCF)	472
CCEA Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number	471
CCEA Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	432
CCEA Level 2 Award in Creative Craft (QCF)	429
CCEA Level 3 Key Skills in Communication	412
CCEA Level 2 Award in Employability (QCF)	395
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	391
CCEA Entry Level Certificate in English	372
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 4) (QCF)	370
City & Guilds Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Hairdressing (QCF)	359
CCEA Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	356
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Manufacturing (QCF)	353
TCL Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	333
TCL Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	333
City & Guilds Entry Level Award for IT Users (Start IT - iTQ) (Entry 3) (QCF)	326
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	323
CIEH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace (QCF)	309
HABC Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	307
TCL Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	306
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Applied Science (QCF)	304

Table 3: The 40 awarding organisations that awarded the highest number of achievements in all regulated qualifications (except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma), July – September 2012	
Northern Ireland	
Awarding organisation	Achievements
City and Guilds of London Institute	20,201
Pearson Education Ltd	12,833
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	10,382
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	3,854
OCR	3,512
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	2,879
University of West London	2,631
Trinity College London	2,195
Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network	1,688
Assessment and Qualifications Alliance	1,651
EDI	1,401
National Open College Network	1,267
Cskills Awards	903
British Safety Council	838
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	620
University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations	494
Institute of Leadership & Management	417
Royal Society for Public Health	375
Signature	334
Royal Academy of Dance	328
IMI Awards Ltd	308
ETC Awards Limited	245
Institute of Qualified Lifeguards	245
International Association of Book-Keepers	225
Active IQ	219
Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body	198
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	188
Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education	180
VTCT	173
WSET Awards	169
Prince's Trust	149
Equestrian Qualifications Limited	147
FDQ Limited	134
IFS School of Finance	124
Rock School Ltd	120
Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development	115
Central YMCA Qualifications	101
Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment	99
Sports Leaders UK	98
Future (Awards and Qualifications) Ltd	92

Table 4: Number of achievements awarded by sector subject area in all regulated qualifications (except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma), July – September 2012
 Northern Ireland

	Achievements awarded
Preparation for life and work	19,906
Arts, media and publishing	12,416
Retail and commercial enterprise	9,588
Information and communication technology	6,433
Health, public services and care	5,114
Business, administration and law	4,810
Engineering and manufacturing technologies	3,687
Languages, literature and culture	2,978
Leisure, travel and tourism	2,363
Construction, planning and the built environment	1,925
Science and mathematics	1,212
Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	1,103
History, philosophy and theology	951
Education and training	621
Social sciences	25
Total	73,132

Table 5: Number of achievements awarded in all regulated qualifications (except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma) by level, July – September 2012 Northern Ireland	
Level	Achievements awarded
Entry	8,943
1	16,124
1_2	30
2	33,479
3	12,480
4	733
5	1,311
6	22
7	10
8	0
Total	73,132

Table 6: The 40 QCF qualifications with the highest number of achievements awarded, July – September 2012 Northern Ireland	
Qualification	Achievements awarded
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	1,833
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,202
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,199
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	765
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	733
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	551
BSC Entry Level Award in Workplace Hazard Awareness (Entry 3) (QCF)	551
CCEA Level 2 Award in Understanding Business Enterprise (QCF)	472
CCEA Level 2 Award in Creative Craft (QCF)	429
CCEA Level 2 Award in Employability (QCF)	395
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	391
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 4) (QCF)	370
City & Guilds Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Hairdressing (QCF)	359
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Manufacturing (QCF)	353
TCL Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	333
TCL Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	333
City & Guilds Entry Level Award for IT Users (Start IT - iTQ) (Entry 3) (QCF)	326
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	323
CIEH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace (QCF)	309
HABC Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	307
TCL Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	306
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Applied Science (QCF)	304
OCR Level 2 Award in Text Processing (Business Professional) (QCF)	292
BSC Level 1 Award in Health and Safety at Work (QCF)	285
NOCN Entry Level Award in Progression (Entry 3) (QCF)	283
CCEA Level 1 Award in Creative Craft (QCF)	281
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in IT (QCF)	281
City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma for Children's Care, Learning and Development (Wales and Northern Ireland) (QCF)	269
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Engineering (QCF)	266
City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma for Children's Care, Learning and Development (Wales and Northern Ireland) (QCF)	265
Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Sport (QCF)	255
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Diploma in IT (QCF)	241
City & Guilds Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy (QCF)	239
Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport (QCF)	239
TCL Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 4) (QCF)	233
CCEA Level 1 Award in Employability Skills (QCF)	231
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 5) (QCF)	230
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	230
Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Health and Social Care (QCF)	217
Signature Level 1 Award in British Sign Language (QCF)	207

Table 7: The 40 awarding organisations QCF qualifications with the highest number of achievements awarded, July – September 2012 Northern Ireland	
Awarding organisation	Achievements awarded
Pearson Education Ltd	10,406
City and Guilds of London Institute	6,837
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	3,854
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	2,892
OCR	2,891
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	2,879
University of West London	2,631
Trinity College London	2,184
EDI	1,304
National Open College Network	1,252
Cskills Awards	854
British Safety Council	838
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	620
Institute of Leadership & Management	417
Royal Society for Public Health	375
Signature	334
Royal Academy of Dance	328
Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network	306
Assessment and Qualifications Alliance	271
Institute of Qualified Lifeguards	245
Active IQ	218
International Association of Book-Keepers	202
Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body	190
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	187
VTCT	173
WSET Awards	169
ETC Awards Limited	158
Prince's Trust	149
Equestrian Qualifications Limited	147
FDQ Limited	134
IMI Awards Ltd	128
IFS School of Finance	123
Rock School Ltd	120
Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development	114
Central YMCA Qualifications	100
Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment	98
Sports Leaders UK	98
Future (Awards and Qualifications) Ltd	92
NCFE	86
New Era Academy of Drama and Music (London) Ltd	84

Table 8: Number of achievements awarded by sector subject area in QCF qualifications, July – September 2012	
Northern Ireland	
	Achievements awarded
Arts, media and publishing	12,199
Retail and commercial enterprise	9,427
Business, administration and law	4,550
Health, public services and care	3,934
Preparation for life and work	3,845
Engineering and manufacturing technologies	2,710
Information and communication technology	2,061
Leisure, travel and tourism	2,003
Construction, planning and the built environment	1,502
Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	985
Languages, literature and culture	765
Science and mathematics	618
Education and training	572
Social sciences	3
History, philosophy and theology	0

Table 9: Achievements awarded in QCF qualifications by level, from July – September 2012	
Northern Ireland	
Level	Achievements awarded
Entry	2,794
1	10,245
2	22,430
3	8,593
4	607
5	478
6	17
7	10
8	0
Total	42,380

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