

# **Statistics Bulletin**

Higher Qualifications Quarterly:

October – December 2012



February 2013

Ofqual/13/5265

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## Executive summary

We regulate qualifications, exams and assessments in England, and vocational qualifications in Northern Ireland.

This bulletin covers data on achievements for qualifications of all types at level 4 and above (equivalent to post A level) that we regulate. It does not include qualifications such as university degrees, which are regulated by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA). In this bulletin, qualifications at level 4 and above are known as higher qualifications, and we present the achievements in England, Wales and Northern Ireland during the October – December 2012 quarter.

Each quarter, awarding organisations submit data to us about the number of qualifications they have awarded during that quarter. Achievements are included in the quarter when the final qualification certificate is issued. All regulated qualifications at level 4 and above are included, regardless of the age of the student, the type of school or college and the funding status of the qualification.

The key findings relating to higher qualifications this quarter are set out below.

- The number of achievements and the number of available qualifications have increased this quarter compared with the same quarter in 2011. However, the number of achievements is not growing at the same pace as the increase in the number of qualifications available.
- Higher qualifications generally have low achievement rates. More than 80 per cent of qualifications had fewer than 200 achievements in the last 12 months, and, in October – December 2012, 93 per cent had fewer than 100 achievements.
- From the 2,387 qualifications available this quarter, 1,265 didn't have any achievements in the last 12 months (53 per cent).
- The qualifications with the most number of achievements are in financial planning and advice and accountancy.
- The two sector subject areas with the most achievements were business, administration, finance and law (54 per cent of all achievements) and education and training (22 per cent of all achievements), and both saw an increase in achievements this quarter (6 and 3 per cent respectively). They both have had continual growth: since quarter 4 of 2007 for business, administration, finance and law, and since quarter 2 of 2009 for education and training. Health, public services and care saw an 18 per cent decrease this quarter, a trend that has been present since quarter 3 of 2010.

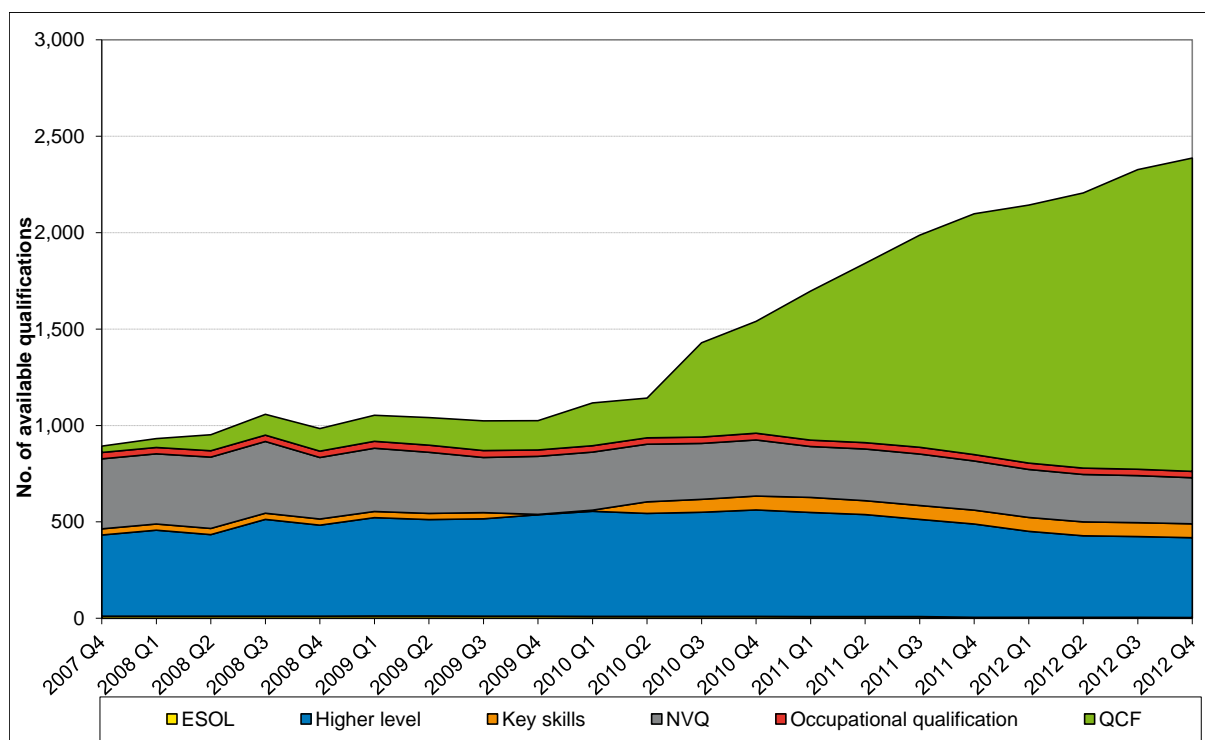
- There has been a continual growth in the number of awarding organisations offering and awarding qualifications with an 8 per cent increase in the number of awarding organisations offering qualifications since quarter 4 of 2011 (122 qualifications compared with 113) and a 9 per cent increase in the number awarding (85 compared with 75).
  
- Seventy five of the 122 awarding organisations that are recognised to regulate higher qualifications had achievements this quarter. Pearson Education Limited (Edexcel) had the most achievements with 4,050, or 15 per cent, of all higher qualification achievements this quarter, although this is 16 per cent lower than the same quarter last year. Despite the drop compared with the same quarter last year, the number of achievements has seen a constant growth over the last quarters.

## Regulated higher qualifications

### Qualifications available

In this quarter, there were 2,387 available regulated higher qualifications. This is an increase of 14 per cent on the same quarter of 2011. These comprise 1,625 QCF qualifications, 414 higher level qualifications, 239 NVQs, 72 key skills qualifications, 33 occupational qualifications and four English for speakers of other languages qualifications (see figure 1). During this quarter, 75 new QCF qualifications, six new higher level qualifications and one new vocationally related qualification were added to the list of available regulated higher qualifications. For more detailed information see table 1 in the appendix.

**Figure 1:** Number of available regulated higher qualifications per quarter by qualification type, October – December 2007 (2007 Q4) to October – December 2012 (2012 Q4)



**Key:** QCF: Qualifications and Credit Framework; NVQ: National Vocational Qualification; ESOL: English for Speakers of Other Languages.

Figure 1 shows that the continual growth of available regulated higher qualifications is mainly due to the introduction of the QCF. The QCF began in 2008 after tests and trials, and, from 2010, qualifications began to restructure in order to be accredited to the QCF. This is shown in figure 1 by the gradual decline of the other qualification

types in the last few quarters. Since quarter 4 of 2009, the number of available qualifications has more than doubled, going from 1,024 to 2,387.

## Qualifications available and awarding

The achievements in October – December 2012 covered 723 individual qualifications (30 per cent of all available qualifications), with a wide range in the number of achievements per qualification. Figure 2 shows the number of qualifications awarding different levels of achievements in October – December 2012. From these 723 qualifications, four had at least 1,000 achievements and 47 had between 100 and 999 achievements. More than half of the available higher qualifications had fewer than ten achievements during this quarter and 93 per cent of the qualifications had fewer than 100 achievements this quarter.

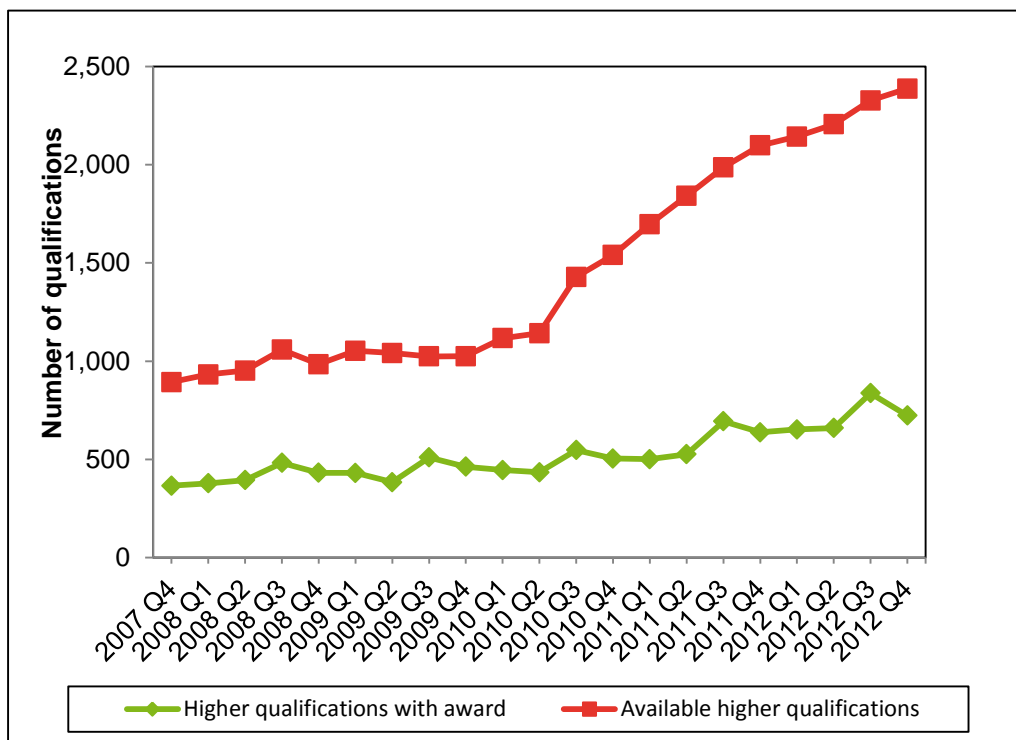
If we look at the same figures but for the achievements in the last 12 months, 80 per cent of qualifications had fewer than 200 achievements and 29 per cent had between one and nine achievements. Only 22 qualifications have had more than 1,000 achievements within the last year. At this time, we don't know whether these levels are acceptable.

**Figure 2:** Number of available higher qualifications with achievements during this quarter (left) and during the last 12 months (right)

Number of achievements	Number of qualifications	Cumulative %	Number of achievements	Number of qualifications	Cumulative %
5,000 and more	-	-	5,000 and more	2	0.2
1,000 to 5,000	4	0.6	1,000 to 5,000	20	1.9
500-999	5	1.2	500-999	25	4.1
200-499	17	3.6	200-499	69	10.2
100-199	25	7.1	100-199	99	19.0
50-99	57	14.9	50-99	133	30.7
20-49	97	28.4	20-49	188	47.3
10-19	104	42.7	10-19	156	61.1
1-9	414	100.0	1-9	441	100.0

If we look at figure 3 (next page), we can see that the number of available higher qualifications has been increasing since quarter 2 of 2012. If we look at the number of higher qualifications with achievements, we see that there has been a steady increase in the last five years, with a peak in quarter 3 of each year. The gap between the available higher qualifications and the higher qualifications with awards has been increasing since quarter 2 of 2010 when 38 per cent of qualifications were awarding qualifications. During the quarter covering October – December 2012, only 30 per cent of qualifications made awards. The qualifications making up the difference between these two curves are inactive qualifications, or qualifications with no achievements, and we will turn to these in a subsequent section and look at the qualifications that haven't had any achievements in the last 12 months.

**Figure 3:** Total number of available higher qualifications per quarter, and total number of higher qualifications with awards, October – December 2007 (2007 Q4) to October – December 2012 (2012 Q4)





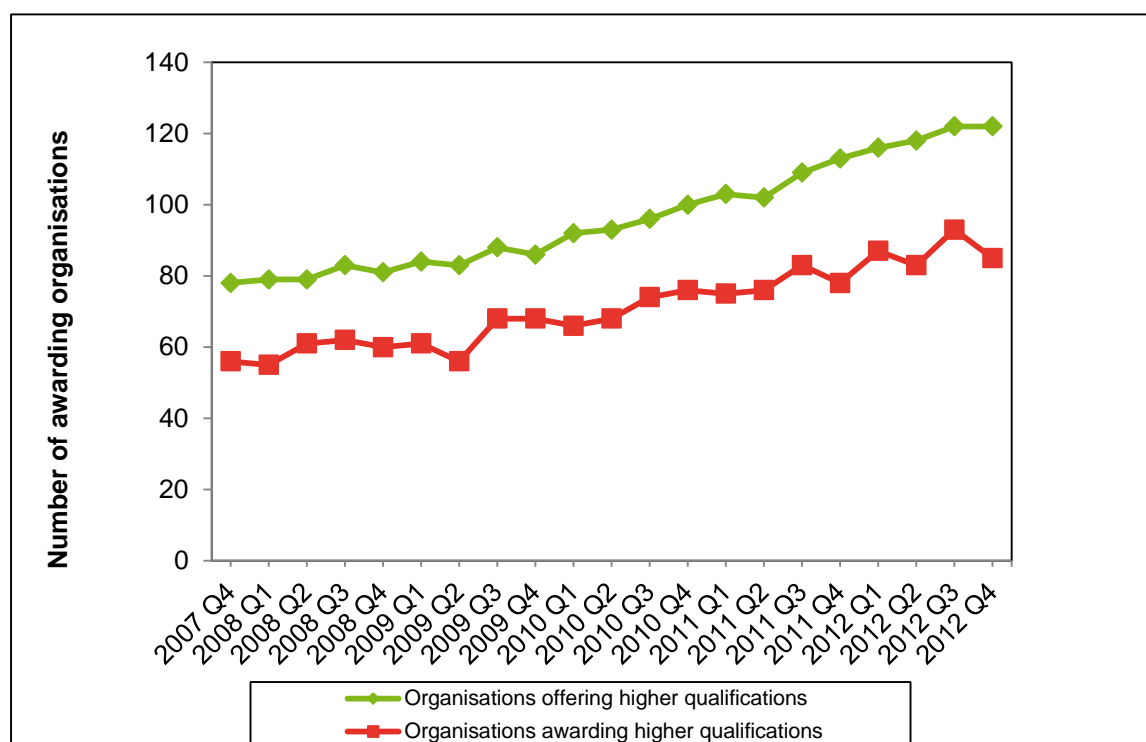
## Awarding organisations

There are 122 recognised awarding organisations that offer regulated higher qualifications. In October – December 2012, 85 awarding organisations awarded higher qualifications.

It is clear from figure 4 below that there has been a gradual increase in the number of awarding organisations offering and awarding higher qualifications over the last five years. There also seems to be a trend, since quarter 2 of 2011, for a greater number of awarding organisations awarding higher qualifications in quarters 1 and 3.

Compared with the same quarter of 2011, there was an 8 per cent increase (113 in 2011 Q4 compared with 122 in 2012 Q4) in the number of awarding organisations offering regulated higher qualifications and a 9 per cent increase (78 in 2011 Q4 compared with 85 in 2012 Q4) in the number awarding in October – December 2012.

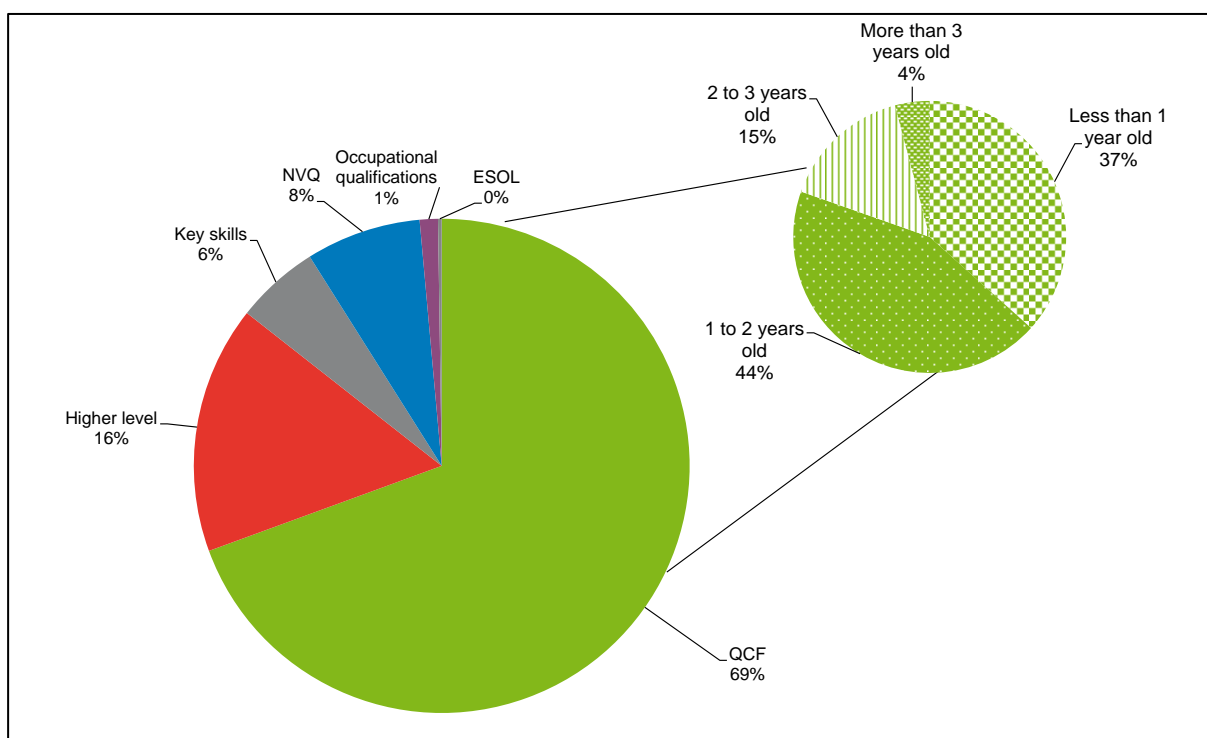
**Figure 4:** Total number of awarding organisations with at least one available higher qualification per quarter, and awarding organisations that have awarded at least one qualification, October – December 2007 (2007 Q4) to October – December 2012 (2012 Q4)



## Inactive qualifications

Inactive qualifications are those that were available for award during this quarter but where no award was made in the 12 months to December 2012. Figure 5 shows the number of inactive qualifications by level and by age (how long they have been available). Between October and December 2012, 2,387 qualifications were available with 1,265 inactive qualifications (53 per cent).

**Figure 5:** Proportion of available qualifications (October – December 2012) and inactive qualifications (January – December 2012) by type of qualification and age of inactive QCF qualification, January – December 2012



**Key:** QCF: Qualifications and Credit Framework; NVQ: National Vocational Qualification; ESOL: English for Speakers of Other Languages.

The majority (69 per cent) of qualifications that were available but inactive in this quarter was in QCF qualifications (878 out of 1,265, or 69 per cent). From these, most were between one and two years old (44 per cent) followed by those less than one year old with 37 per cent. Together, these two categories represent 81 per cent of all inactive qualifications for the QCF. We would expect these qualifications to start having achievements in the next few quarters as it may take between one and two years before we see qualifications being awarded after they become available.

In order to understand if each sector subject area has more or fewer inactive qualifications than you would expect given its number of available qualifications,

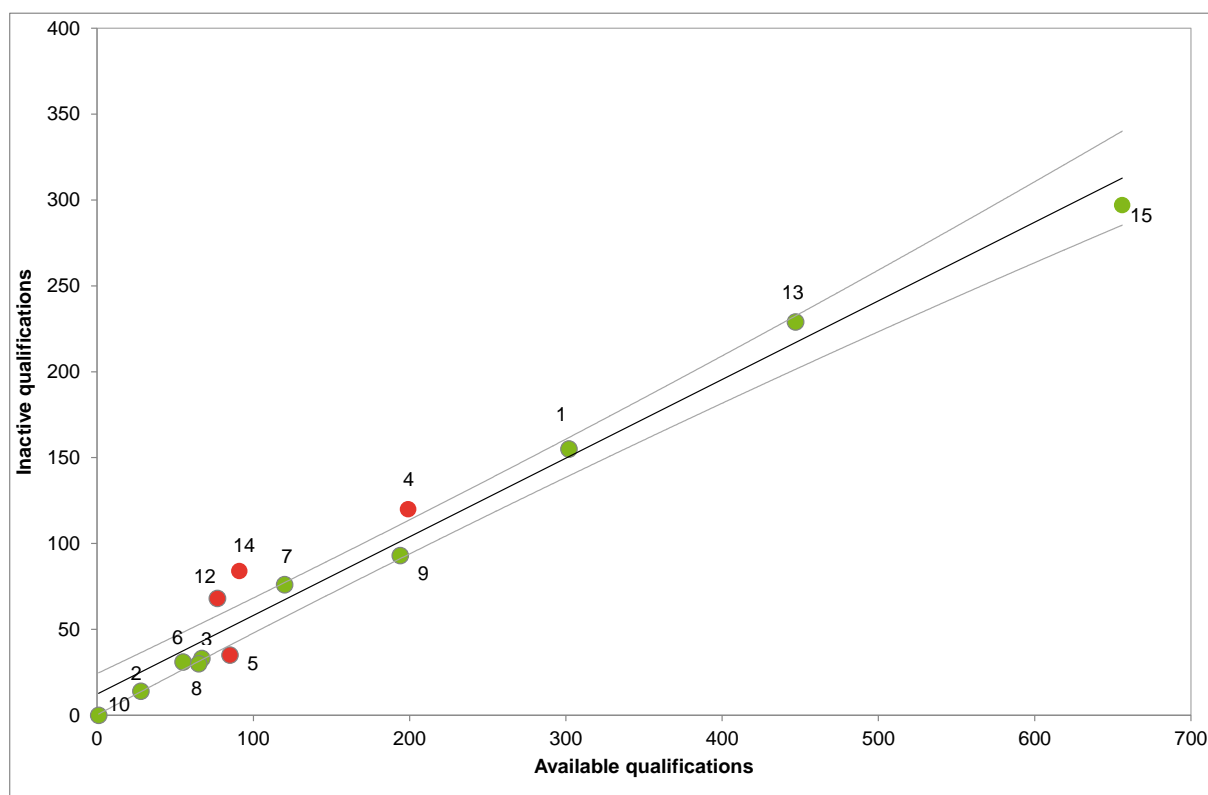
figure 6 shows the relationship between the total number of available qualifications and the number of inactive qualifications for each sector subject area. This figure shows that the number of inactive qualifications is largely related to the number of available qualifications for each sector subject area ( $R^2 = 0.97$ ). This means that the more qualifications there are, the more likely there are to be inactive qualifications

The solid black line represents the linear relationship between these two variables for the 14 sector subject areas, and the two grey lines represent the confidence interval within which we expect the data points to fall. The red data points are the ones that are outside the expected area, and any sector subject areas outside the grey lines do not follow this relationship.

Engineering and manufacturing, languages, literature and culture and preparation for life and work had more inactive qualifications than you would expect, given the number of available qualifications in them. Construction, planning and the built environment had fewer inactive qualifications than would be expected, given the number of available qualifications in it. The majority of inactive qualifications in engineering and manufacturing was less than two years old (62 per cent), whereas practically all the inactive qualifications in preparation for life and work were more than 2 years old (83 of the 84 inactive qualifications).

The model assumes that all sector subject areas should have the same proportion of inactive qualifications, which means that sector subject areas with more available qualifications should have more inactive qualifications. However, some of the inactive qualifications may exist because they are being replaced by new qualifications. For that reason, the results of this analysis should be interpreted with caution.

**Figure 6:** Number of inactive qualifications as a function of the total number of available higher qualifications for each sector subject area, October – December 2012 (2012 Q4)



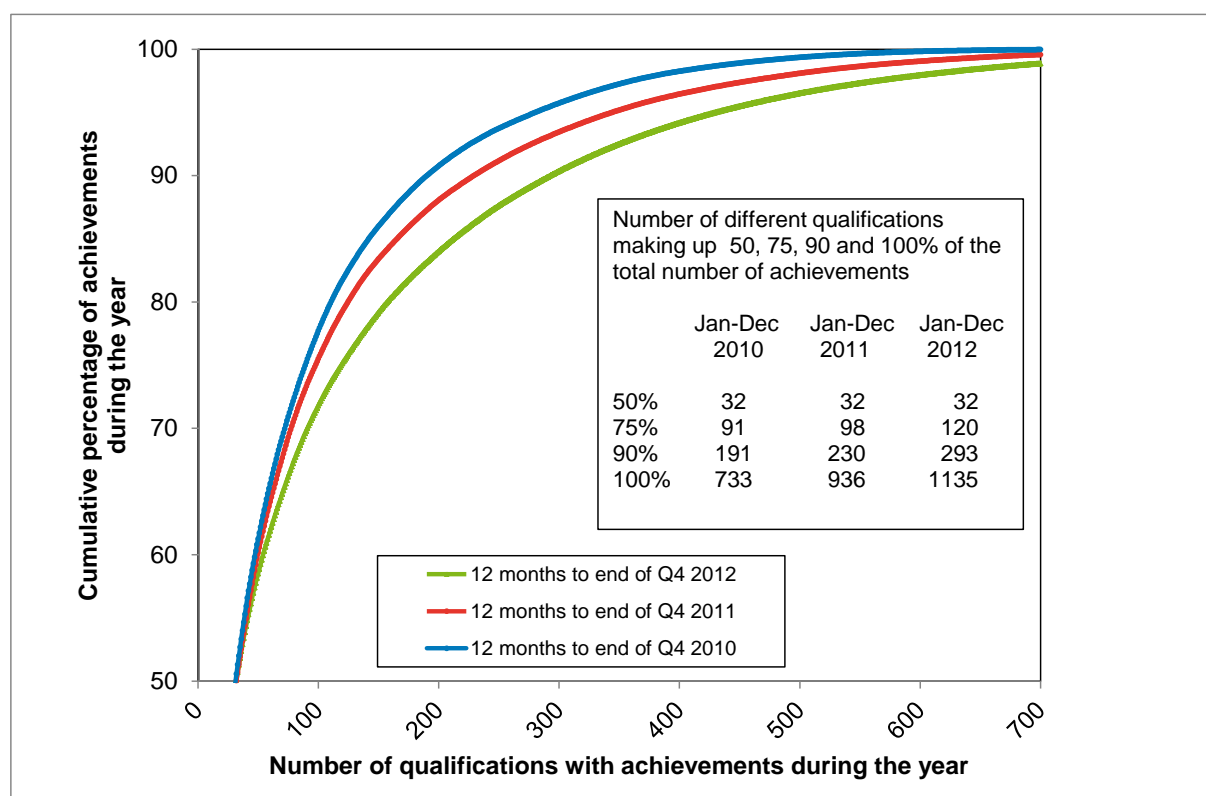
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Health, public services and care                 | 8 Leisure, travel and tourism                |
| 2 Science and mathematics                          | 9 Arts, media and publishing                 |
| 3 Agriculture, horticulture and animal care        | 10 History, philosophy and theology          |
| 4 Engineering and manufacturing technologies       | 11 Social sciences                           |
| 5 Construction, planning and the built environment | 12 Languages, literature and culture         |
| 6 Information and communication technology         | 13 Education and training                    |
| 7 Retail and commercial enterprise                 | 14 Preparation for life and work             |
|  | 15 Business, administration, finance and law |

**Note:** There were no available qualifications in sector subject area 11, social sciences

## Number of qualifications accounting for levels of achievements

Figure 7 shows the number of available and awarding qualifications by cumulative percentage of achievements during each 12 months to December for the years 2010–12. There seems to be a trend for an increase in the number of active qualifications, accounting for a similar percentage of the total achievements. For example, if we look at the number of qualifications with awards that account for 75 per cent of all achievements in a year, we can see that there were 91 in 2010, 98 in 2011 and 120 in 2012. This means that overall there were a greater number of qualifications with awards in 2012 compared with 2011 and 2010.

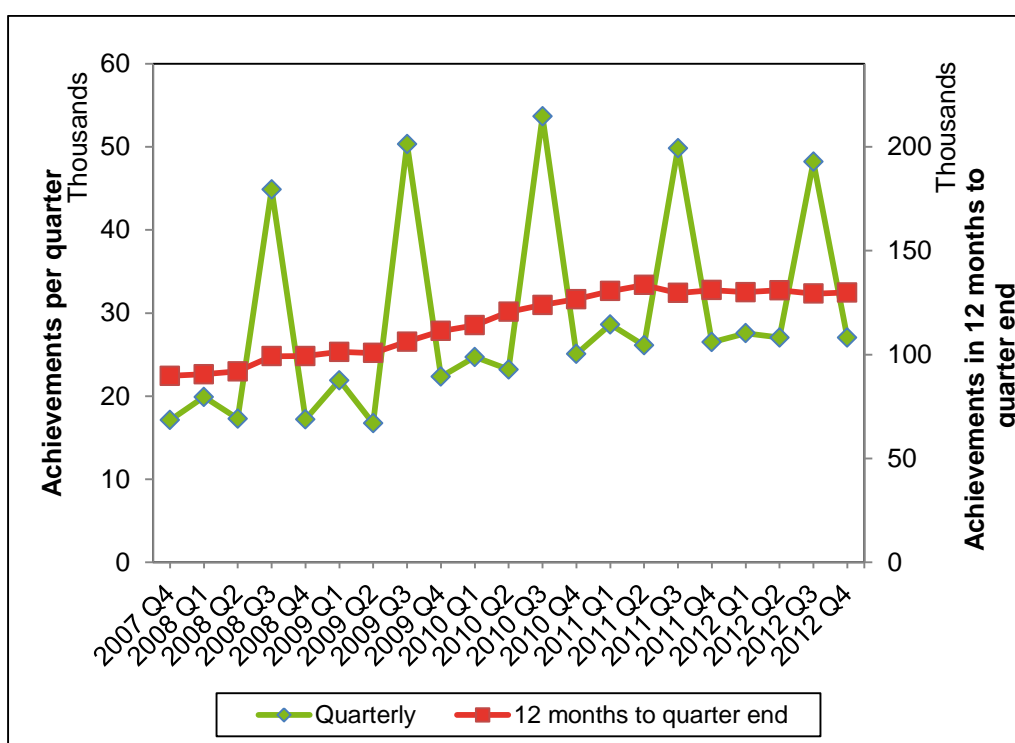
**Figure 7:** Number of qualifications with achievements accounting for different percentages of the total number of achievements for the last 12-month periods to the end of quarter 4



## Achievements

There were 27,050 achievements (see table 2 in the appendix) for regulated higher qualifications in October – December 2012, an increase of 2 per cent on the same quarter of 2011 (see figure 8). This increase in achievements is present alongside an increase in available qualifications during the same period, although the available qualifications are growing at a faster rate. For more information see tables 1 and 2 in the appendix.

**Figure 8:** Total number of regulated higher qualification achievements per quarter and total achievements in the 12 months to the end of each quarter, October – December 2007 (2007 Q4) to October – December 2012 (2012 Q4)



From figure 8, we can see that the 12 months to quarter end series clearly shows the overall increase in achievements over the last five years, but it is again clear that the increase has been less significant over the past two years (the quarter with the highest 12-month sum of achievements was quarter 2 of 2011.)

The quarterly figures show that quarter 3 is the quarter with the most achievements each year, but achievements in this quarter have been decreasing in the last two years. Achievements in quarter 1 used to be higher than those in quarters 2 and 4, but this trend was not present last year with a very similar number of achievements in quarters 1, 2 and 4. It is the fourth year in a row where the achievements in quarter 4 have increased, with an increase of 57 per cent compared with the same quarter in 2008. (See table 2 in the appendix.)

## Achievements by awarding organisation

Figure 9 shows the ten awarding organisations with the most achievements this quarter. Together, these ten awarding organisations had 72 per cent of the achievements between October – December 2012. The awarding organisation with the most achievements in this quarter, Edexcel (see figure 9), showed a decrease in the number of achievements when compared with the same quarter of 2011. This decrease is partly due to a smaller number of achievements in the Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) qualifications, where a 9 per cent decrease was seen this quarter compared with the same quarter last year.

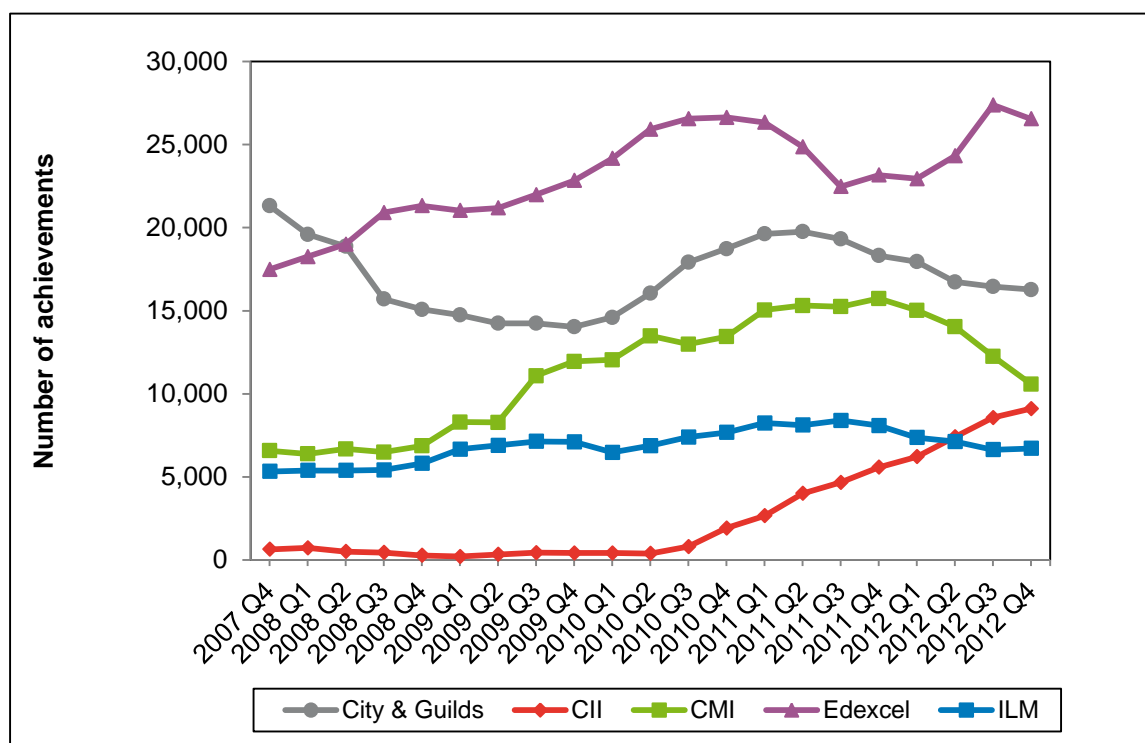
**Figure 9:** The ten awarding organisations with the most achievements in higher qualifications, October – December 2012 (October – December 2011 figures shown for comparison)

Awarding Organisation	Number of achievements		% share of total achievements	% change in achievements
	October to December 2011	October to December 2012		
Pearson Education Ltd (Edexcel)	4,850	4,050	15	-16
City & Guilds	3,150	3,000	11	-5
Chartered Insurance Institute (CII)	2,150	2,700	10	26
Chartered Management Institute (CMI)	3,700	2,000	7	-46
Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM)	1,700	1,800	7	6
Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT)	1,050	1,250	5	19
IFS School of Finance	500	1,250	5	150
OCR	1,150	1,100	4	-4
Trinity College London (TCL)	750	1,000	4	33
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)	0	1,000	4	-

Of the ten awarding organisations with the most achievements, four showed a decline in this quarter. The Chartered Management Institute (CMI) had the greatest decline: 46 per cent. CMI had five of its qualifications in the 50 qualifications with the most achievements in this quarter (see table 3 in the appendix) and none of these showed an increase in achievements. This is partly explained by a drop in achievements in five out of its nine level 5 qualifications. The CMI qualification with the greatest decline was Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership (QCF).

Figure 10 shows the five-year trend for the five awarding organisations with the most achievements during quarter 4 of 2012 and presents the number of achievements in the 12 months to the end of each quarter from 2007 Q4 to 2012 Q4. The 50 awarding organisations with the most achievements are listed in table 4 in the appendix.

**Figure 10:** The five awarding organisations with the most achievements in higher qualifications for the 12 months to the end of each quarter, showing the trend from October – December 2007 (2007 Q4) to October – December 2012 (2012 Q4)



**Key:** CII = Chartered Insurance Institute; CMI= Chartered Management Institute; ILM = Institute of Leadership and Management.



## Achievements by qualification

Figure 11 shows the five higher qualifications with the most achievements.

**Figure 11:** Five higher qualifications with the most achievements, October – December 2012 (October – December 2011 figures shown for comparison)

Qualification	Number of achievements		% change
	October to December 2011	October to December 2012	
CII Level 4 Diploma in Financial Planning (QCF)	1,900	1,900	0
ifs Level 4 Diploma for Financial Advisers (QCF)	500	1,200	140
AAT Level 4 Diploma in Accounting (QCF)	700	1,100	57
City & Guilds Level 4 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	(800)	1,000	25
ACCA Level 4 Diploma in Accounting and Business (QCF)	-	1,000	-

**Note:** the achievements in brackets refer to the legacy qualification.

CII Level 4 Diploma in Financial Planning (QCF) is the qualification with the most achievements this quarter, with 1,900 achievements. The high number of achievements for this qualification is possibly due to the recent Retail Distribution Review, carried out by the Financial Services Authority. The Financial Services Authority required financial advisers to have at least a qualification at level 4 by the end of 2012, where previously it required a qualification at level 3.

The ifs School of Finance Level 4 Diploma for Financial Advisers (QCF) showed a large increase in achievements: almost one and a half times as many in October – December 2012. This qualification was, until the end of 2010, a higher level qualification. Since quarter 3 of 2010, the qualification has been a QCF qualification and has since seen a considerable growth in achievements.

The 50 qualifications with the most achievements are listed in table 3 in the appendix.

## **Achievements by sector subject area of qualification**

Regulated higher qualifications are allocated to one of 15 sector subject area codes (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*<sup>1</sup> for further details.)

Figure 12 (next page) compares the number of achievements for each sector subject area and also compares the percentage change in achievements between October – December 2011 and October – December 2012. Two of the sector subject areas do not appear in the figures as there were no achievements: history, philosophy and theology (sector subject area code 10) and social sciences (sector subject area code 11).

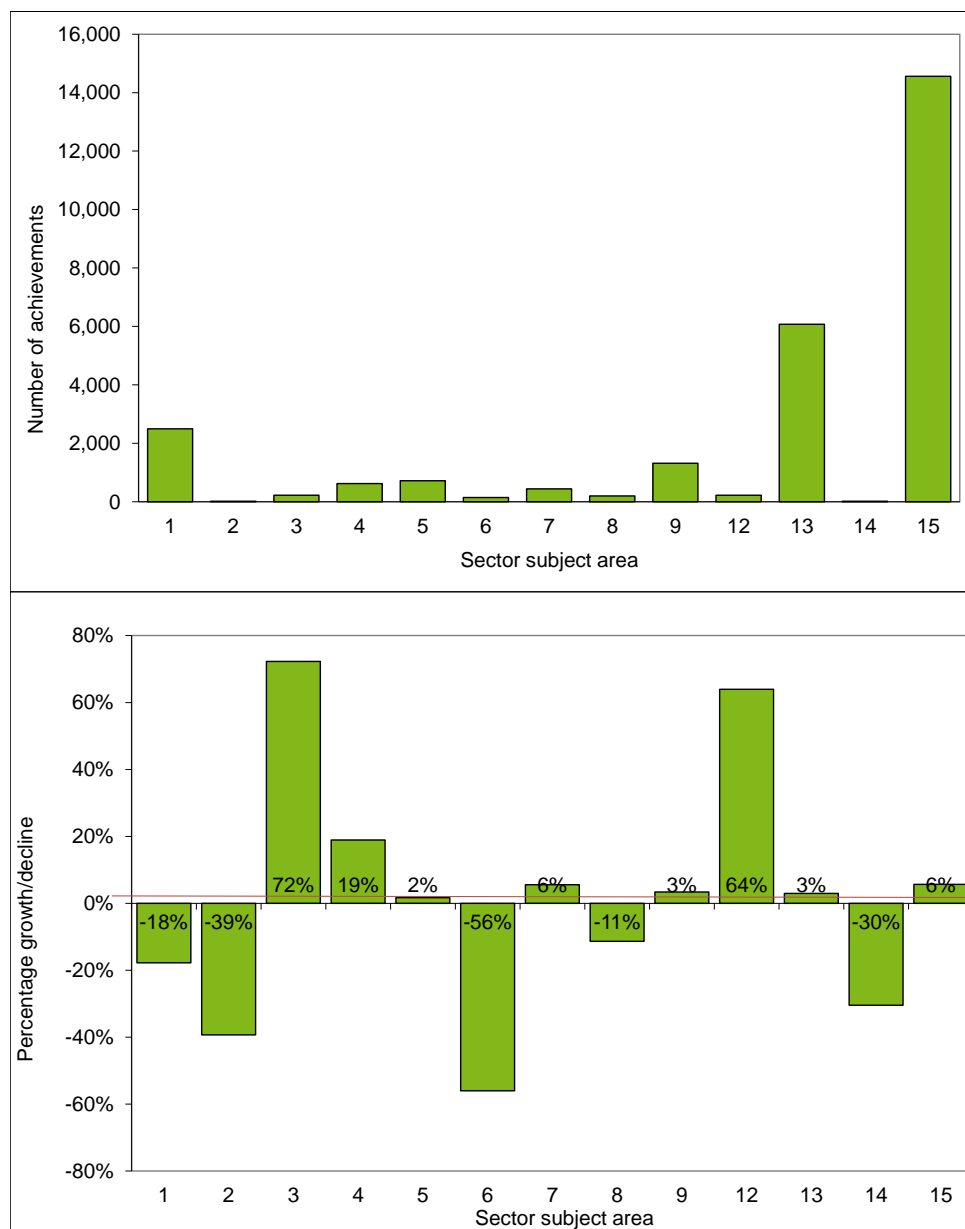
The sector subject areas with the most achievements this quarter were business, administration, finance and law (14,550 achievements or 54 per cent), education and training (6,050 achievements or 22 per cent), health, public services and care (2,500 achievements or 9 per cent) and arts, media and publishing (1,300 achievements or 5 per cent). From these, all except health, public services and care saw an increase in their number of achievements this quarter compared with quarter 4 of 2011. Business, administration, finance and law saw an increase of 9 per cent in its number of achievements this quarter. Of the 359 active qualifications in this sector subject area, 231 (64 per cent) saw an increase in achievements. This included 28 with an increase of more than 100 achievements each and six with an increase of more than 1,000 achievements each compared with the same quarter last year. Education and training, and arts, media and publishing both saw an increase of 3 per cent in the number of achievements this quarter.

A number of sector subject areas saw a reduction in their number of achievements between October – December 2011 and October – December 2012. The drop in health, public services and care can be attributable to the drop in achievements for 17 of its 20 qualifications with the most achievements.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf)

**Figure 12:** Number of higher qualification achievements by sector subject area for October – December 2012 (2012 Q4) and the percentage growth and decline between October – December 2011 and October – December 2012 (red line showing the average change for all higher qualifications (2 per cent increase))

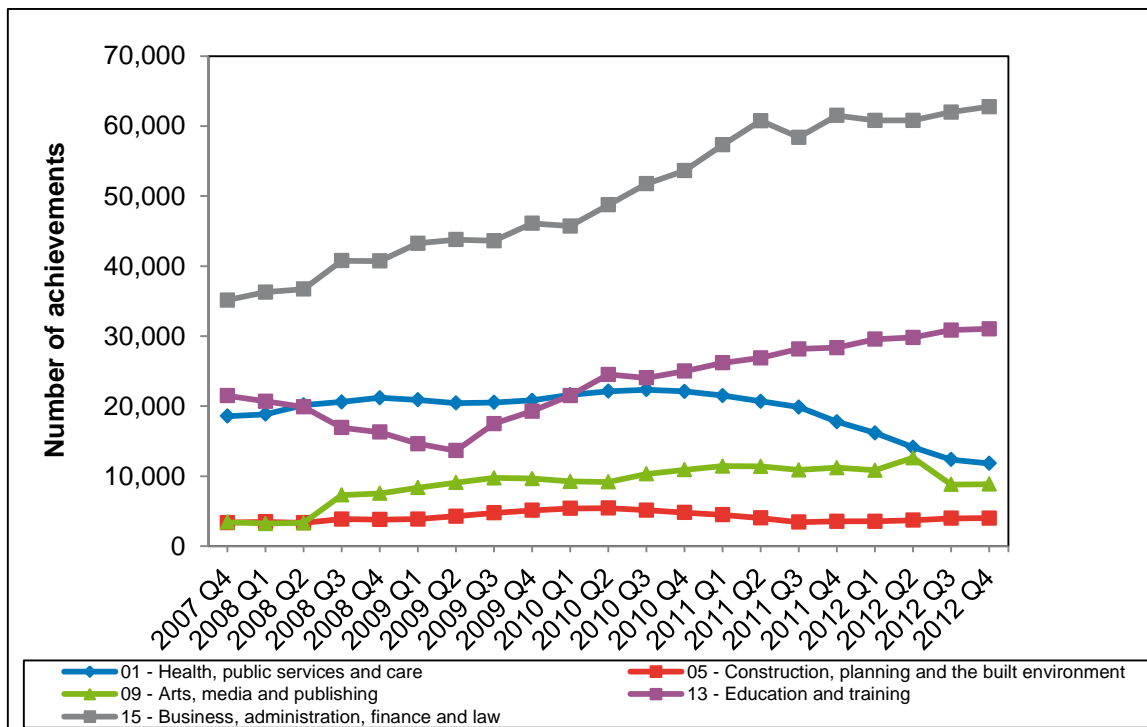


- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Health, public services and care                 | 8 Leisure, travel and tourism                |
| 2 Science and mathematics                          | 9 Arts, media and publishing                 |
| 3 Agriculture, horticulture and animal care        | 12 Languages, literature and culture         |
| 4 Engineering and manufacturing technologies       | 13 Education and training                    |
| 5 Construction, planning and the built environment | 14 Preparation for life and work             |
| 6 Information and communication technology         | 15 Business, administration, finance and law |
| 7 Retail and commercial enterprise                 |  |

**Note:** there were no achievements in history, philosophy and theology (sector subject area code 10) and in social sciences (sector subject area code 11). The percentages of growth and decline are based on actual figures as sector subject area would have a rounded figure of 0.

Figure 13 shows the five-year trend for the five sector subject areas with the most achievements in October – December 2012 (see table 5 in the appendix for further details.) From the figure it is clear that health, public services and care is on a downward trend. Business, administration, finance and law has grown over the past few years, although the increase since quarter 2 of 2011 is not as steep.

**Figure 13:** Total higher qualification achievements in the 12 months to the end of each quarter, October – December 2007 (2007 Q4) to October – December 2012 (2012 Q4)



## **Achievements by type of qualification**

Regulated qualifications are allocated to one of 18<sup>2</sup> qualification types (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*<sup>3</sup> for a full listing.)

The type of qualification with the most achievements for higher qualifications in October – December 2012 was the QCF with 23,950 achievements, representing 89 per cent of the total achievements. This is an increase of 27 per cent compared with the same quarter of 2011. The increase reflects the restructuring of many qualifications that were previously on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) onto the QCF.

The second most frequently awarded type of qualification was the higher level, with 2,000 achievements, a decrease of 50 per cent on the same quarter of 2011. The NVQ came third with 1,000 achievements, a decrease of 69 per cent on the same quarter of 2011. Figure 14 (next page) shows the breakdown of achievements in higher qualifications by qualification type for October – December 2012 (see table 6 in the appendix for more information.)

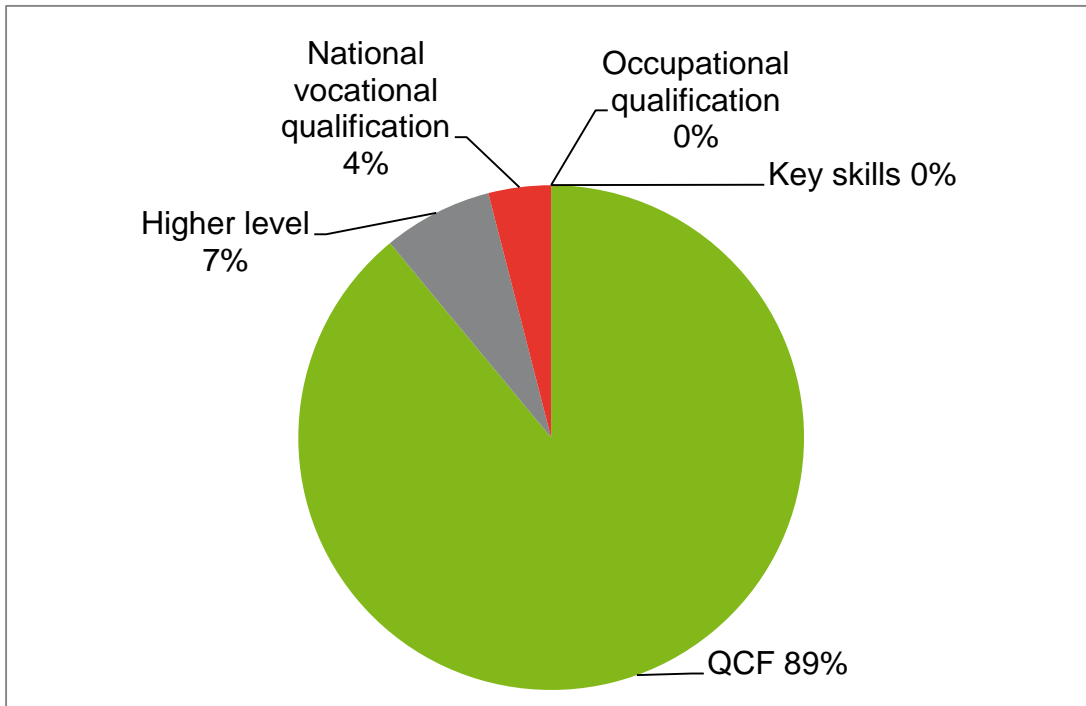
There were no achievements for key skills qualifications and fewer than 25 achievements for English for speakers of other languages qualifications at the higher level, although there were available higher qualifications of both types (72 and four respectively).

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<sup>2</sup> Including GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma and its components

<sup>3</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf)

**Figure 14:** Higher qualification achievements by qualification type for October – December 2012 (2012 Q4)



## **Achievements by level of qualification**

All regulated qualifications are assigned a level, ranging from entry, then 1 to 8 (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*<sup>4</sup> for full details.) Higher qualifications are those at levels 4 to 8.

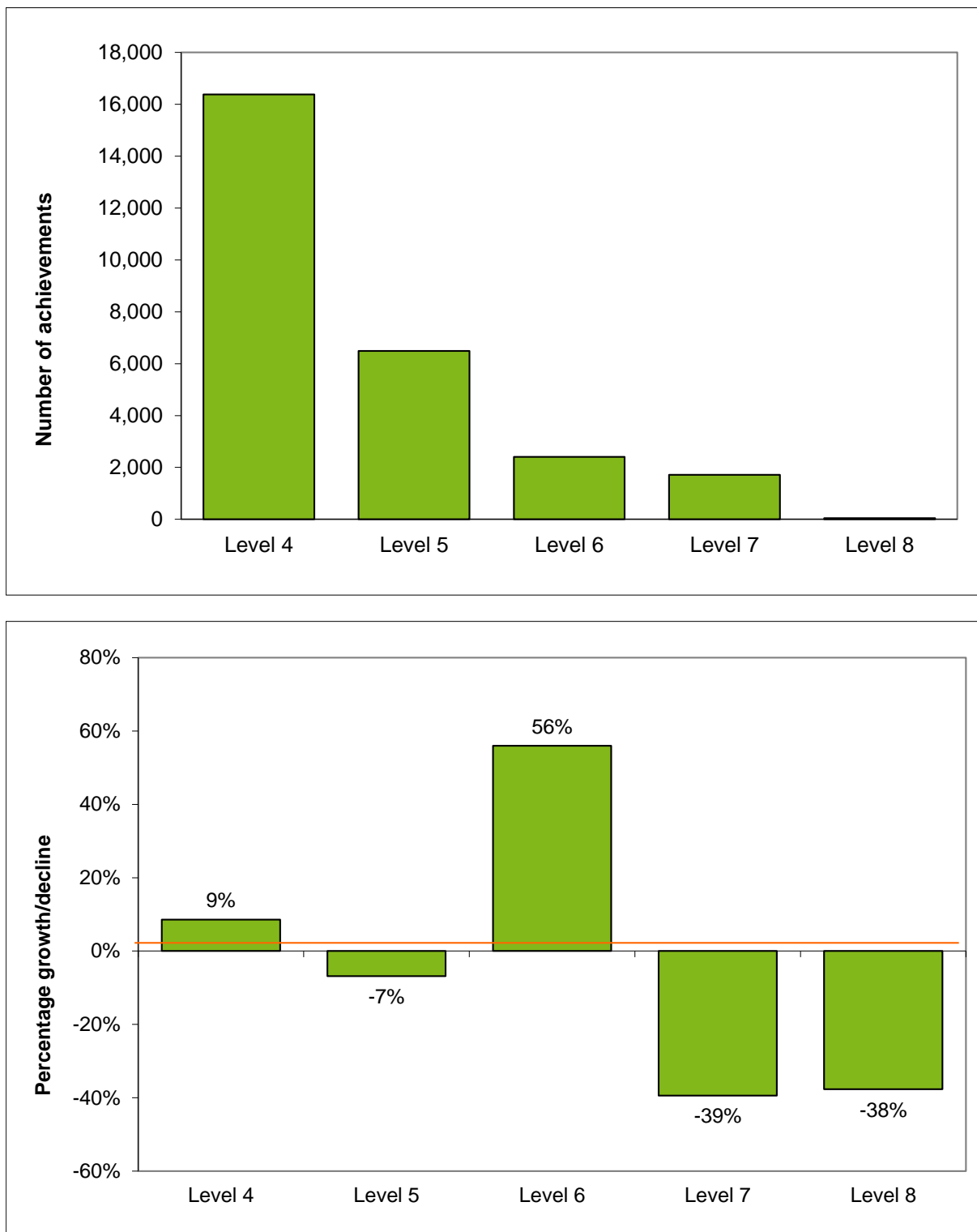
Figure 15 (see next page) shows the large variation in the number of achievements by level and the variation in change by level between October – December 2011 and this quarter. Level 4 had the most achievements in this quarter with 16,400 (61 per cent of achievements) (see table 7 in the appendix). Level 5 had the second highest number of achievements with 6,500 (24 per cent), and level 6 was third with 2,400 achievements (9 per cent). Of the five levels, only levels 4 and 6 showed an increase in achievements since October – December 2011. Level 6 showed an increase of 56 per cent, to over 2,400 achievements, while level 4 showed a smaller increase of 9 per cent. Of the ten qualifications with the most achievements at level 6, six are new qualifications with no achievements in quarter 4 of 2011.

Levels 5 and 7 showed a decrease of 7 per cent and 39 per cent respectively in the number of achievements. For level 7, the five qualifications with the most achievements, which represent 62 per cent of achievements at this level, showed a decrease of around 950 achievements, or 48 per cent. The qualification that showed the steepest decrease is CMI Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership (QCF) with a 63 per cent drop.

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<sup>4</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf)

**Figure 15:** Number of higher qualification achievements by level for October – December 2012 (2012 Q4) and the percentage growth and decline in achievements between October – December 2011 and October – December 2012 by level (red line showing average change for all higher qualifications (2 per cent increase))





## Background information

Under the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (London: HMSO), one of our objectives is to improve public confidence in regulated qualifications and assessments by raising awareness and understanding of the qualifications we regulate.

This bulletin presents achievements for the October – December 2012 quarter and the 12 months to December 2012 for regulated qualifications of all types at level 4 and above (equivalent to post A level). This bulletin is one of a suite of two publications that present quarterly statistics on achievements for regulated qualifications. The other bulletin is called *Vocational and Other Qualifications Quarterly*<sup>5</sup>, and it covers achievements in NVQs, vocationally related qualifications, QCF qualifications and occupational qualifications at all levels.

Each quarter, awarding organisations submit data to us about the number of qualifications they have awarded. Achievements are included in the quarter when the final qualification certificate is issued. This bulletin shows the number of achievements in the quarter October – December 2012 and during the 12 months to December 2012, broken down by awarding organisation, sector subject area, type of qualification, level of qualification and by country. Information on the availability of qualifications is also provided. All regulated qualifications at level 4 or above are included, regardless of the age of the student, the type of school or college and the funding status of the qualification.

### Geographical coverage

In this bulletin we present data on achievements for all regulated qualifications at level 4 and above in England, Wales and Northern Ireland during the quarter October – December 2012. You can find statistics for Scotland on the Scottish Qualifications Authority website<sup>6</sup>.

There is a separate bulletin called *Northern Ireland Qualifications Quarterly*<sup>7</sup> that presents achievements in Northern Ireland only.

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<sup>5</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/vocational-and-other-qualifications](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/vocational-and-other-qualifications)

<sup>6</sup> The Scottish Qualifications Authority is the national accreditation and awarding organisation in Scotland ([www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/42397.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/42397.html))

<sup>7</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/northern-ireland-qualifications](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/northern-ireland-qualifications)

## Qualification type

At the point of accreditation, regulated qualifications are classified into 18<sup>8</sup> qualification types. 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 six of these qualification types: English for speakers of other languages, higher level, key skills, NVQ, QCF and occupational qualification.

This bulletin relates only to qualifications in these types that are at level 4 or above. These qualifications are a subset only of those reported in the *Vocational and Other Qualifications Quarterly* bulletin<sup>9</sup>, which covers qualifications at entry level all the way up to level 8.

## Revisions

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

In this bulletin some figures have been revised since the July – September 2012 bulletin. These revisions were made because of updates from two awarding organisations. These updates affected quarters 2 and 3 of 2012 only.

## 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.

Figures in the commentary and tables for the number of achievements are rounded to the nearest 50. This reflects the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale data collection and also provides an ease of reading. As a result of rounded figures, the percentages shown in pie charts may not necessarily add up to 100 per cent. Comparisons in this bulletin are only made with data from the same quarter of the

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<sup>8</sup> Including GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma and its components

<sup>9</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/vocational-and-other-qualifications](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/vocational-and-other-qualifications)

previous year. This is because of seasonal changes in the number of achievements over the year.

The raw data, which covers 1989 onwards, are available on our website<sup>10</sup>.

## **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, 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*<sup>11</sup> provides further details on sector subject area classifications and qualification types and levels.

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.

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<sup>10</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/vocational-data](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/vocational-data)

<sup>11</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf)

## Appendix

Table 1: Number of available higher qualifications, 2006 - 7 to October-December 2012  
England, Wales & Northern Ireland

Period	English for speakers of other languages	Higher level	Key skills	NVQ	Occupational qualification	QCF	Total number of qualifications
06-07	11	413	32	414	33	17	<b>920</b>
07-08	11	505	32	399	33	108	<b>1,088</b>
08-09	12	545	32	365	37	160	<b>1,151</b>
09-10	11	577	68	315	35	496	<b>1,502</b>
10-11	10	554	78	291	35	1,117	<b>2,085</b>
11-12	5	491	72	256	33	1,562	<b>2,419</b>
12-13	4	398	66	221	32	1,573	<b>2,294</b>
Oct-Dec 2006	11	364	32	384	33		<b>824</b>
Jan-Mar 2007	11	375	32	341	33		<b>792</b>
Apr-Jun 2007	11	384	32	389	33	6	<b>855</b>
Jul-Sep 2007	11	383	32	380	33	16	<b>855</b>
Oct-Dec 2007	11	421	32	363	33	33	<b>893</b>
Jan-Mar 2008	11	446	32	364	33	46	<b>932</b>
Apr-Jun 2008	11	423	32	370	33	83	<b>952</b>
Jul-Sep 2008	11	502	32	372	33	108	<b>1,058</b>
Oct-Dec 2008	11	472	32	319	33	117	<b>984</b>
Jan-Mar 2009	12	510	32	328	36	135	<b>1,053</b>
Apr-Jun 2009	12	500	32	317	37	143	<b>1,041</b>
Jul-Sep 2009	11	505	32	286	36	154	<b>1,024</b>
Oct-Dec 2009	11	526	2	301	33	152	<b>1,025</b>
Jan-Mar 2010	10	545	6	301	33	222	<b>1,117</b>
Apr-Jun 2010	10	534	60	299	33	206	<b>1,142</b>
Jul-Sep 2010	10	540	67	290	33	489	<b>1,429</b>
Oct-Dec 2010	10	552	72	291	35	580	<b>1,540</b>
Jan-Mar 2011	9	540	78	264	33	773	<b>1,697</b>
Apr-Jun 2011	9	529	72	268	33	930	<b>1,841</b>
Jul-Sep 2011	9	504	72	267	35	1,100	<b>1,987</b>
Oct-Dec 2011	5	484	72	255	33	1,249	<b>2,098</b>
Jan-Mar 2012	5	446	72	249	33	1,338	<b>2,143</b>
Apr-Jun 2012	5	423	72	246	33	1,427	<b>2,206</b>
Jul-Sep 2012	5	419	72	244	33	1,554	<b>2,327</b>
Oct-Dec 2012	4	414	72	239	33	1,625	<b>2,387</b>

*Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database*

Notes:

1. Data are supplied by awarding organisations
  2. Annual data are for academic years, that is October to December
- Blank cells indicate that there were no available qualifications

Table 2: Total achievements for higher qualifications, 2006 - 7 to October-December  
England, Wales & Northern Ireland

	Total number of achievements
06-07	89,550
07-08	99,200
08-09	106,200
09-10	123,900
10-11	129,650
11-12	129,350
12-13	27,050
Oct-Dec 2006	16,900
Jan-Mar 2007	19,150
Apr-Jun 2007	15,900
Jul-Sep 2007	37,600
Oct-Dec 2007	17,100
Jan-Mar 2008	19,900
Apr-Jun 2008	17,300
Jul-Sep 2008	44,900
Oct-Dec 2008	17,200
Jan-Mar 2009	21,900
Apr-Jun 2009	16,750
Jul-Sep 2009	50,350
Oct-Dec 2009	22,350
Jan-Mar 2010	24,700
Apr-Jun 2010	23,200
Jul-Sep 2010	53,650
Oct-Dec 2010	25,050
Jan-Mar 2011	28,650
Apr-Jun 2011	26,100
Jul-Sep 2011	49,850
Oct-Dec 2011	26,500
Jan-Mar 2012	27,600
Apr-Jun 2012	27,050
Jul-Sep 2012	48,200
Oct-Dec 2012	27,050

*Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database*

Notes:

1. Data are supplied by awarding organisations
2. Annual data are for academic years, that is October to December

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50

*Statistics Bulletin*  
*Higher Qualifications Quarterly: October – December 2012*

Table 3: The 50 higher qualifications with the highest number of achievements, October - December 2012 (October - December 2011 shown for comparison)  
England, Wales & Northern Ireland

	Total number of achievements	
	October-December 2011	October-December 2012
CII Level 4 Diploma in Financial Planning (QCF)	1,900	1,900
ifs Level 4 Diploma for Financial Advisers (QCF)	500	1,200
AAT Level 4 Diploma in Accounting (QCF)	700	1,100
City & Guilds Level 4 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	0	1,000
ACCA Level 4 Diploma in Accounting and Business (QCF)	-	1,000
Cambridge ESOL Level 5 Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (CELTA) (QCF)	950	800
Edexcel BTEC Level 4 Certificate in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	850	650
CFA UK Level 4 Certificate in Investment Management (QCF)	500	550
CMI Level 5 Certificate in Management and Leadership (QCF)	500	500
Edexcel BTEC Level 5 HND Diploma in Business (QCF)	100	400
Edexcel BTEC Level 7 Extended Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership (QCF)	500	400
CISI Level 4 Diploma in Investment Advice (QCF)	150	400
ILM Level 5 Award in Management (QCF)	100	350
CMI Level 5 Diploma in Management and Leadership (QCF)	700	350
TCL Level 6 Diploma in Professional Musical Theatre (QCF)	-	350
CII Level 4 Diploma in Regulated Financial Planning (QCF)	100	350
SQA Level 4 Diploma in Professional Financial Advice (QCF)	-	300
CMI Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership (QCF)	800	300
Edexcel Level 4 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	-	250
CII Level 6 Advanced Diploma in Financial Planning (QCF)	200	250
City & Guilds Level 4 Certificate in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning sector (QCF)	250	250
TCL Level 5 Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (CertTESOL)	-	250
ILM Level 5 Certificate in Coaching and Mentoring in Management (QCF)	200	250
City & Guilds Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice (QCF)	50	200
OCR Level 4 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	100	200
TCL Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance (QCF)	-	200
CMI Level 5 Award in Management and Leadership (QCF)	350	200
CIM Level 4 Professional Certificate in Marketing	250	200
IAM Level 4 Diploma in School Business Management (QCF)	-	200
CIM Level 6 Professional Diploma in Marketing	200	200
City & Guilds Level 4 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF) (Legacy)	850	200
CII Level 4 Certificate in Discretionary Investment Management (QCF)	-	200
City & Guilds Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Health and Social Care and Children and Young People's Services (England) (QCF)	0	150
Edexcel BTEC Level 5 Diploma in Management and Leadership (QCF)	200	150
ILM Level 5 Award in Leadership and Management Skills (QCF)	0	150
ILM Level 7 Certificate in Executive Coaching and Leadership Mentoring (QCF)	50	150
CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling (QCF)	-	150
CISI Level 6 Certificate in Private Client Investment Advice & Management (QCF)	200	150
Edexcel Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Health and Social Care and Children and Young People's Services (England) (QCF)	0	150
City & Guilds Level 5 Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	150	150
Edexcel Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice (QCF)	50	150
IoLET Level 6 Diploma in Public Service Interpreting	-	150
ILM Level 4 Award in Management (QCF)	50	100
CMI Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership (QCF)	350	100
ISTD Level 4 Certificate in Vocational Graded Examination in Dance: Advanced 1 (QCF)	300	100
Ascentis Level 4 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	0	100
EDEXCEL Level 4 NVQ in Supply Chain Management	150	100
City & Guilds Level 4 NVQ in Leadership and Management for Care Services	300	100
NOCN Level 4 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	100	100
Edexcel BTEC Level 4 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (QCF)	300	100

*Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database*

Notes:

1. Data are supplied by awarding organisations
  2. Annual data are for academic years, that is October to December
- Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as '0', value of 0 will appear as '1'

Higher Qualifications Quarterly: October – December 2012

Table 4: The 50 awarding organisations with the highest number of achievements in higher qualifications, October - December 2012 (October - December 2011 shown for comparison)  
England, Wales & Northern Ireland

	Total number of achievements	
	October-December 2011	October-December 2012
Pearson Education Ltd	4,850	4,050
City & Guilds	3,150	3,000
Chartered Insurance Institute	2,150	2,700
Chartered Management Institute	3,700	2,000
Institute of Leadership & Management	1,700	1,800
Association of Accounting Technicians	1,050	1,250
ifs School of Finance	500	1,250
OCR	1,150	1,100
Trinity College London	750	1,000
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants	-	1,000
University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations	1,100	900
CFA Society of UK	500	550
Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment	350	550
Cskills Awards	300	400
Chartered Institute of Marketing	450	350
Institute of Administrative Management	100	350
Scottish Qualifications Authority trading as SQA	-	350
EDI	400	300
Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body	200	250
Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing	500	200
Ascentis	100	200
NOCN	100	200
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	50	150
The Confederation of Tourism and Hospitality	50	150
NCFE	150	150
ATHE Ltd	-	150
Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development	350	150
IoL Educational Trust	-	150
Equestrian Qualifications Limited	0	150
Association of Business Executives	-	150
Active IQ	100	100
ABC Awards	250	100
Royal Academy of Dance	50	100
WAMITAB	100	100
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	200	100
Royal Society for Public Health	50	100
Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply	500	100
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Limited	100	100
Signature	150	100
University of West London	50	100
VTCT	50	100
Chartered Institute of Housing	50	100
PIABC	0	50
Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education	50	50
Awarding Body for Vocational Achievement Ltd	0	50
Organisation for Tourism and Hospitality Management	100	50
British Institute of Facilities Management	50	50
Institute of Commercial Management	50	50
Mineral Products Qualifications Council	50	50
Chartered Institute of Building	50	50

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Data are supplied by awarding organisations
2. Annual data are for academic years, that is October to December

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as '0', value of '0' will appear as '-'

Table 5: Achievements in higher qualifications by sector subject area, 2006-7 to October-December 2012  
England, Wales & Northern Ireland

	Health, public services and care	Science and mathematics	Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Construction, planning and the built environment	Information and communication technology	Retail and commercial enterprise	Leisure, travel and tourism	Arts, media and publishing	History, philosophy and theology	Social sciences	Languages, literature and culture	Education and training	Preparation for life and work	Business, administration, finance and law	Total number of achievements
06-07	18,450	400	1,100	2,250	3,150	1,300	1,050	250	3,500	-	-	900	23,100	150	33,950	<b>89,550</b>
07-08	20,600	350	1,250	2,850	3,850	2,500	1,300	450	7,300	-	-	900	16,950	150	40,800	<b>99,200</b>
08-09	20,550	800	1,150	3,300	4,750	2,050	1,500	450	9,750	-	0	500	17,500	200	43,650	<b>106,200</b>
09-10	22,350	650	950	3,600	5,150	1,500	2,100	900	10,300	0	-	500	24,050	100	51,750	<b>123,900</b>
10-11	19,900	300	700	3,350	3,450	1,450	1,500	1,100	10,900	0	0	400	28,150	50	58,400	<b>129,650</b>
11-12	12,350	250	750	4,700	4,000	1,400	2,200	1,300	8,850	0	0	650	30,850	100	62,000	<b>129,350</b>
12-13	2,500	0	200	600	700	150	450	200	1,300	-	-	200	6,050	0	14,550	<b>27,050</b>
Oct-Dec 2006	4,400	50	250	200	400	300	150	50	300	-	-	400	5,250	0	5,200	<b>16,900</b>
Jan-Mar 2007	4,400	100	250	150	400	50	200	0	600	-	-	0	5,100	100	7,800	<b>19,150</b>
Apr-Jun 2007	3,900	50	250	150	650	250	250	0	350	-	-	400	4,600	0	5,050	<b>15,900</b>
Jul-Sep 2007	5,750	250	400	1,750	1,700	700	450	150	2,300	-	-	50	8,150	50	15,900	<b>37,600</b>
Oct-Dec 2007	4,550	50	200	350	650	350	300	0	200	-	-	400	3,650	0	6,350	<b>17,100</b>
Jan-Mar 2008	4,700	100	300	150	500	50	300	50	400	-	-	50	4,300	0	8,950	<b>19,900</b>
Apr-Jun 2008	5,200	50	300	200	550	400	400	50	450	-	-	400	3,850	50	5,450	<b>17,300</b>
Jul-Sep 2008	6,150	150	400	2,150	2,200	1,650	300	350	6,300	-	-	50	5,150	50	20,000	<b>44,900</b>
Oct-Dec 2008	5,100	100	250	450	550	200	350	50	450	-	-	300	3,000	0	6,300	<b>17,200</b>
Jan-Mar 2009	4,400	250	250	350	550	450	200	50	1,200	-	-	50	2,650	0	11,500	<b>21,900</b>
Apr-Jun 2009	4,750	0	200	250	950	100	350	50	1,150	-	-	50	2,850	50	6,000	<b>16,750</b>
Jul-Sep 2009	6,250	400	450	2,300	2,650	1,300	600	300	6,950	-	0	100	9,000	150	19,800	<b>50,350</b>
Oct-Dec 2009	5,400	50	200	500	950	400	550	100	350	-	-	350	4,750	0	8,800	<b>22,350</b>
Jan-Mar 2010	5,200	200	250	300	850	200	600	200	800	0	-	50	4,900	50	11,100	<b>24,700</b>
Apr-Jun 2010	5,250	50	150	200	1,000	50	300	150	1,100	-	-	50	5,850	0	9,000	<b>23,200</b>
Jul-Sep 2010	6,500	350	350	2,650	2,400	850	600	450	8,100	-	-	50	8,550	50	22,850	<b>53,650</b>
Oct-Dec 2010	5,150	50	150	400	600	400	500	200	950	0	0	300	5,700	0	10,650	<b>25,050</b>
Jan-Mar 2011	4,650	50	100	250	550	150	350	250	1,300	-	-	50	6,050	0	14,800	<b>28,650</b>
Apr-Jun 2011	4,450	50	200	350	550	50	250	100	1,050	-	-	50	6,600	0	12,450	<b>26,100</b>
Jul-Sep 2011	5,700	200	200	2,300	1,800	850	450	500	7,600	-	-	50	9,800	0	20,450	<b>49,850</b>
Oct-Dec 2011	3,050	50	150	500	700	350	400	200	1,250	0	-	150	5,900	0	13,800	<b>26,500</b>
Jan-Mar 2012	3,050	50	150	500	500	200	500	250	950	-	0	100	7,250	0	14,100	<b>27,600</b>
Apr-Jun 2012	2,350	50	250	500	700	150	450	300	2,800	0	-	150	6,850	0	12,500	<b>27,050</b>
Jul-Sep 2012	3,900	100	250	3,200	2,100	750	850	500	3,800	-	-	250	10,850	50	21,600	<b>48,200</b>
Oct-Dec 2012	2,500	0	200	600	700	150	450	200	1,300	-	-	200	6,050	0	14,550	<b>27,050</b>

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Data are supplied by awarding organisations
2. Annual data are for academic years, that is October to September

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as '0', value of '0' will appear as '-'. Figures have been rounded independently so may not sum to the total.



Table 6: Achievements in higher qualifications by qualification type, 2006-7 to October - December 2012  
England, Wales & Northern Ireland

Period	English for speakers of other languages	Higher level	Key skills	NVQ	Occupational qualification	QCF	Total number of achievements
06-07	4,050	50,950	150	29,950	4,100	350	<b>89,550</b>
07-08	3,600	52,200	150	31,100	4,150	8,050	<b>99,200</b>
08-09	1,450	44,650	200	31,650	4,300	23,900	<b>106,200</b>
09-10	700	46,600	100	34,450	4,250	37,800	<b>123,900</b>
10-11	0	30,300	50	25,800	3,250	70,250	<b>129,650</b>
11-12	-	16,850	0	8,600	900	103,000	<b>129,350</b>
12-13	0	2,000	-	1,000	50	23,950	<b>27,050</b>
Oct-Dec 2006	650	8,950	0	6,300	1,000	-	<b>16,900</b>
Jan-Mar 2007	1,200	9,550	100	7,350	950	-	<b>19,150</b>
Apr-Jun 2007	1,400	7,400	0	5,800	1,050	300	<b>15,900</b>
Jul-Sep 2007	850	25,000	50	10,500	1,150	50	<b>37,600</b>
Oct-Dec 2007	300	10,150	0	5,450	850	350	<b>17,100</b>
Jan-Mar 2008	1,100	9,000	0	7,500	950	1,400	<b>19,900</b>
Apr-Jun 2008	1,300	6,800	50	7,100	1,000	1,050	<b>17,300</b>
Jul-Sep 2008	900	26,300	50	11,050	1,350	5,250	<b>44,900</b>
Oct-Dec 2008	200	7,100	0	6,450	1,000	2,450	<b>17,200</b>
Jan-Mar 2009	250	8,900	0	7,600	1,000	4,100	<b>21,900</b>
Apr-Jun 2009	400	4,600	50	6,100	1,000	4,600	<b>16,750</b>
Jul-Sep 2009	600	24,050	150	11,550	1,250	12,750	<b>50,350</b>
Oct-Dec 2009	300	7,900	0	7,250	1,050	5,850	<b>22,350</b>
Jan-Mar 2010	350	8,250	50	8,650	1,000	6,400	<b>24,700</b>
Apr-Jun 2010	0	6,850	0	7,150	950	8,250	<b>23,200</b>
Jul-Sep 2010	50	23,600	50	11,400	1,250	17,350	<b>53,650</b>
Oct-Dec 2010	0	6,800	0	6,800	950	10,500	<b>25,050</b>
Jan-Mar 2011	0	7,500	0	7,500	800	12,800	<b>28,650</b>
Apr-Jun 2011	-	3,900	0	6,100	750	15,300	<b>26,100</b>
Jul-Sep 2011	-	12,100	0	5,400	750	31,600	<b>49,850</b>
Oct-Dec 2011	-	4,000	0	3,250	400	18,800	<b>26,500</b>
Jan-Mar 2012	-	3,600	-	2,300	250	21,400	<b>27,600</b>
Apr-Jun 2012	-	2,500	-	1,650	100	22,800	<b>27,050</b>
Jul-Sep 2012	-	6,700	0	1,400	100	40,000	<b>48,200</b>
Oct-Dec 2012	0	2,000	-	1,000	50	23,950	<b>27,050</b>

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Data are supplied by awarding organisations
2. Annual data are for academic years, that is October to September

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as '0', value of '0' will appear as '-'. Figures have been rounded independently so may not sum to the total.

Table 7: Achievements in higher qualifications by level, 2006-7 to October - December 2012 and vocational qualifications, from 2006-7 to October - December 2012  
England, Wales & Northern Ireland

	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Level 8	Total number of achievements
06-07	61,350	19,250	5,600	3,350	-	<b>89,550</b>
07-08	60,500	27,300	7,400	4,000	-	<b>99,200</b>
08-09	62,000	31,500	7,650	5,000	50	<b>106,200</b>
09-10	72,450	35,950	8,300	7,000	150	<b>123,900</b>
10-11	78,350	35,650	9,150	6,250	200	<b>129,650</b>
11-12	74,950	34,950	9,550	9,600	300	<b>129,350</b>
12-13	16,400	6,500	2,400	1,700	50	<b>27,050</b>
Oct-Dec 2006	12,900	2,800	750	450	-	<b>16,900</b>
Jan-Mar 2007	13,900	3,250	1,550	500	-	<b>19,150</b>
Apr-Jun 2007	12,150	2,450	400	900	-	<b>15,900</b>
Jul-Sep 2007	22,400	10,750	2,950	1,500	-	<b>37,600</b>
Oct-Dec 2007	12,000	3,550	850	700	-	<b>17,100</b>
Jan-Mar 2008	13,550	3,650	2,150	550	-	<b>19,900</b>
Apr-Jun 2008	12,550	3,000	600	1,150	-	<b>17,300</b>
Jul-Sep 2008	22,350	17,100	3,850	1,600	-	<b>44,900</b>
Oct-Dec 2008	11,250	3,750	1,150	1,100	-	<b>17,200</b>
Jan-Mar 2009	13,500	5,300	2,000	1,100	-	<b>21,900</b>
Apr-Jun 2009	11,800	3,500	550	850	0	<b>16,750</b>
Jul-Sep 2009	25,450	19,050	3,900	1,950	0	<b>50,350</b>
Oct-Dec 2009	13,450	6,250	1,350	1,250	50	<b>22,350</b>
Jan-Mar 2010	16,400	5,700	1,000	1,550	50	<b>24,700</b>
Apr-Jun 2010	14,450	6,500	800	1,500	0	<b>23,200</b>
Jul-Sep 2010	28,150	17,500	5,200	2,750	50	<b>53,650</b>
Oct-Dec 2010	15,700	6,200	1,650	1,450	100	<b>25,050</b>
Jan-Mar 2011	18,150	7,450	1,450	1,550	50	<b>28,650</b>
Apr-Jun 2011	16,750	6,350	1,850	1,150	0	<b>26,100</b>
Jul-Sep 2011	27,750	15,700	4,200	2,100	100	<b>49,850</b>
Oct-Dec 2011	15,100	6,950	1,550	2,850	50	<b>26,500</b>
Jan-Mar 2012	15,200	7,100	2,950	2,250	100	<b>27,600</b>
Apr-Jun 2012	16,500	6,950	1,500	2,050	50	<b>27,050</b>
Jul-Sep 2012	28,150	13,950	3,550	2,500	50	<b>48,200</b>
Oct-Dec 2012	16,400	6,500	2,400	1,700	50	<b>27,050</b>

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Data are supplied by awarding organisations

2. Annual data are for academic years, that is October to September

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as '0', value of '0' will appear as '-'. Figures have been rounded independently so may not sum to the total.

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