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Statistical Bulletin

Professional and Technical Enrolments in the Northern Ireland Further Education Sector for 2011/12

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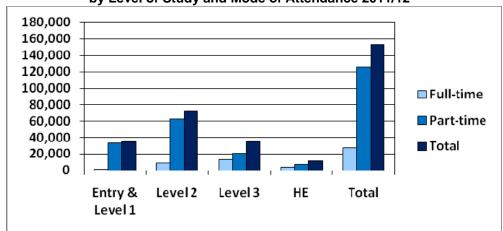
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Introduction

This Statistical Bulletin has been produced by the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) using data collected in the Further Education Statistical Record (FESR). It gives details of full year student enrolments on Professional and Technical courses at Further Education Institutions in Northern Ireland for 2011/12.

Professional and Technical Enrolments in the NI FE Sector by Level of Study and Mode of Attendance 2011/12





Contents

Title	Page
Introduction	3
Key Points	4
Notes to Readers	5-6
Tables Overview	7-9
Table 1: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, 2011/12.	10
Table 2: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Level of Study, 2011/12.	10
Table 3a: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, Level of Study and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.	11
Table 3b: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for DEL Funded Further Education Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.	12
Table 3c: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Full Cost Recovery Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.	13
Table 3d: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Entitlement Framework Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.	14
Table 3e: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Government Training and Employment Programmes at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.	15
Table 4: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Gender, 2011/12.	16
Table 5: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by NQF/QCF Level (or equivalent), 2011/12.	16
Table 6: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Sector & Subject Category, Gender and Age Group, 2011/12.	17
Table 7: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges, (2007/08 to 2011/12).	18
Further Enquiries	19

Introduction

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

Coverage

This statistical bulletin has been produced by DEL and presents a range of analysis regarding student enrolments in the NI FE Sector in the 2011/12 academic year. The statistics presented in this bulletin cover enrolment characteristics and trends across a range of variables including subject area, college, level of study, mode of provision, gender and age.

Policy and Operational Context

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

Who will be interested in this bulletin?

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

Key Points

- Professional and Technical assessed enrolments in Northern Ireland (NI) Further Education (FE) Institutions peaked at over 163,000 in 2009/10 and have fallen in the subsequent two years to around 153,000. While there has been a 2% decline between 2010/11 and 2011/12, enrolments remain 8% higher than when the current FE infrastructure was created in 2007/08 with the formation of the six regional FE colleges, when there were just over 142,000 enrolments. In addition enrolments on DEL economically focused further education courses at NQF/QCF levels 2 and above have increased by 4% between 2010/11 and 2011/12.
- Between 2010/11 and 2011/12 full time enrolments decreased from 28,415 to 27,905 (2%). Over the same period part time enrolments decreased (by 1%) from 127,010 to 125,175.
- Between these two academic years FE Level (up to NQF/QCF Level 3) enrolments have decreased by 2% and Higher Education (HE) Level enrolments have increased by 3%. FE decreased from 144,420 to 141,760 while HE increased from 11,005 to 11,315.
- In 2011/12, DEL funded provision in Northern Ireland (NI) Further Education (FE) Institutions accounted for the most enrolments (102,900) followed by Government Training and Employment Programmes (24,640), Entitlement Framework (13,695) and Full Cost Recovery (11,395).
- In 2011/12, 50% of Professional and Technical assessed enrolments were male and 50% female.
- In 2011/12 the Education and Training subject area had the most enrolments (35,110) followed by Health, Public Services & Care (17,270), Retail & Commercial Enterprise (15,320) and Information & Communication Technology (12,260). History, Philosophy & Theology had the least number of enrolments (535) in 2011/12 followed by Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care (1,145).
- In terms of gender the most popular subject for both males and females in 2011/12 was Education and Training, followed by Health, Public Services & Care (13,855) for females and Engineering & Manufacturing technologies (10,215) for males.
- The majority of male enrolments were aged 19 years and under in 2011/12 (47,275). The majority of female enrolments were also aged 19 years and under (34,895) in 2011/12.
- The majority of enrolments in 2011/12 were on courses at NQF/QCF Level 2 or equivalent (71,995), representing 47% of total enrolments.

Notes to Readers

General

- The statistics in this statistical bulletin have been derived from the Further Education Statistical Record (FESR), a computerised return consisting of an individual record for each enrolment on assessed professional and technical courses in Northern Ireland Further Education Institutions.
- Data on DEL funded provision including Government Training is included within this report in addition to Entitlement Framework and Cost Recovery courses. Recreational courses and Keyskills enrolments are omitted, as the former do not relate to qualifications and the latter are subcomponents of programmes of study.
- 3. The figures in this statistical bulletin are a full year count of student enrolments, it should be noted that students may be enrolled on more than one course at a given time and will therefore be counted as two or more student enrolments. This report includes data relating to the 2011/12 academic year. Data for the previous academic years can be found at:

http://www.delni.gov.uk/es/prof-and-tech-enrolments-in-the-ni-fe-sector-10-11

Definition of Higher Education

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

Definition of Further Education

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

Mode of Attendance

6. Mode of attendance identifies enrolments studying full-time or parttime:

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

Age

- 7. Age is at 1st July 2011.
- 8. The age group of '25 years and over' includes a small component (less than 1%) of those of unknown age.

Changes to Subject Classification

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

Change to Rounded Figures

10. To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the tables are rounded to the nearest 5, with 0, 1, 2 rounded to 0. Due to roundings the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown. Within the Key Points the percentage changes reflect unrounded figures. The introductory chart is also sourced from unrounded figures.

Tables

Table 1: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, 2011/12.

- Details professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college and mode of attendance for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 2: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Level of Study, 2011/12.

 Details professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college and level of course, i.e. whether the qualification aim of the course is Higher Education (HE) or Further Education (FE), for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 3a: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, Level of Study and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.

 Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories by whether they are HE or FE and by mode of attendance for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 3b: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for DEL Funded Further Education Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.

 Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories and by mode of attendance for DEL Funded Further Education Provision for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 3c: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Full Cost Recovery Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.

> Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories and by mode of attendance for Full Cost Recovery Provision for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 3d: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Entitlement Framework Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.

 Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories and by mode of attendance for Entitlement Framework Provision for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 3e: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments for Government Training and Employment Programmes at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category 2011/12.

 Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories and by mode of attendance for Government Training and Employment Programmes for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 4: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Gender, 2011/12.

- The table details the professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college, mode of attendance and gender for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 5: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by NQF/QCF Level (or equivalent), 2011/12.

 Details all professional and technical enrolments by regional college and NQF/QCF level or equivalent for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 6: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Sector & Subject Category, Gender and Age Group, 2011/12.

- The table details the professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories, gender and age group for the academic year 2011/12.

Table 7: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges, (2007/08 to 2011/12).

- The table details all professional and technical enrolments by regional college for the academic years 2007/08 to 2011/12.

Table 1: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, 2011/12

	College										
Mode of Attendance	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	Overall FE Sector Total				
Full time	5,375	4,120	4,825	5,440	3,220	4,930	27,905				
Part time	26,720	16,890	22,570	25,255	18,690	15,045	125,175				
Total	32,095	21,010	27,395	30,695	21,910	19,975	153,075				

Table 2: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Level of Study, 2011/12

				College			
Level of Study	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	Overall FE Sector Total
Higher Education	3,515	1,390	1,470	1,900	1,415	1,630	11,315
Further Education	28,580	19,620	25,930	28,795	20,490	18,345	141,760
Total	32,095	21,010	27,395	30,695	21,910	19,975	153,075

To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the attached tables are rounded to the nearest 5, with 0, 1, 2 rounded to 0. Due to roundings the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown.

Table 3a: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, Level of Study and Sector & Subject Category, 2011/12

		2011/12						
	Full-1	ime	Part	-Time				
Sector & Subject Category	HE ¹	FE ²	HE ¹	FE ²	Overall Total			
Health, Public Services & Care	685	3,575	1,890	11,115	17,270			
Science & Mathematics	80	690	130	4,905	5,810			
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	25	275	30	815	1,145			
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	310	3,365	1,065	6,490	11,225			
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	410	2,680	395	5,220	8,710			
Information & Communication Technology	710	1,825	275	9,450	12,260			
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	75	3,720	430	11,095	15,320			
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	490	2,260	270	3,040	6,060			
Arts, Media & Publishing	650	2,880	310	3,085	6,925			
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	-	-	535	535			
Social Sciences	-	605	80	2,890	3,575			
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	-	75	7,770	7,845			
Education & Training	-	55	205	34,850	35,110			
Preparation for Life & Work	-	620	25	11,375	12,020			
Business, Administration & Law	540	1,370	2,150	5,205	9,265			
FE Sector Total	3,980	23,925	7,335	117,835	153,075			

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

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

To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the attached tables are rounded to the nearest 5, with 0, 1, 2 rounded to 0.

Due to roundings the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown.

Table 3b: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments for DEL Funded Further Education Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category, 2011/12

•		2011/12	
Sector & Subject Category	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Health, Public Services & Care	4,000	9,100	13,100
Science & Mathematics	775	4,040	4,815
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	270	305	570
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	1,280	3,430	4,710
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	955	1,050	2,005
Information & Communication Technology	2,445	7,475	9,920
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	3,120	6,775	9,895
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	2,735	1,840	4,575
Arts, Media & Publishing	3,440	2,755	6,195
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	535	535
Social Sciences	605	2,580	3,185
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	7,480	7,480
Education & Training	5	25,315	25,320
Preparation for Life & Work	455	2,255	2,715
Business, Administration & Law	1,890	5,990	7,880
FE Sector Total	21,985	80,920	102,900

To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the attached tables are rounded to the nearest 5, with 0, 1, 2 rounded to 0. Due to roundings the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown.

Table 3c: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments for Full Cost Recovery Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category, 2011/12

		2011/12	
Sector & Subject Category	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Health, Public Services & Care	90	2,370	2,455
Science & Mathematics	-	50	50
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	-	75	75
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	25	1,105	1,135
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	45	740	785
Information & Communication Technology	20	390	410
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	60	3,565	3,625
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	5	865	870
Arts, Media & Publishing	10	20	30
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	-	-
Social Sciences	-	30	30
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	270	270
Education & Training	-	225	225
Preparation for Life & Work	15	710	725
Business, Administration & Law	20	700	720
FE Sector Total	285	11,105	11,395

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Table 3d: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments for Entitlement Framework Provision at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category, 2011/12

	2011/12
Sector & Subject Category	Total (All Part-Time)
Health, Public Services & Care	940
Science & Mathematics	940
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	370
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	1,365
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	1,700
Information & Communication Technology	745
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	495
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	290
Arts, Media & Publishing	505
History, Philosophy & Theology	-
Social Sciences	245
Languages, Literature & Culture	-
Education & Training	220
Preparation for Life & Work	5,760
Business, Administration & Law	125
FE Sector Total	13,695

To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the attached tables are rounded to the nearest 5, with 0, 1, 2 rounded to 0. Due to roundings the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown.

Table 3e: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments for Government Training and Employment Programmes at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Sector & Subject Category, 2011/12

		2011/12	
Sector & Subject Category	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Health, Public Services & Care	175	600	770
Science & Mathematics	-	-	-
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	30	100	130
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	2,365	1,655	4,020
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	2,090	2,125	4,215
Information & Communication Technology	70	1,105	1,175
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	615	690	1,305
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	15	315	330
Arts, Media & Publishing	75	120	195
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	-	-
Social Sciences	-	115	115
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	95	95
Education & Training	45	8,880	8,925
Preparation for Life & Work	150	2,670	2,820
Business, Administration & Law	5	540	540
FE Sector Total	5,630	19,010	24,640

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Table 4: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Gender, 2011/12

					College			
Mode of Attendance	Gender	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West Nor College	th West Regional College	Overall FE Sector Total
Full time	Female	2,385	1,590	2,050	2,275	1,365	2,570	12,235
	Male	2,990	2,530	2,775	3,160	1,855	2,360	15,665
Full time Total		5,375	4,120	4,825	5,440	3,220	4,930	27,905
Part time	Female	14,590	8,040	10,705	14,085	8,390	8,545	64,355
	Male	12,130	8,850	11,865	11,170	10,300	6,500	60,820
Part time Total		26,720	16,890	22,570	25,255	18,690	15,045	125,175
Total	Female	16,975	9,630	12,755	16,360	9,750	11,115	76,590
	Male	15,120	11,380	14,640	14,335	12,155	8,860	76,485
Overall Total		32,095	21,010	27,395	30,695	21,910	19,975	153,075

Table 5: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by NQF Level (or equivalent), 2011/12

		College										
Level of Study	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	Overall FE Sector Total					
Entry & Level 1	6,060	3,315	8,285	3,335	6,995	7,015	35,005					
Level 2	14,490	11,840	12,480	18,085	9,070	6,035	71,995					
Level 3	8,035	4,470	5,160	7,375	4,425	5,295	34,755					
HE1	3,515	1,390	1,470	1,900	1,415	1,630	11,315					
Total	32,095	21,010	27,395	30,695	21,910	19,975	153,075					

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

To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the attached tables are rounded to the nearest 5, with 0, 1, 2 rounded to 0.

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Table 6: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Sector & Subject Category, Gender and Age Group, 2011/12

		Male				Fem	ale				Total	
	19 years &	20 to 24	25 years &		19 years &	20 to 24	25 years &		19 years &	20 to 24	25 years	
Sector & Subject Category	under	years	over1	Total	under	years	over1	Total	under	years	& over1	Overall Total
Health, Public Services & Care	2,000	365	1,050	3,415	6,780	2,005	5,070	13,855	8,780	2,370	6,120	17,270
Science & Mathematics	1,280	400	465	2,140	2,160	620	890	3,670	3,435	1,020	1,355	5,810
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	350	35	155	535	370	55	185	610	720	85	335	1,145
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	6,330	1,410	2,475	10,215	355	115	540	1,010	6,685	1,525	3,015	11,225
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	6,490	770	1,225	8,485	145	30	45	225	6,635	800	1,270	8,710
Information & Communication Technology	3,605	695	2,400	6,695	1,390	310	3,860	5,565	5,000	1,005	6,260	12,260
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	1,570	690	1,495	3,755	4,735	2,425	4,405	11,565	6,305	3,115	5,900	15,320
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	2,460	640	670	3,770	1,345	375	575	2,295	3,805	1,015	1,245	6,060
Arts, Media & Publishing	2,115	530	755	3,395	1,925	390	1,215	3,530	4,040	920	1,970	6,925
History, Philosophy & Theology	210	30	10	250	245	25	10	285	455	60	25	535
Social Sciences	660	365	425	1,450	865	545	715	2,125	1,525	910	1,140	3,575
Languages, Literature & Culture	440	450	2,190	3,085	635	785	3,335	4,760	1,080	1,240	5,530	7,845
Education & Training	12,165	1,610	4,395	18,175	8,900	1,740	6,295	16,935	21,070	3,350	10,690	35,110
Preparation for Life & Work	6,190	455	760	7,405	3,375	475	765	4,615	9,560	935	1,525	12,020
Business, Administration & Law	1,410	710	1,600	3,715	1,670	1,180	2,700	5,550	3,075	1,890	4,300	9,265
Overall FE Sector Total	47,275	9,155	20,060	76,485	34,895	11,080	30,620	76,590	82,165	20,235	50,675	153,075

¹25 years & over age group includes 138 of unknown age (55 male & 83 female)

Due to roundings the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown.

To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the attached tables are rounded to the nearest 5, with 0, 1, 2 rounded to 0.

Table 7: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges (2007/08 -2011/12)

-					
			Year		
College	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Belfast Metropolitan College	38,045	37,595	42,565	35,215	32,095
Northern Regional College	21,090	19,820	21,655	20,275	21,010
South Eastern Regional College	21,760	23,465	26,045	26,625	27,395
Southern Regional College	27,210	27,310	32,840	31,650	30,695
South West College	17,005	17,150	20,005	20,705	21,910
North West Regional College	16,990	17,150	20,240	20,950	19,975
Total	142,100	142,485	163,350	155,425	153,075

Due to roundings the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown.

To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the attached tables are rounded to the nearest 5, with 0, 1, 2 rounded to 0.

Further Enquiries

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

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