



Statistical Release

Vocational and Other Qualifications Quarterly April to June 2016

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Key points

This release presents information on the range and number of, and certificates issued for, regulated qualifications during April to June 2016 (2016 Q2), excluding GCSEs and A levels. The key findings are:

- Just over 1.6 million certificates were awarded, a decrease of 13% on the same quarter of 2015 and the lowest number of certificates awarded during quarter 2 in the five-year period.
- The number of available qualifications this quarter increased by 46% from 21,676 in the previous quarter to 31,599, primarily due to changes in the way Welsh qualifications are recorded.
- The qualification with the most certificates this quarter was BCS Level 2 ECDL Certificate in IT Application Skills with 50,650 certificates awarded.
- The number of certificates issued for Level 1 qualifications decreased by 16% (from 465,400 to 390,050) and Level 2 qualifications decreased by 12% (from 787,500 to 691,300) on the same quarter in 2015. The number of certificates issued for Level 3 qualifications decreased by 8% (from 309,450 to 285,750).
- The number of certificates awarded for qualifications at Level 4 and above has increased by 13% on the same quarter in 2015 (from 28,950 to 32,650). The increase was mainly in qualifications in the sector of business, administration and law.
- The highest number of certificates awarded by sector subject area of qualification in this quarter was for Preparation for Life and Work (489,450 certificates).

Introduction

Ofqual regulates qualifications and assessments in England and until May 2016 (that is, including the period covered by this bulletin), it also regulated vocational qualifications in Northern Ireland. This bulletin includes data on vocational and other qualifications on behalf of Qualifications Wales, the regulator in Wales, and on 'other general' qualifications (see glossary) and entry level qualifications on behalf of the regulator in Northern Ireland (CCEA). Ofqual's objectives include promoting public confidence in and awareness of regulated qualifications.

Regulated qualifications are classified into 19 qualification types with an associated 'level', which is indicative of the level of demand. The table below shows the current levels for each type of qualification and the relationship between them. Level 3 is at about the same level of demand, but not necessarily the same size, as an A level, and Level 2 is at about the same level of demand as a GCSE at grade C or above.

On 1 October 2015, Ofqual withdrew the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) requirements. This means that from that date, the QCF type has ceased to exist. However, for administrative reasons, awarding organisations could still use the QCF type on the system for new qualifications when no other type was appropriate, until our new system was introduced in summer 2016.

Table of qualification types and levels

Qualification type	Current levels
Advanced Extension Award	Level 3
Basic skills	Entry level, Levels 1 and 2
English for speakers of other languages	Entry level, Levels 1, 2 and 3
Entry level	Entry
Free-standing mathematics qualification	Levels 1, 2, 3
Functional skills	Entry level, Levels 1 and 2
GCE A level	Level 3
GCE AS qualification	Level 3
GCSE (9 to 1)	Level 1/Level 2
GCSE	Level 1/Level 2
Higher level	Levels 4 to 8
Key skills	Levels 1 to 4
NVQ	Levels 1 to 5
'Other general' qualification	Levels 1, 1/2, 2 and 3
Occupational qualification	Levels 1 to 4
Principal learning	Levels 1 to 3
Project	Levels 1 to 3
QCF	Entry level, Levels 1 to 8
Vocationally related qualification	Entry level, Levels 1 to 8

This release presents data on regulated vocational and other qualifications¹ (coloured blue in the table above) for both the April to June 2016 quarter and the 12-month period ending June 2016.

This release does not include the rest of the qualifications given in the above table - Advanced Extension Award, GCSEs, AS and A levels, project and principal learning, on which data are published separately. Neither does it include university degrees, which Ofqual does not regulate.

¹ Vocational and other qualifications are taken in order to develop and demonstrate the skills needed for a particular job, to improve career progression, or for personal growth or leisure purposes. They include some qualifications taken in schools, sixth forms and colleges, for example Level 1/ Level 2 Certificates and BTECs.

External influences

Changes in the number of qualifications available and the number of certifications are likely to be influenced by changes to government policies in England, including changes in government funding, performance tables and study programmes.

Public funding changes by the Skills Funding Agency²

In the last few years, the funding rules for vocational qualifications aimed at students who are over 19 years of age have seen a number of changes that are likely to have had some effect on the number of certificates awarded each year. The Skills Funding Agency (SFA) introduced new business rules³ in September 2013 to target funding at qualifications that most closely align with the government's skills policy. A particular aspect of these rules was the withdrawal of funding for qualifications with low enrolment. The funding rule changes for 2014/15 included a requirement that qualifications have at least 15 credits for adult learning and have clear outcomes for progression to employment or the next level of learning. New funding rules⁴ have been introduced during 2015/16, but it is too early to find any visible impact of these particular new rules on the statistics reported in this bulletin. Throughout these statistics, however, there are examples of continued declines in the numbers of certifications for qualifications which do not meet the rules introduced in 2013, and from which funding has therefore been removed.

Legal entitlement and local flexibility

Only certain qualifications are now eligible for funding through the legal entitlement⁵ for 2016 to 2017. This is for learners aged 16 to 23 who are studying their first qualification at Level 2 and/or Level 3. These include the qualifications that are included in the performance tables.

² The Skills Funding Agency funds adult skills training for further education in England. It supports over 1,000 colleges, private training organisations and employers with more than £4 billion of funding each year.

³ Skills Funding Statement 2013–2016: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sfa-funding-rules>

⁴

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/414800/Funding_Rules_v2_summary_of_changes_March_2015.pdf

⁵https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/510279/TheLegalEntitlements_v2_Mar2016.pdf

The SFA is working towards full devolution, putting greater power in the hands of local authorities to meet skills gaps for their area. The latest changes, for 2016 to 2017⁶, set out how qualifications that do not qualify for legal entitlement, outside of apprenticeships, are eligible for funded delivery as part of its 'local flexibility' policy. The local flexibility policy is based on the view that local areas, colleges and other training organisations are best placed to decide on the most appropriate type of training provision to respond to local needs. To support local area needs and deliver agreed local outcomes, funding allocations will be decided by local authorities - and colleges and other training organisations will decide on the most appropriate form of training provision. This may or may not include qualifications.

Advanced learner loans are now available for all learners aged over 24, and will be available for learners aged 19+ from 1 August 2016 for Level 3 to Level 6 qualifications⁷.

These changes are beginning to have an impact on types of qualifications taken, the numbers of certifications and the risks those qualifications face.

School performance tables⁸

Over the last few years, there has been a considerable change in the way that qualifications are used in schools following the Wolf Report⁹. In 2013, any qualification on the section 96¹⁰ funding list could count towards the school and college performance tables at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. Since 2014, only a small number of non-GCSEs or A levels have been included in performance tables.

⁶https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/510278/Qualification_Eligibility_Principles_v1.pdf

⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advanced-learner-loans-qualifications-catalogue>

⁸ The key government benchmark for the attainment of Key Stage 4 pupils (aged 15 to 16) is the percentage of pupils gaining the equivalent of at least five A* to C GCSE passes, including English and mathematics, though this is changing. Some other qualifications can also be counted in performance tables.

⁹ Review of Vocational Education – The Wolf Report (March 2011) considered how the Department for Education can improve vocational education for those aged 14 to 19:

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/180504/DFE-00031-2011.pdf

¹⁰ Where section 96 approval has been awarded to a qualification, it enables that qualification to be taught in funded institutions, such as maintained schools, academies and post-16 institutions, and for public funds to be used for these courses and qualifications.

This is likely to have led to changes in schools' and colleges' curriculum and qualifications choices, away from qualifications that are not included in performance tables.

Moreover, qualifications in these tables were previously weighted; larger qualifications gained a higher rating and could be worth more than one qualification in the performance tables. This is no longer the case and all qualifications now count as one qualification, making larger qualifications less attractive. Examples of declines in numbers of certifications for some qualifications as a result of these changes can be seen in these statistics.



















































































Changes to qualifications in Wales

Qualifications Wales (QW) have developed their own system to regulate funded qualifications in Wales – their qualification records are maintained separately and have a different method of identification (a QW Approval/Designation Number). As Ofqual are still collecting data on behalf of Qualifications Wales, we have incorporated these qualification records in to our data collection process. As this is the first quarter in which data is recorded in this way, all Welsh qualifications are considered to be 'new' in this quarter's report. The overall number of available qualifications has therefore increased significantly this quarter, because awarding organisations are currently reporting certificates for candidates at centres in Wales against either the Ofqual qualification or the QW qualification.

Table of key statistics

	January-March 2016	April-June 2016	% change on previous qtr
Number of available qualifications	21,676	31,599	46
Number of awarding organisations			
with available qualifications this quarter	155	157	1
with available qualifications this quarter and certificates awarded in the last 12 months	150	152	1
Number of available qualifications by type			
Basic skills	4	4	0
English for speakers of other languages	142	171	20
Entry level	175	298	70
Free-standing mathematics qualification	14	14	0
Functional skills	221	221	0
Higher level	81	116	43
Key skills	91	158	74
NVQ	48	69	44
Occupational qualification	11	13	18
Other general qualification	664	1,100	66
QCF	19,668	28,541	45
Vocationally related qualification	557	894	61
Number of available qualifications by level			
Entry level	2,666	3,535	33
Level 1	2,991	4,210	41
Level 1/2	194	318	64
Level 2	6,888	10,342	50
Level 3	6,246	9,537	53
Level 4	1,496	2,137	43
Level 5	708	939	33
Level 6	255	323	27
Level 7	225	252	12
Level 8	7	6	-14
Number of available qualifications by sector subject area			
Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	840	1,277	52
Arts, media and publishing	1,503	2,171	44
Business, administration, finance and law	2,562	3,653	43
Construction, planning and the built environment	1,367	2,164	58
Education and training	1,207	1,632	35
Engineering and manufacturing technologies	2,210	3,617	64
Health, public services and care	2,473	3,508	42
History, philosophy and theology	46	68	48
Information and communication technology	475	732	54
Languages, literature and culture	1,070	1,500	40
Leisure, travel and tourism	942	1,482	57
Preparation for life and work	4,163	5,579	34
Retail and commercial enterprise	2,597	3,890	50
Science and mathematics	194	289	49
Social sciences	27	37	37

Number of certificates awarded

	April-June 2015	April-June 2016	% change on previous year's same quarter	July 2014- June 2015	July 2015- June 2016	% change on previous 12 months		
Overall number of certificates awarded	1,892,700	1,641,450		-13	8,337,000	7,859,600		-6
Number of certificates by type of qualification								
Basic skills	0~	0			750	50		-95
English for speakers of other languages	51,350	55,100		7	329,800	234,250		-29
Entry level	7,900	6,900		-12	80,600	71,800		-11
Free-standing mathematics qualification	550	450		-21	35,950	37,100		3
Functional skills	299,750	236,350		-21	1,059,750	931,750		-12
Higher level	1,250	3,350		165	5,950	12,050		102
Key skills	32,600	15,400		-53	107,100	80,450		-25
NVQ	600	250		-58	3,700	2,000		-46
Occupational qualification	0	0~			0~	0~		
Other general qualification	137,300	72,300		-47	972,650	1,197,100		23
QCF	1,349,100	1,237,400		-8	5,634,800	5,247,100		-7
Vocationally related qualification	12,300	13,950		13	105,950	46,000		-57
Number of certificates by qualification level								
Entry level	226,400	209,500		-7	977,400	936,800		-4
Level 1	465,400	390,050		-16	1,918,750	1,692,150		-12
Level 1/ Level 2	75,050	32,200		-57	505,850	851,200		68
Level 2	787,500	691,300		-12	3,454,600	2,898,950		-16
Level 3	309,450	285,750		-8	1,352,950	1,341,100		-1
Level 4	14,600	17,650		21	62,150	74,450		20
Level 5	10,050	9,700		-4	47,400	45,650		-4
Level 6	2,800	4,350		55	11,400	14,150		24
Level 7	1,350	950		-29	6,200	4,950		-20
Level 8	100	0~		-97	350	150		-56
Number of certificates by sector subject area								
Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	29,900	24,500		-18	115,250	100,350		-13
Arts, media and publishing	201,150	186,050		-8	842,650	821,950		-2
Business, administration, finance and law	136,400	111,550		-18	586,550	489,800		-16
Construction, planning and the built environment	65,100	65,550		1	268,550	280,300		4
Education and training	20,650	20,050		-3	93,400	88,550		-5
Engineering and manufacturing technologies	94,450	82,150		-13	402,450	379,250		-6
Health, public services and care	293,750	281,800		-4	1,189,100	1,165,050		-2
History, philosophy and theology	3,950	1,450		-64	29,250	28,750		-2
Information and communication technology	86,250	106,300		23	433,900	443,750		2
Languages, literature and culture	42,850	40,550		-5	464,500	593,250		28
Leisure, travel and tourism	101,700	86,850		-15	420,950	396,500		-6
Preparation for life and work	626,750	489,450		-22	2,509,100	2,220,000		-12
Retail and commercial enterprise	154,900	133,350		-14	658,400	562,950		-15
Science and mathematics	34,850	11,850		-66	316,400	279,500		-12
Social sciences	0~	0~			6,400	9,600		51
Number of certificates by country								
England	1,651,550	1,455,600		-12	7,533,100	7,106,400		-6
Wales	164,700	115,100		-30	586,400	557,000		-5
Northern Ireland	76,450	70,750		-7	217,500	196,200		-10

Note: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50. Figures are rounded independently and may not sum to the total.

Analysis

This section presents figures on the number of qualifications that are available for students to enrol on (even if only for one day during the quarter), and those that may have expired (where students can no longer enrol) but remain active until the final certificate has been issued.

Qualifications available

This quarter, the number of available qualifications increased by 46% compared to the previous quarter, from 21,676 to 31,599 (see the table of key statistics on page 7). The number of available qualifications increased or stayed the same for all kinds of qualifications except for Level 8 qualifications, which decreased by 1. The change in the number of available qualifications resulted from 10,265 new qualifications becoming available (of which 9,877 were new Welsh qualifications¹¹ and 388 were new English and/or Northern Irish qualifications) and 342 qualifications expiring (most of these being classified as Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) qualifications (315)). Two thirds (66%) of the qualifications that expired had no certifications in the 12 months to the end of June 2016. The 10,265 newly available qualifications are delivered by 125 awarding organisations.

Table 1 of the appendix presents the number of available qualifications over the past five years, broken down by type.

Awarding organisations

The number of recognised awarding organisations (157) offering regulated qualifications is slightly more than in the previous quarter (155). The number of organisations with available qualifications this quarter and certificates awarded in the last 12 months was 152 (from 150 last quarter). This is similar to the number of awarding organisations offering regulated qualifications that issued certificates in quarter 1 of 2016 (155).

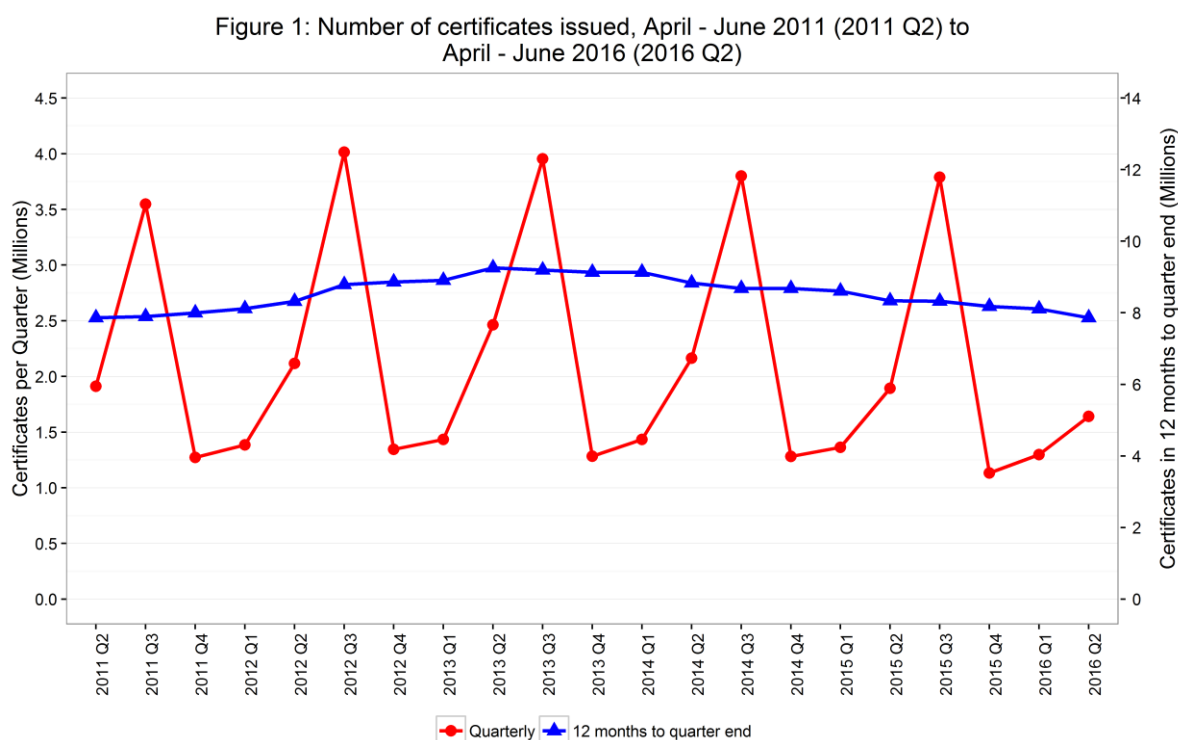
Certificates issued

There was a decrease of 13% in the total number of certificates issued compared with the same quarter of 2015 (from 1.9 million to 1.6 million). The number of certificates awarded this quarter is the lowest for quarter 2 (April to June) in the period from 2011.

¹¹ As explained on p.6, this is due to the fact that Welsh qualifications are now recorded separately, meaning that all Welsh qualifications are considered to be 'new' in the current report.

Figure 1 illustrates that there was a gradual increase in the number of certificates awarded between 2011 and 2013, but over the past 3 years there has been a decline back to the level of 2011. The overall number of certificates issued has risen from 7.9 million in the 12 months to the end of June 2011 to 8.4 million in the 12 months to the end of June 2015 and 7.9 million in the 12 months to the end of June 2016. The figure for the 12 months to the end of June 2016 is therefore similar to that from five years earlier, but a decrease of 6% compared to the same period in 2015.

The number of certificates issued in each quarter since April to June 2011, and in the 12-month period to each quarter end, is presented in table 2 of the appendix.



Certificates by country

This quarter, 89% of all certificates issued were in England, 7% were in Wales and 4% were in Northern Ireland (see figure 2). This distribution is similar to the same quarter of 2015.

Figure 2: Number of certificates issued in the quarter and in the 12 months to the end of June 2016 by geographical area (with % change on previous year's same period)

Country	Proportion of total	April-June 2016	% change on previous year's same quarter	12 months to June 2016	% change in 12 months
England	89	1,455,600	-12	7,106,400	-6
Wales	7	115,100	-30	557,000	-5
Northern Ireland	4	70,750	-7	196,200	-10
Total number of certificates issued	100	1,641,450	-13	7,859,600	-6

There was a decrease in the number of certificates awarded this quarter in all three countries compared with the same quarter in 2015. Over the 12 months to June 2016, there was a decrease of 6% in England, 5% in Wales and 10% in Northern Ireland.

Certificates by type of qualification

Figure 3 presents the number of certificates issued by qualification type in this quarter and during the 12 months to the end of June 2016. Table 3 of the appendix presents the number of certificates issued each quarter since April to June 2011 by type of qualification. Most certificates issued this quarter were for QCF qualifications (1,237,400 certificates out of 1,641,450, or 76%). Since the QCF was introduced in 2010, the number of certificates meeting QCF requirements has grown rapidly. This growth followed the Skills Funding Agency's preference to mainly fund qualifications on the QCF.

The number of certificates awarded for QCF qualifications decreased by 8% this quarter compared with the same quarter of 2015. This is the ninth consecutive quarter where the number of certificates awarded for QCF qualifications has decreased, compared to the same quarter the year before. Ofqual withdrew the QCF requirements at the beginning of Q3 2015, and the SFA withdrew its preference for funding them.

The number of certificates issued for higher level qualifications increased by 165% compared to the same quarter in 2015 (from 1,250 to 3,350). Most of this change was due to an increase of in the number of higher level certificates issued by the Chartered Institute of Marketing (from 450 to 2,650).

This is the first quarter since Q1 2015 where the number of certificates issued for ESOL qualifications have increased compared to the same quarter in the previous

year. This is after the Skills Funding Agency stopped funding the existing ESOL qualifications in December 2014. From January 2015, funding for ESOL qualifications is only available when a student completes a QCF ESOL Skills for Life qualification.¹²

Figure 3: Number of certificates issued in this quarter and in the 12 months to the end of June 2016 by qualification type (with % change on previous year's same period)

Qualification type	April-June 2016	% change on same qtr 2015	12 months to June 2016	% change in 12 months
Basic skills	0		50	-95
ESOL	55,100	7	234,250	-29
Entry level	6,900	-12	71,800	-11
Free-standing mathematics qualification	450	-21	37,100	3
Functional skills	236,350	-21	931,750	-12
Higher level	3,350	165	12,050	102
Key skills	15,400	-53	80,450	-25
NVQ	250	-58	2,000	-46
Occupational qualification	0~		0~	
Other general qualification	72,300	-47	1,197,100	23
QCF	1,237,400	-8	5,247,100	-7
Vocationally related qualification	13,950	13	46,000	-57
Total number of certificates	1,641,450	-13	7,859,600	-6

Key: ESOL: English for speakers of other languages; NVQ: National vocational qualification; QCF: Qualifications and credit framework.

Certificating awarding organisations

Over the last 12 months, 152 awarding organisations issued certificates, representing 97% of the awarding organisations with available qualifications.

Figure 4 shows the ten awarding organisations that issued the most certificates this quarter, along with figures for the 12 months to quarter end. The combined total number of certificates issued by these ten organisations represents 66% of all awards during this quarter (1.08 million out of 1.64 million certificates).

¹² www.gov.uk/government/publications/esol-qualifications-interim-arrangements/new-qualifications-and-credit-framework-english-for-speakers-of-other-languages-skills-for-life-qualifications-funding-arrangements-for-2014-to-2015

Figure 4: Number of certificates issued in this quarter and in the 12 months to the end of June 2016 for the ten awarding organisations with the most certificates (with % change on previous year's same period)

Awarding organisation	April-June 2016	% change on same qtr 2015	12 months to June 2016	% change in 12 months
Pearson Education Ltd	306,500	-28	1,675,100	-16
City and Guilds of London Institute	286,250	-19	1,215,150	-14
OCR	87,050	-14	425,950	-19
NCFE	62,750	-19	316,600	-9
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	60,150	-19	235,950	-18
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	59,900	122	154,750	78
Cambridge English Language Assessment	59,550	-19	279,400	20
Trinity College London	59,300	32	222,550	25
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	57,050	-19	242,350	-8
Qualsafe Awards	44,750	17	167,100	17
Total number of certificates for the 10 awarding organisations	1,083,300	-16	4,934,950	-10

Seven of the ten awarding organisations that issued the most certificates recorded decreases this quarter compared with the same quarter in 2015.

- Pearson Education Ltd had a decrease of 28% in the number of certificates awarded this quarter (from 427,350 in Q2 2015 to 306,500 in the current quarter). Most of this decrease is due to the decrease in the number of certificates awarded in QCF (232,434 to 169,997) and other general qualifications (78,257 to 35,522).
- There was an increase of 122% in the number of certificates awarded this quarter by BCS (from 27,050 in Q2 2015 to 59,900 in the current quarter). Most of this change is due to an increase in the number of certificates issued for Level 2 QCF qualifications (18,215 to 54,380).
- The 32% increase in certificates awarded this quarter by Trinity College London (from 44,850 in Q2 2015 to 59,300 in the current quarter) is due to an increase in the number of certificates issued for ESOL (9,679 to 21,064) and QCF qualifications (35,149 to 38,216).
- The 17% increase in certificates awarded this quarter by Qualsafe Awards (from 38,350 in Q2 2015 to 44,750 in the current quarter) is mostly due to an increase in the number of certificates issued for qualifications in the sub sector of health and social care (36,250 to 42,000).

The 50 organisations that awarded the highest numbers of qualifications this quarter are shown in table 4 of the appendix.

Certificates by level of qualification

This section presents figures on the number of certificates issued this quarter and during the 12 months to the end of June 2016, by level of qualification. Each regulated qualification has a level between Entry level and Level 8, which indicates the broad level of demand of the qualification.¹³

Figure 5 gives a breakdown of the number of certificates by level of qualification.

Figure 5: Number of certificates issued in this quarter and in the 12 months to the end of June 2016 by qualification level (with % change on previous year's same period)

Qualification type	April-June 2016	% change on same qtr 2015	12 months to June 2016	% change in 12 months
Entry level	209,500	-7	936,800	-4
Level 1	390,050	-16	1,692,150	-12
Level 1/ Level 2	32,200	-57	851,200	68
Level 2	691,300	-12	2,898,950	-16
Level 3	285,750	-8	1,341,100	-1
Level 4	17,650	21	74,450	20
Level 5	9,700	-4	45,650	-4
Level 6	4,350	55	14,150	24
Level 7	950	-29	4,950	-20
Level 8	0~		150	-56
Total number of certificates	1,641,450	-13	7,859,600	-6

The number of certificates issued for Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications has declined year-on-year for the twelfth consecutive quarter (compared to the same quarter the year before). The decline in both levels this quarter, compared to the same quarter in 2015, is partly because of a decrease in the number of certificates awarded in Functional skills (from 129,150 to 103,550 for level 1 and from 109,250 to 77,100 for level 2) and QCF (from 299,400 to 255,900 for level 1 and from 614,100 to 570,000 for level 2).

Compared to the same quarter last year, there was a decrease of 57% in the number of certificates awarded for Level 1/Level 2 qualifications (from 75,050 to 32,200). However, there was a very large increase in the number of Level 1/Level 2 qualifications awarded during the last 12 months compared to 2015, reflecting the switch by many schools to Level 1/2 certificates instead of GCSEs.

The number of certificates awarded for qualifications at Level 4 and above increased by 13% this quarter compared with the same quarter in 2015 (from 28,950 to

¹³ Further details on comparing qualification levels are available on Ofqual's website: www.gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean

32,650). The number of certificates awarded increased mainly in the area of business, administration and law (from 14,750 to 17,750).

Table 5 of the appendix presents the number of certificates awarded by qualification level in each quarter from January to March 2011 to this quarter.

Certificates by qualification

This quarter 8,863 qualifications had certificates issued, representing 28% of all available qualifications. This is less than the same quarter in 2015, in which certificates were issued for 43% of available qualifications. This decrease is likely due to changes in the way Welsh qualifications are recorded. The 50 qualifications with the most certificates awarded this quarter are listed in table 6 of the appendix.

The ten qualifications with the highest number of certificates issued this quarter and in the 12 months to the end of June 2016 are shown in figure 6.

Figure 6: The ten qualifications with the highest number of certificates awarded this quarter and in the 12 months to the end of June 2016 (figures for the 12 months to the end of June 2015 shown for comparison)

Qualification	Number of certificates					
	April-June 2015	April-June 2016	% change quarter	12 months to the end of June 2015	12 months to the end of June 2016	% change 12 months
BCS Level 2 ECDL Certificate in IT Application Skills	11,900	50,650	326	26,250	117,200	346
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	35,300	29,100	-18	140,600	116,000	-18
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in Mathematics at Level 1	30,850	25,300	-18	74,450	70,100	-6
QA Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	20,900	23,500	12	77,800	88,900	14
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in Mathematics at Level 1	27,650	17,350	-37	73,100	56,850	-22
TCL Entry Level Certificate in ESOL International - Speaking and Listening (Entry 3)	7,500	16,900	125	38,500	60,200	56
FAA Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	14,150	15,350	8	55,500	58,150	5
Cambridge English Level 1 Certificate in English (IELTS 5.5-6.5) (ESOL)	14,900	14,450	-3	61,600	45,400	-26
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in English at Level 1	15,950	13,300	-17	63,000	57,050	-9
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in English at Level 1	20,050	12,700	-37	73,850	61,300	-17

The qualification with the most certificates issued, and the largest increase, this quarter was the BCS level 2 ECDL certificate in IT application skills with 50,650 certificates awarded. This is an increase of 326% compared to the same quarter of 2015 when there were 11,900 certificates awarded (possibly because this qualification has recently been listed in performance tables for 2018¹⁴). Four of the qualifications on the list were QCF qualifications, and four were functional skills.

¹⁴ <http://www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55511>

Certificates by sector subject area of qualification

Regulated qualifications are allocated by the awarding organisations to one of 15 sector subject areas. This section presents figures on the number of certificates issued this quarter and during the 12 months to the end of June 2016, by the sector subject area of the qualification.

Figure 7 shows the sectors ordered by size, in terms of the number of certificates issued this quarter, with the largest sector subject area first.

The greatest number of certificates was issued in the Preparation for Life and Work sector (489,450, representing 30% of the total issued this quarter and 28% of the total issued in the 12 months to the end of June 2016). However, this sector had the largest decrease in the actual number of certificates awarded this quarter compared to the same quarter in 2015, with a 22% decrease (from 626,750 certificates to 489,450). The majority of this decrease is for certificates in the foundations for learning and life sub-sector (from 570,600 to 446,300).

The sector with the largest increase in the actual number of certificates awarded this quarter compared with the same quarter in 2015 was information and communication technology (from 86,250 to 106,300). This was due to an increase in the ICT for users sub-sector (from 56,650 to 85,000).

The largest percentage decrease was in science and mathematics (from 34,850 to 11,854) and history, philosophy and theology (from 3,950 to 1,450). Most of the decrease in the science and maths sector this quarter is due to the decrease in the number of certificates awarded by Pearson Education Ltd (from 32,815 to 10,306).

Figure 7: Number of certificates by sector subject area of qualification in the quarter April-June 2016 and in the 12 months to the end of June 2016

Sector subject area	April-June 2016	% change on same qtr. 2015	12 months to the end of June 2016	% change for 12 months
Preparation for Life and Work	489,450	-22	2,220,000	-12
Health, Public Services and Care	281,800	-4	1,165,050	-2
Arts, Media and Publishing	186,050	-8	821,950	-2
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	133,350	-14	562,950	-15
Languages, Literature and Culture	40,550	-5	593,250	28
Business, Administration, Finance and Law	111,550	-18	489,800	-16
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	82,150	-13	379,250	-6
Information and Communication Technology	106,300	23	443,750	2
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	86,850	-15	396,500	-6
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	65,550	1	280,300	4
Education and Training	20,050	-3	88,550	-5
Science and Mathematics	11,850	-66	279,500	-12
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	24,500	-18	100,350	-13
History, Philosophy and Theology	1,450	-64	28,750	-2
Social Sciences	0~		9,600	51
Total number of certificates	1,641,450	-13	7,859,600	-6

Table 7 of the appendix presents the number of certificates awarded in vocational qualifications by sector subject area by quarter from April to June 2011 to this quarter. Table 8 of the appendix gives a more detailed breakdown of the second-tier sector subject areas for these certificates.

Certificates issued in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

The overall number of certificates awarded has decreased for all three countries for the 12-month period to June 2016 (see figure 2).

Figure 8, shows that the QCF qualifications dominate in England (68%), Wales (50%) and Northern Ireland (73%). Compared to the same period in 2015, these numbers have decreased in England and Northern Ireland, but have increased in Wales.

The number of certificates issued for functional skills qualifications in Wales increased by 9% in the 12 months to the end of June 2016 compared with the same period in 2015. For the same period, the number of certificates awarded for functional skills in England decreased by 12% (most likely due to recent changes in policy around GCSE English and mathematics resits) and in Northern Ireland by 20% (although the number of functional skills certificates issued in Northern Ireland is very small, because learners in Northern Ireland tend to use Essential Skills qualifications).

Figure 8: Number of certificates in the 12 months to the end of June 2016, by country and type of qualification

Qualification type	England			Wales			Northern Ireland			12 month % change
	Number	% of total	12 month % change	Number	% of total	12 month % change	Number	% of total	12 month % change	
Basic skills	50	0	-94	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
English for speakers of other languages	225,450	3	-30	7,050	1	68	1,700	1	-58	-58
Entry Level	53,450	1	-10	12,550	2	-12	5,850	3	-18	-18
Free-standing mathematics qualification	36,900	1	3	200	0	-28	0	0	0	0
Functional skills	919,700	13	-12	11,900	2	9	150	0	-20	-20
Higher level	11,300	0	97	450	0	379	300	0	106	106
Key skills	8,100	0	-45	71,500	13	-17	800	0	-86	-86
NVQ	1,900	0	-44	50	0	-66	0	0	0	0
Occupational qualification	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other general qualification	980,850	14	39	173,900	31	-19	42,300	22	-16	-16
QCF	4,827,100	68	-8	276,900	50	11	143,100	73	-3	-3
Vocationally related qualification	41,550	1	-57	2,500	0	-58	2,000	1	-16	-16
Total number of certificates awarded	7,106,400	100	-6	557,000	100	-5	196,200	100	-10	-10

Notes:

All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as zero. Figures have been rounded independently so may not sum to the total.

The number of certificates issued for 'other general' qualifications for the 12 months to the end of June 2016 represents 14% of the total in England, 31% in Wales and 22% in Northern Ireland. The number of certificates awarded is rising in England for this category but shows a decrease in Northern Ireland and Wales¹⁵.

Tables 9 to 11 in the appendix present the 50 organisations that awarded the most qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, respectively, during July 2015 to June 2016.

¹⁵ Direct comparisons of 'other general' qualifications between England, Wales and Northern Ireland are difficult as this category includes Essential Skills, which are the Wales and Northern Ireland equivalent of functional skills.

Background notes

This release presents data on available regulated vocational and other qualifications and the number of certificates issued. It does not include the Advanced Extension Award, GCSEs, AS and A levels qualifications, project and principal learning. The number of certificates awarded for these qualifications can be found on the Joint Council for Qualifications website.¹⁶

The data cover regulated qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, whether regulated by Ofqual, Qualifications Wales or CCEA (Northern Ireland regulator). The figures cover both the April to June 2016 quarter and the 12-month period to the end of June 2016.

This document is in line with Ofqual's statistics policies¹⁷ and the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*.¹⁸

A glossary of terms is available in the next section to help you interpret this release.

Data sources

Information on qualifications is taken from Ofqual's Register of Regulated Qualifications¹⁹. Data on available qualifications – covering title, type, awarding organisation, sector subject area and level – are taken from the Register and awarding organisations send Ofqual the number of certificates awarded. Further information on the administrative sources is available within Ofqual's statistical policies.

This release shows the number of awards broken down by awarding organisation, sector subject area, type of qualification, level of qualification and country.

Limitations of data

Data are collected at the earliest point available, which is the first day of the next reporting period. This reduces the time between the activity and reporting on the activity.

¹⁶ www.jcq.org.uk/examination-results

¹⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofquals-statistics-policies-and-procedures>

¹⁸ <https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/monitoring-and-assessment/code-of-practice>

¹⁹ <http://register.ofqual.gov.uk>

The main source of potential error²⁰ is in the information provided by awarding organisations. Ofqual cannot guarantee that the number of certificates submitted is correct and there may be systematic bias when the information is sent, although awarding organisations are expected to provide the correct data. Ofqual compares the data over time and checks for systematic issues. Summary data are then sent back to awarding organisations to be checked and confirmed. The figures reported in this release reflect the certificates issued by awarding organisations at the time of data collection.

Quality assurance procedures are carried out as explained in the *Quality Assurance Framework for Statistical Publication* and the *Data Audit Framework*²¹ to ensure the accuracy of the data and to challenge or question it where necessary. Ofqual continually manages this process by:

- ensuring that data suppliers are clear about what is required of them, in part achieved by consulting providers during the initial design and any subsequent change phases;
- reminding all suppliers (if appropriate) that, as a condition of being regulated, all data must be completely accurate;
- being alert to unexpected changes in the data submitted by comparing individual returns over time from the same supplier;
- actively challenging any unexpected results with data suppliers;
- seeking explanations for changes and trends in the data;
- checking the data provided against other data either within Ofqual or available from third parties such as the Department for Education's national pupil database;²²

²⁰ *Statement of Administrative Sources* includes information about the potential sources of error and how Ofqual mitigates these: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofquals-statistics-policies-and-procedures>

²¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofquals-statistics-policies-and-procedures>

²² The national pupil database contains detailed information about pupils in schools and colleges in England.

- having a proportionate data auditing framework in place allowing for auditing of suppliers, information collection, collation and delivery processes as necessary, using a wide range of tools from questionnaires to on-site process audits.

Publication may be deferred if the statistics are not considered fit for purpose.

Comparisons in this release are mainly made with data from the same quarter of the previous year and the 12-month period up to the end of the same quarter of the previous year. This is because of seasonal changes in the number of certificates issued over the year.

After data collection, the trends are interpreted by a group of colleagues from Ofqual who are aware of the latest changes in policies. Before being released, the publication has to be signed off by Ofqual's Head of Profession for Statistics who confirms the quality of the release.

Geographical coverage

In this release, Ofqual presents data on certificates issued for all regulated qualifications (excluding GCSEs, AS and A levels, Advanced Extension Award and the Diploma²³) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland during the January to March 2016 quarter.

Statistics for Scotland are on the Scottish Qualifications Authority website²⁴.

Ofqual started to collect data for England, Wales and Northern Ireland individually in 2011.

Revisions

Once published, data on the number of certificates issued for any qualification are not usually subject to revision, although subsequent releases may be revised to insert late data or to correct an error. 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 release, previous years' figures from three awarding organisations (City and Guilds of London Institute, WJEC-CBAC, and Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body) have been revised. The table of revision, published

²³ Data for GCSEs, AS and A levels can be found on the Joint Council for Qualifications website: www.jcq.org.uk/examination-results

²⁴ The Scottish Qualifications Authority is the national accreditation and awarding organisation in Scotland: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/64717.4239.html

alongside this publication, shows the changes for each quarter by level, type of qualification and sector subject area.

Completeness of the data

Awarding organisations send data to Ofqual each quarter. Any awarding organisation that does not return a complete set of data within the collection period is contacted to make sure that the data are as complete as possible. For this quarter, Ofqual received data from all the awarding organisations that were in a position to award qualifications.

Confidentiality

To ensure confidentiality of the published accompanying data in accordance with Ofqual's *Statement on Confidentiality*²⁵, the number of certificates awarded has been rounded to the nearest five. If the value is less than five, it is represented as 0~. A 0 represents zero achievements.

Rounding

In accordance with Ofqual's *Rounding Policy*²⁶, figures in the commentary and tables for the number of certificates issued are rounded to the nearest 50 for ease of use. As a result of rounded figures, the percentages shown in any pie charts may not necessarily add up to 100. The raw data published alongside this publication are rounded to the nearest five to protect confidentiality.

The numbers of qualifications have been left as exact figures because there is no issue with confidentiality and also because some of the numbers are so small that it aids the user to have actual figures.

Users of these statistics

This publication attracts a wide variety of users who use the statistics in various ways:

- Internal (Ofqual) users use the statistics to monitor the market, to target resources and for input into analysis and reports.
- Central government officials use the statistics for policy implementation and ministerial briefings about government-funded provision and to draw on for their own publications.

²⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofquals-statistics-policies-and-procedures>

²⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofquals-statistics-policies-and-procedures>

- Awarding organisations use the statistics and underlying data as market intelligence, to monitor market share and to understand more about their competitors and product availability.
- Sector skills councils and other employer groups use the statistics to understand training uptake within their sectors and to assist them in understanding how the qualifications are meeting employer demand.
- Other users, including colleges and training providers, have varying needs, from using the information to assist in research projects to focusing on individual qualifications within their industry.

Users from central government and internal users focus on the detailed published data, as do some awarding organisations. Others draw on the aggregate official statistics and commentary to provide context.

Related statistics and publications

There are a number of related statistical releases and publications:

- The *Statistical First Release: GCSE and Equivalent Results in England 2014/15*²⁷, published by the Department for Education, covers students' achievements in GCSEs and equivalent regulated qualifications in schools at the end of Key Stage 4.
- The *Statistical First Release: A Level and Other Level 3 Results in England, Academic Year 2014 to 2015*²⁸ covers achievements for 16 to 18 year olds at schools and colleges in all Level 3 qualifications. These releases can be used to add context to the trends seen in Level 2 and Level 3 AS/A level and GCSE equivalent qualifications.
- The quarterly *Statistical First Release*²⁹, published by the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills, reports on apprenticeship volumes that cover statistics on adult (19+) government-funded participation, achievement and

²⁷ *Statistical First Release: GCSE and Equivalent Results in England 2013/14 (Provisional)*:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/provisional-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-2014-to-2015>

²⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/provisional-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-2014-to-2015>

²⁹ www.gov.uk/government/statistics/learner-participation-outcomes-and-level-of-highest-qualification-held

success rates for further education, and apprenticeships participation and achievements for all ages (16+) in England. It also shows figures on certificates issued for vocational qualifications in the UK, as collected by Ofqual and through the National Vocational Qualifications Database.

Useful information

The data behind these statistics are published alongside this statistical release at 9.30am on the day of release³⁰. The data set is not revised until the next publication is released. You can find the publication schedule for the next releases on the GOV.UK website³¹.

The Register gives information on regulated qualifications and recognised awarding organisations in England, Wales and Northern Ireland³².

User feedback

Ofqual has recently asked its user groups for feedback on this publication. Here is a summary of the improvements suggested, organised into those that have already been put in place and those that Ofqual will not be able to accommodate. Ahead of each publication, user feedback is reviewed to determine the content that should be included in the publication.

Ofqual has already put in place a number of suggestions:

- Round the raw data to the nearest five – rounding is needed for confidentiality. Following feedback from users that they needed the numbers of certificates to be as close to the actual figures as possible, rounding was reduced to the nearest five.
- Keep the breakdown by type of qualifications – although the majority of qualifications and certificates were for qualifications on the QCF, users still found the detailed breakdown useful.
- Provide more analysis outside the ten awarding organisations with the most certificates – comment will be made where an awarding organisation has had a

³⁰ www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/vocational-qualifications-dataset

³¹ www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements?utf8=%E2%9C%93&organisations%5B%5D=ofqual

³² <http://register.ofqual.gov.uk>

significant change in certifications in relation to all certifications. Tables and published data give details on all awarding organisations.

- Provide more analysis of the major growth areas.
- Present the number of certificates awarded by second-tier sector subject area.
- Include a table in the appendix covering the number of available qualifications by qualification level.

Ofqual will be unable to implement the following suggestions:

- Present data on graded qualifications – Ofqual does not collect information on certifications by grade achieved.
- Present data on the progression between award, certificate and diploma – Ofqual does not collect the necessary candidate-level data.
- Present the number of registrations as well as certificates – Ofqual collects the number of registrations from awarding organisations on a voluntary basis and does not have complete information.
- Present shared unit data – the data needed to carry out this analysis are not currently available.
- Present data broken down by regions within the UK – regional information is not mandatory as part of the data collection process and would add considerable burden to some awarding organisations.
- Present more information for the smaller awarding organisations on the state of the market – there are too many organisations to cover within the commentary but Ofqual does provide raw data for each qualification to enable users to do their own analysis.
- Present the breakdown of key awarding organisations in each sector based on the number of certificates – this is already published by Ofqual in the Annual Qualification Market Report.

The Skills Funding Agency's Individual Learner Record Database³³ and the Department for Education's National Pupil Database provide data on graded

³³ The Individualised Learner Record Database is the primary data collection on funded further education and work-based learning in England.

qualifications and data broken down by region. The latter also provides data on progression between award, certificate and diploma, and number of registrations.

Glossary of terms

A levels – also known as General Certificates of Education, are currently available as advanced level qualifications (A levels) and advanced subsidiary (AS). They are the main qualifications that young people use to gain entry to university.

Accreditation – a process by which Ofqual reviews and confirms that proposed qualifications meet specific criteria before they can be offered. Ofqual no longer requires all regulated qualifications to have been accredited.

Accredited qualification – this is an old term that is sometimes used to mean ‘regulated qualification’ (see below). Ofqual now allows awarding organisations to submit most qualifications for regulation without having been accredited, so it is strictly incorrect to refer to regulated qualifications as accredited.

Active qualification – a qualification where a certificate has been awarded.

Available qualification – a qualification eligible for an award or a qualification that has made an award even if it is no longer eligible (no longer available for students to enrol on). For the purpose of this release, a qualification is available until the certification end date or if an award has been certified during the reporting period.

Awarding organisation – an organisation recognised by Ofqual to develop, deliver and award qualifications.

Certificate/certification – a formal acknowledgement of a student’s achievement. This will be any award that is not graded as U, absent or X (fail).

Certification end date – the last date on which a student may be issued with a certificate of achievement for the qualification.

GCSEs – General Certificates of Secondary Education are the main school-leaving qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. They are available in a range of subjects and can be studied alongside other qualifications. They are generally sat by 15 to 18 year olds in schools and colleges but are open to anyone who wants to gain a qualification.

Level – qualifications are assigned a level from entry level, then Level 1 through to Level 8 (equivalent to a doctorate), indicating the broad level of demand of the qualification.

National vocational qualifications (NVQs) – work-related, competence-based qualifications that cover a broad range of industry sectors and occupations, and are delivered in a workplace setting.

Other general qualifications – qualifications that assess a particular subject area, such as music or art, other than GCSEs, AS and A levels. These qualifications are not directly work related but may support career development. They are often graded. The category also includes qualifications at Level 1/Level 2 certificates.

Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) – a set of regulatory rules for vocational qualifications that Ofqual has withdrawn from October 2015 in England and Northern Ireland.

Quarter – refers to calendar quarters. 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 to December.

Recognition – the formal process that Ofqual operates, whereby awarding organisations that wish to offer regulated qualifications can demonstrate that they meet Ofqual’s recognition criteria.³⁴ The scope of recognition is the qualifications or types of qualification that the awarding organisation is recognised to offer, which may be quite narrow or very broad. Recognition is a robust gateway into the regulated marketplace. Only applicants who meet the criteria in full will be recognised. Recognised organisations have to meet Ofqual’s Conditions of Recognition on an ongoing basis.

Register – the Register of Regulated Qualifications contains details of recognised awarding organisations and the regulated qualifications they offer.

Regulated qualification – a qualification that is offered by a recognised awarding organisation within the scope of its recognition. Regulated qualifications must be added to the Register of qualifications and have to meet Ofqual’s requirements. Some qualifications are subject to an accreditation requirement and have to be checked by the regulator before they can be offered as regulated qualifications.

Vocationally related qualifications – work-related, competence-based qualifications designed to give students the skills and knowledge they need to do a job. They are related to employment but, unlike NVQs, do not necessarily require a work placement.

³⁴ www.gov.uk/awarding-organisations-understanding-our-regulatory-requirements

Your feedback

Ofqual is conducting a rolling series of online surveys to help statistical releases meet your needs.

Ofqual would especially like to invite you to take part in the online survey for this release.

<https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1473109/vocational-and-other-qualifications-quarterly-v1>

It will take about ten minutes to complete. Your responses will remain entirely confidential in any reports published about the survey.

If you would like to take part in the survey, have any questions or would prefer a paper or large-type copy, please contact us at: statistics@ofqual.gov.uk.

Appendix

Table 1	Number of regulated vocational and other qualifications, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016
Table 2	Total number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016, showing certificates issued per quarter and per 12 months to quarter end
Table 3	Number of certificates issued for regulated vocational and other qualifications by type of qualification, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016
Table 4	The 50 awarding organisations that issued the highest number of certificates in vocational and other qualifications for the quarter April to June 2016 (April to June 2015 shown for comparison)
Table 5	Total number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications by level of qualification, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016
Table 6	The 50 qualifications with the most certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications for the quarter April to June 2016 (April to June 2015 shown for comparison)
Table 7	Total number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications by sector subject area, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016
Table 8	Total number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications by second-tier sector subject area, for the quarter April to June 2016 (April to June 2015 shown for comparison)
Table 9	England – the 50 awarding organisations with the highest number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications for July 2015 to June 2016
Table 10	Wales – the 50 awarding organisations with the highest number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications for July 2015 to June 2016
Table 11	Northern Ireland – the 50 awarding organisations with the highest number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications for July 2015 to June 2016

Table 1: Number of regulated vocational and other qualifications, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016

England, Wales & Northern Ireland

Period	Basic skills	English for speakers of other languages	Entry level	Free-standing mathematics qualification	Functional skills	Higher level	Key skills	National vocational qualification	Occupational qualification	Other general qualification	QCF	Vocationally related qualification	Total number of qualifications
Apr-Jun 2011	88	185	340	22	191	533	362	1,537	94	712	8,607	2,306	14,977
Jul-Sep 2011	88	185	362	22	203	506	377	1,518	94	754	9,622	2,277	16,008
Oct-Dec 2011	88	177	334	20	208	487	377	1,432	87	722	10,410	2,112	16,454
Jan-Mar 2012	88	183	321	20	208	447	377	1,349	86	693	11,045	2,003	16,820
Apr-Jun 2012	88	185	316	20	207	422	368	1,305	86	678	11,661	1,969	17,305
Jul-Sep 2012	88	186	319	20	206	418	368	1,282	86	752	12,605	1,957	18,287
Oct-Dec 2012	80	185	297	14	193	414	368	1,148	85	758	13,278	1,662	18,482
Jan-Mar 2013	80	190	292	14	202	411	368	939	77	739	14,142	1,401	18,855
Apr-Jun 2013	80	188	292	14	222	408	359	841	77	737	14,927	1,285	19,430
Jul-Sep 2013	80	189	296	14	232	405	359	788	71	785	16,291	1,268	20,778
Oct-Dec 2013	32	189	279	7	238	355	191	652	68	774	17,026	1,032	20,843
Jan-Mar 2014	22	191	274	7	237	221	165	391	20	740	17,345	579	20,192
Apr-Jun 2014	22	187	196	7	239	140	133	240	9	564	17,501	486	19,724
Jul-Sep 2014	22	189	195	14	239	144	135	197	1	598	18,742	514	20,990
Oct-Dec 2014	10	185	186	14	215	125	125	142	1	595	18,908	501	21,007
Jan-Mar 2015	10	195	165	14	215	109	116	94	1	559	19,141	424	21,043
Apr-Jun 2015	10	195	164	14	215	104	115	86		553	19,337	421	21,214
Jul-Sep 2015	12	186	194	14	215	108	113	84	5	663	20,019	527	22,140
Oct-Dec 2015	6	169	173	14	203	86	97	94	7	660	19,855	560	21,924
Jan-Mar 2016	4	142	175	14	221	81	91	48	11	664	19,668	557	21,676
Apr-Jun 2016	4	171	298	14	221	116	158	69	13	1100	28,541	894	31,599

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.

Table 2: Total number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016, showing certificates issued per quarter and per 12 months to quarter end

England, Wales and Northern Ireland		
Period	Total number of certificates issued	
	Quarter	12 months to quarter end
Apr – Jun 2011	1,911,100	7,863,450
Jul – Sep 2011	3,548,000	7,895,700
Oct – Dec 2011	1,271,400	7,997,800
Jan – Mar 2012	1,384,550	8,115,050
Apr – Jun 2012	2,116,500	8,320,400
Jul – Sep 2012	4,013,150	8,785,550
Oct – Dec 2012	1,345,250	8,859,400
Jan – Mar 2013	1,433,200	8,908,100
Apr – Jun 2013	2,463,950	9,255,550
Jul – Sep 2013	3,953,850	9,196,250
Oct – Dec 2013	1,283,550	9,134,550
Jan – Mar 2014	1,433,350	9,134,700
Apr – Jun 2014	2,163,750	8,834,450
Jul – Sep 2014	3,800,100	8,680,700
Oct – Dec 2014	1,281,600	8,678,800
Jan – Mar 2015	1,362,600	8,608,050
Apr – Jun 2015	1,892,700	8,337,000
Jul – Sep 2015	3,789,200	8,326,100
Oct – Dec 2015	1,132,000	8,176,500
Jan – Mar 2016	1,296,950	8,110,800
Apr – Jun 2016	1,641,450	7,859,600

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.
3. Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as zero~. Zero represent no achievements. Figures have been rounded independently so may not sum to the total.

Table 3: Number of certificates issued for regulated vocational and other qualifications by type of qualification, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016

England, Wales & Northern Ireland

Period	Basic Skills	English for Speakers of Other Languages	Entry Level	Free Standing Mathematics Qualification	Functional Skills	Higher Level	Key Skills	National Vocational Qualification	Occupational Qualification	Other General Qualification	QCF	Vocationally-Related Qualification	Total number of certificates
Apr – Jun 2011	175,300	53,750	22,500	0	156,050	3,900	130,600	128,600	3,600	128,800	722,300	385,750	1,911,100
Jul – Sep 2011	138,800	115,100	125,600	23,900	334,300	12,100	243,250	124,300	3,600	480,650	1,384,650	561,800	3,548,000
Oct – Dec 2011	99,650	52,250	3,450	0	70,600	4,000	108,300	51,000	2,000	17,050	807,250	55,850	1,271,400
Jan – Mar 2012	127,550	67,900	6,100	500	96,800	3,600	130,850	31,100	1,000	46,450	821,450	51,250	1,384,550
Apr – Jun 2012	151,200	61,250	14,450	0	192,050	2,500	180,800	22,600	700	70,000	1,225,900	195,050	2,116,500
Jul– Sep 2012	134,550	94,500	90,750	22,450	305,300	6,700	239,250	24,150	900	392,250	2,428,700	273,650	4,013,150
Oct – Dec 2012	33,450	45,750	3,100	0	87,250	2,000	107,900	11,750	250	16,400	1,016,250	21,100	1,345,250
Jan – Mar 2013	23,700	58,550	5,050	550	136,850	2,050	116,300	6,750	150	75,350	985,400	22,500	1,433,200
Apr – Jun 2013	23,800	74,750	16,700	500	256,500	1,350	137,000	5,150	100	76,700	1,728,700	142,600	2,463,950
Jul – Sep 2013	20,850	108,600	77,700	22,150	383,950	2,150	184,350	5,100	50	481,650	2,505,450	161,900	3,953,850
Oct – Dec 2013	1,850	41,800	4,600	0	153,800	1,650	8,250	3,000	50	29,400	1,026,700	12,400	1,283,550
Jan – Mar 2014	1,000	74,550	5,400	500	204,050	900	21,150	1,900	0~	90,200	1,020,800	12,950	1,433,350
Apr – Jun 2014	1,050	96,450	12,650	500	307,050	1,050	38,700	1,450	0~	89,700	1,539,600	75,500	2,163,750
Jul – Sep 2014	700	143,450	66,150	34,800	410,850	1,650	54,750	1,400	0	710,350	2,297,150	78,850	3,800,100
Oct – Dec 2014	50	62,400	3,400	0	163,050	1,650	3,100	1,000	0	31,300	1,007,500	8,150	1,281,600
Jan – Mar 2015	50	72,650	3,150	550	186,100	1,450	16,650	700	0~	93,700	981,050	6,650	1,362,600
Apr – Jun 2015	0~	51,350	7,900	550	299,750	1,250	32,600	600	0	137,300	1,349,100	12,300	1,892,700
Jul – Sep 2015	50	85,950	60,550	36,200	385,900	4,700	47,550	500	0	1,012,450	2,135,400	20,000	3,789,200
Oct – Dec 2015	0~	40,300	2,050	0	150,900	1,050	1,850	1,100	0	16,800	912,850	5,200	1,132,000
Jan – Mar 2016	0	52,850	2,300	450	158,600	2,950	15,700	200	0~	95,600	961,450	6,850	1,296,950
Apr – Jun 2016	0	55,100	6,900	450	236,350	3,350	15,400	250	0~	72,300	1,237,400	13,950	1,641,450

Notes:

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as 0~. Zero represent no achievements.

Figures have been rounded independently so may not sum to the total.

Table 4: The 50 awarding organisations that issued the highest number of certificates in vocational and other qualifications for the quarter April to June 2016 (April to June 2015 shown for comparison)

England, Wales & Northern Ireland	Total number of certificates issued (for the quarter)	
	Apr - Jun 2015	Apr - Jun 2016
Pearson Education Ltd	427,350	306,500
City and Guilds of London Institute	354,700	286,250
OCR	101,700	87,050
NCFE	77,550	62,750
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	74,550	60,150
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	27,050	59,900
Cambridge English Language Assessment	73,400	59,550
Trinity College London	44,850	59,300
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	70,200	57,050
Qualsafe Awards	38,350	44,750
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	73,800	44,350
WJEC-CBAC	56,600	29,800
First Aid Awards Ltd	23,100	27,500
LAMDA	8,100	20,450
NOCN	21,850	18,400
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Limited	19,850	17,950
Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing	15,300	15,600
Training Qualifications UK Ltd	12,450	15,250
Association of Accounting Technicians	13,350	14,850
Cskills Awards	16,100	14,600
1st4sport Qualifications	15,300	14,500
British Safety Council	9,500	12,950
BIAB	17,950	12,900
Royal Academy of Dance	11,550	12,100
AoFA Qualifications	9,500	11,950
Active IQ	11,250	11,300
Royal Society for Public Health	11,200	11,250
Sports Leaders UK	11,600	11,150
The Learning Machine	8,300	10,850
IQL	7,800	10,600
Skillsfirst Awards Ltd	7,950	9,050
University of West London	7,250	9,000
Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network	9,150	8,950
VTCT	9,650	8,900
Graded Qualifications Alliance	2,600	8,600
The Institute of the Motor Industry	10,250	8,500
Innovate Awarding	7,750	7,850
International Dance Teachers Association	6,250	7,750
AQA Education	9,300	6,600
Gateway Qualifications Limited	5,950	6,600
English Speaking Board (International) Ltd	4,250	6,150
Safety Training Awards	5,600	5,950
Rock School Ltd	5,400	5,750
Laser Learning Awards	3,650	4,800
Industry Qualifications	5,000	4,500
Future (Awards and Qualifications) Ltd	6,150	4,400
Chartered Insurance Institute	3,300	4,300
YMCA Awards	5,350	4,300
iCan Qualifications Limited	4,900	4,250
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	4,500	4,100

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.

Table 5: Total number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications by level of qualification, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016

England, Wales & Northern Ireland											Total number of achievements
Entry level	Level 1	Level 1/2	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Level 8		
Apr – Jun 2011	160,250	487,700	0	1,029,900	207,100	16,750	6,350	1,850	1,150	0~	1,911,100
Jul – Sep 2011	451,200	908,450	7,950	1,614,850	515,750	27,700	15,700	4,200	2,100	100	3,548,000
Oct – Dec 2011	115,450	361,550	0	621,000	146,900	15,100	6,950	1,550	2,850	50	1,271,400
Jan – Mar 2012	128,050	394,600	1,200	682,500	150,600	15,200	7,100	2,950	2,250	100	1,384,550
Apr – Jun 2012	185,850	561,550	0	1,121,050	221,000	16,500	6,950	1,500	2,050	50	2,116,500
Jul– Sep 2012	458,050	965,750	36,200	1,900,950	603,950	28,150	13,950	3,550	2,500	50	4,013,150
Oct – Dec 2012	122,850	403,050	0	634,200	158,100	16,400	6,500	2,400	1,700	50	1,345,250
Jan – Mar 2013	134,000	421,250	20,350	671,750	159,800	14,300	7,350	2,800	1,450	100	1,433,200
Apr – Jun 2013	223,350	620,850	0~	1,295,000	299,900	14,050	7,750	1,650	1,250	100	2,463,950
Jul – Sep 2013	452,200	954,950	138,650	1,728,100	632,150	26,150	14,850	4,050	2,700	100	3,953,850
Oct – Dec 2013	123,800	354,700	7,700	608,000	166,600	11,750	7,200	1,950	1,750	100	1,283,550
Jan – Mar 2014	163,000	361,200	29,950	681,900	176,250	11,800	6,600	1,500	1,050	50	1,433,350
Apr – Jun 2014	230,100	516,700	8,350	1,069,950	314,300	12,100	8,800	2,350	1,050	50	2,163,750
Jul – Sep 2014	463,700	794,500	381,000	1,439,450	673,850	22,900	18,750	4,050	1,850	50	3,800,100
Oct – Dec 2014	138,900	333,300	3,750	598,650	182,300	12,600	8,850	1,900	1,350	50	1,281,600
Jan – Mar 2015	148,400	325,500	46,100	629,000	187,400	12,050	9,750	2,700	1,600	100	1,362,600
Apr – Jun 2015	226,400	465,400	75,050	787,500	309,450	14,600	10,050	2,800	1,350	100	1,892,700
Jul – Sep 2015	467,550	715,600	752,050	1,112,150	687,100	29,700	17,150	5,750	2,050	100	3,789,200
Oct – Dec 2015	113,800	286,800	4,700	523,550	176,800	14,000	9,500	1,600	1,200	0~	1,132,000
Jan - Mar 2016	146,050	299,700	62,250	571,950	191,400	13,050	9,300	2,450	750	50	1,296,950
Apr - June 2016	209,500	390,050	32,200	691,300	285,750	17,650	9,700	4,350	950	0~	1,641,450

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, AS/A levels and the Diploma.
2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.
3. Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as zero~. Zero represent no achievements. Figures have been rounded independently so may not sum to the total.

Table 6: The 50 qualifications with the most certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications for the quarter April to June 2016 (April to June 2015 shown for comparison)

Qualification	Total number of certificates issued (for the quarter)	
	Apr – Jun 2015	Apr – Jun 2016
	England, Wales & Northern Ireland	
BCS Level 2 ECDL Certificate in IT Application Skills	11,900	50,650
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	35,300	29,100
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in Mathematics at Level 1	30,850	25,300
QA Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	20,900	23,500
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in Mathematics at Level 1	27,650	17,350
TCL Entry Level Certificate in ESOL International - Speaking and Listening (Entry)	7,500	16,900
FAA Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	14,150	15,350
Cambridge English Level 1 Certificate in English (IELTS 5.5-6.5) (ESOL)	14,900	14,450
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in English at Level 1	15,950	13,300
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in English at Level 1	20,050	12,700
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in Mathematics at Level 2	17,950	12,650
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Functional Skills Mathematics	24,000	12,450
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in English at Level 2	19,300	12,200
HABC Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	14,600	11,550
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in mathematics at Entry 3	12,950	10,900
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in English at Level 2	13,250	10,550
BSC Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (QCF)	5,800	9,600
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1)	16,450	8,950
QA Level 3 Award in First Aid at Work (QCF)	8,150	8,850
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in Mathematics at Entry 3	7,600	8,550
BIIAB Level 2 Award for Personal Licence Holders (QCF)	12,200	8,400
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Sport	11,650	7,800
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in Information and Communication	9,850	7,550
IQL Level 2 Award in Pool Lifeguarding, Intervention, Supervision and Rescue	5,650	7,450
Cambridge English Level 2 Certificate in English (IELTS 7.0-8.0) (ESOL)	7,550	7,300
HABC Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	8,950	7,250
AAT Level 2 Certificate In Accounting (QCF)	7,000	6,850
TQUK Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	5,400	6,800
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2)	11,750	6,750
Sports Leaders UK Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership (QCF)	6,800	6,650
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in Information and Communication	6,800	6,600
AOFAQ Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	5,450	6,550
CIEH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace (QCF)	8,550	6,550
CIEH Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	9,050	6,450
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in Information and Communication	7,450	6,200
City & Guilds Functional Skills qualification in English at Entry 3	6,600	6,150
QA Level 3 Award in Paediatric First Aid (QCF)	5,250	6,100
FAA Level 3 Award In First Aid at Work (QCF)	4,400	5,950
Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in Information and Communication	4,500	5,550
1st4sport Level 1 Award in Coaching Football (QCF)	5,250	5,400
Pearson BTEC Level 2 Award in Employment Responsibilities and Rights in	3,100	5,350
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3)	9,550	5,250
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Business	8,950	5,200
ABRSM Level 2 Award in Graded Examination in Music Theory (Grade 5) (QCF)	5,350	4,850
Pearson EDI Functional Skills qualification in English at Level 1	1,550	4,750
Cambridge English Entry Level Certificate in English (IELTS 4.0-5.0) (Entry 3) (ESOL)	5,300	4,750
TQUK Level 3 Award in First Aid at Work (QCF)	4,050	4,400
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Information and Creative	8,550	4,100
AAT Level 3 Diploma In Accounting (QCF)	3,650	3,950
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade	7,600	3,850

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as zero-. Zero represent no achievements.

Table 7: Total number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications by sector subject area, from April to June 2011 to April to June 2016

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 certificates issued
Apr – Jun 2011	172,950	45,900	37,500	98,600	50,550	179,850	170,250	126,850	206,400	3,100	100	74,250	24,650	584,900	135,150	1,911,100
Jul – Sep 2011	251,050	116,400	56,100	169,200	100,200	316,000	247,200	217,650	358,950	41,700	4,100	244,350	37,950	1,186,100	201,150	3,548,000
Oct – Dec 2011	140,350	1,900	20,500	79,500	36,300	48,150	170,300	70,550	126,000	550	250	43,800	17,000	407,650	108,650	1,271,400
Jan – Mar 2012	134,350	3,100	20,000	69,700	37,550	71,700	162,600	60,800	106,950	150	150	47,650	20,400	527,150	122,200	1,384,550
Apr – Jun 2012	191,200	45,050	27,100	87,450	53,000	189,850	177,050	130,850	222,550	50	50	73,100	22,300	744,150	152,700	2,116,500
Jul – Sep 2012	329,700	177,100	51,150	179,500	112,250	340,100	274,900	266,050	427,950	45,800	3,750	223,100	37,100	1,283,350	261,400	4,013,150
Oct – Dec 2012	175,400	1,950	18,050	81,500	42,150	58,300	159,650	81,150	131,800	250	100	29,750	18,850	423,700	122,600	1,345,250
Jan – Mar 2013	187,900	8,000	21,300	78,400	36,050	73,950	148,150	62,350	114,250	150	150	56,100	20,350	500,700	125,350	1,433,200
Apr – Jun 2013	289,750	82,450	30,000	101,550	58,200	201,150	182,000	176,350	258,250	150	50	84,700	23,800	782,000	193,600	2,463,950
Jul – Sep 2013	371,650	187,650	50,750	178,450	106,650	297,850	263,950	227,950	392,100	40,850	4,350	277,600	43,500	1,255,250	255,350	3,953,850
Oct – Dec 2013	221,700	4,950	16,800	74,650	36,200	52,100	146,050	71,100	131,500	50	0-	34,500	19,000	362,500	112,400	1,283,550
Jan – Mar 2014	259,300	5,450	17,900	74,350	33,350	59,600	140,300	59,650	101,350	100	100	67,150	19,950	472,100	122,700	1,433,350
Apr – Jun 2014	308,600	47,200	28,750	90,250	52,550	143,250	167,350	137,400	252,600	8,700	50	63,250	22,550	671,200	170,100	2,163,750
Jul – Sep 2014	393,500	267,650	48,000	161,900	110,400	258,700	233,900	207,300	397,050	24,450	6,250	310,400	38,200	1,100,200	242,200	3,800,100
Oct – Dec 2014	242,100	1,600	17,950	72,950	45,500	40,050	136,000	60,450	136,700	300	50	33,050	17,000	368,600	109,400	1,281,600
Jan – Mar 2015	259,800	12,250	19,400	73,150	47,600	48,900	133,600	51,550	107,750	550	100	78,200	17,600	413,550	98,600	1,362,600
Apr – Jun 2015	293,750	34,850	29,900	94,450	65,100	86,250	154,900	101,700	201,150	3,950	0-	42,850	20,650	626,750	136,400	1,892,700
Jul – Sep 2015	393,100	253,800	49,500	159,200	117,500	239,550	196,150	202,350	384,200	26,200	9,450	450,250	35,100	1,052,150	220,700	3,789,200
Oct – Dec 2015	235,450	2,050	18,550	69,350	48,650	34,700	118,600	57,300	123,700	500	50	23,800	16,250	304,350	78,700	1,132,000
Jan-Mar 2016	254,750	11,800	7,800	68,500	48,600	63,200	114,850	50,000	128,000	600	100	78,650	17,150	374,100	78,900	1,296,950
Apr-Jun 2016	281,800	11,850	24,500	82,150	65,550	106,300	133,350	86,850	186,050	1,450	0-	40,550	20,050	489,450	111,550	1,641,450

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

- Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
- Data are supplied by awarding organisations.

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as 0-. Zero represent no achievements. Figures have been rounded independently so may not sum to the total.

Table 8: Total number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications by second-tier sector subject area, for the quarter April to June 2016 (April to June 2015 shown for comparison)

Sector subject area	Total number of certificates issued	
	(for the quarter)	
	Apr – Jun 2015	Apr – Jun 2016
01.1 Medicine and dentistry	100	550
01.2 Nursing and subjects and vocations allied to medicine	1,300	1,000
01.3 Health and social care	242,450	239,500
01.4 Public services	32,500	28,150
01.5 Child development and well-being	17,400	12,600
02.1 Science	33,400	10,750
02.2 Mathematics and statistics	1,500	1,100
03.1 Agriculture	6,250	3,000
03.2 Horticulture and forestry	14,450	14,550
03.3 Animal care and veterinary science	7,650	6,350
03.4 Environmental conservation	1,500	550
04.1 Engineering	29,800	29,150
04.2 Manufacturing technologies	39,950	33,450
04.3 Transportation operations and maintenance	24,700	19,550
05.1 Architecture	0	0
05.2 Building and construction	65,100	65,550
05.3 Urban, rural and regional planning	0	0
06.1 ICT practitioners	29,600	21,300
06.2 ICT for users	56,650	85,000
07.1 Retailing and wholesaling	10,150	11,650
07.2 Warehousing and distribution	9,300	9,100
07.3 Service enterprises	30,850	26,300
07.4 Hospitality and catering	104,600	86,300
08.1 Sport, leisure and recreation	94,550	82,650
08.2 Travel and tourism	7,100	4,200
09.1 Performing arts	171,500	163,050
09.2 Crafts, creative arts and design	19,850	16,300
09.3 Media and communication	9,600	6,450
09.4 Publishing and information services	200	200
10.1 History	0	0
10.2 Archaeology and archaeological sciences	0	0
10.3 Philosophy	450	450
10.4 Theology and religious studies	3,550	1,000
11.1 Geography	0	0
11.2 Sociology and social policy	0~	0~
11.3 Politics	0	0
11.4 Economics	0	0
12.1 Languages, literature and culture of the British Isles	36,850	36,350
12.2 Other languages, literature and culture	6,050	4,200
12.3 Linguistics	0	0
13.1 Teaching and lecturing	11,250	10,700
13.2 Direct learning support	9,400	9,350
14.1 Foundations for learning and life	570,600	446,300
14.2 Preparation for work	56,150	43,100
15.1 Accounting and finance	25,650	28,550
15.2 Administration	45,300	28,150
15.3 Business management	59,400	46,050
15.4 Marketing and sales	2,350	4,550
15.5 Law and legal services	3,700	4,300

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as zero~. Zero represent no achievements.

Table 9: England – the 50 awarding organisations with the highest number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications for July 2015 to June 2016

England only	
Awarding organisation	Total number of certificates issued (for the 12 months to quarter end)
	Jul 2015 – Jun 2016
Pearson Education Ltd	1,549,800
City and Guilds of London Institute	1,061,850
OCR	383,450
NCFE	310,600
Cambridge International Examinations	291,850
Cambridge English Language Assessment	265,400
AQA Education	244,550
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	219,750
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	211,000
Trinity College London	206,550
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	199,450
Qualsafe Awards	157,500
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	152,550
First Aid Awards Ltd	96,150
NOCN	82,200
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Limited	77,700
LAMDA	64,250
Cskills Awards	61,600
Ascentis	55,750
1st4sport Qualifications	55,600
Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing	55,150
Training Qualifications UK Ltd	50,700
Sports Leaders UK	49,750
Gateway Qualifications Limited	49,200
BIIAB	48,900
The Institute of the Motor Industry	42,950
Active IQ	41,750
Royal Society for Public Health	41,600
VTCT	41,100
British Safety Council	40,850
Association of Accounting Technicians	40,450
Royal Academy of Dance	38,700
IQL	36,900
International Baccalaureate Organisation	36,150
AoFA Qualifications	35,400
Skillsfirst Awards Ltd	34,500
International Dance Teachers Association	31,200
Innovate Awarding	30,050
Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network	28,500
Rock School Ltd	26,200
The Learning Machine	25,400
ifs University College (previously known as ifs School of Finance)	24,350
University of West London	21,650
Laser Learning Awards	21,300
University of the Arts London	20,650
ABC Awards	19,950
Industry Qualifications	19,200
Future (Awards and Qualifications) Ltd	18,200
YMCA Awards	17,950
Safety Training Awards	17,850

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
 2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.
- Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as zero-. Zero represent no achievements.

Table 10: Wales – the 50 awarding organisations with the highest number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications for July 2015 to June 2016

Awarding organisation	Total number of certificates issued (for the 12 months to quarter end)	
	Jul 2015 – Jun 2016	
WJEC-CBAC		161,900
Pearson Education Ltd		103,050
City and Guilds of London Institute		97,800
OCR		31,550
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health		20,050
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance		19,750
Cambridge English Language Assessment		11,600
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music		10,950
Agored Cymru		8,650
Qualsafe Awards		8,450
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Limited		8,200
Trinity College London		7,150
AoFA Qualifications		5,350
VTCT		4,950
NCFE		4,350
Safety Training Awards		3,500
Cskills Awards		3,000
Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network		2,950
First Aid Awards Ltd		2,800
British Safety Council		2,600
Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing		2,250
AQA Education		2,250
The Institute of the Motor Industry		2,200
International Baccalaureate Organisation		2,100
Royal Academy of Dance		2,050
NOCN		1,850
1st4sport Qualifications		1,850
Sports Leaders UK		1,800
IQL		1,750
Association of Accounting Technicians		1,600
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT		1,550
Active IQ		1,500
ifs University College (previously known as ifs School of Finance)		1,450
University of West London		1,450
BIIAB		1,100
YMCA Awards		950
Rock School Ltd		700
Amateur Swimming Association		650
Future (Awards and Qualifications) Ltd		550
Equestrian Qualifications Limited		550
Scottish Qualifications Authority trading as SQA		550
ABC Awards		500
Chartered Management Institute		450
Prince's Trust		400
McDonalds		350
FDQ Limited		350
Chartered Institute of Legal Executives		350
British Ballet Organisation		300
Cambridge International Examinations		300
Engineering Construction Industry Training Board		300

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
 2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.
- Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as zero-. Zero represent no achievements.

Table 11: Northern Ireland – the 50 awarding organisations with the highest number of certificates issued in vocational and other qualifications for July 2015 to June 2016

Northern Ireland only	
Awarding organisation	Total number of certificates issued (for the 12 months to quarter end)
	Jul 2015 – Jun 2016
City and Guilds of London Institute	55,550
Pearson Education Ltd	22,250
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	20,500
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	16,450
OCR	10,950
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	9,650
Trinity College London	8,900
University of West London	6,250
Open College Network Northern Ireland	5,550
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	2,850
Cambridge English Language Assessment	2,350
AQA Education	2,250
Cskills Awards	2,150
New Era Academy of Drama and Music (London) Ltd	1,850
Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network	1,700
NCFE	1,650
Prince's Trust	1,550
NOCN	1,550
Active IQ	1,300
Qualsafe Awards	1,150
IQL	1,150
AoFA Qualifications	1,150
First Aid Awards Ltd	1,000
Rock School Ltd	1,000
ETC Awards Limited	1,000
VTCT	950
Royal Academy of Dance	850
Graded Qualifications Alliance	800
The Institute of the Motor Industry	750
Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body	700
BIAB	700
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	650
iCan Qualifications Limited	650
WSET Awards	600
Future (Awards and Qualifications) Ltd	550
Accounting Technicians Ireland	400
ProQual Awarding Body	400
FDQ Limited	400
YMCA Awards	350
ABC Awards	350
Sports Leaders UK	350
1st4sport Qualifications	300
Focus Awards Limited	300
Equestrian Qualifications Limited	300
Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing	300
Training Qualifications UK Ltd	300
Cambridge International Examinations	250
British Safety Council	250
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Limited	200
Safety Training Awards	200

Source: Regulated Qualifications Activity Database

Notes:

1. Vocational and other qualifications represent all regulated qualifications other than GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.
2. Data are supplied by awarding organisations.

Rounding: All figures are rounded to the nearest 50, values less than 25 will appear as zero~. Zero represent no achievements.

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