

Education & training qualification achievement rates 2015/2016

Guidance notes for the use of the qualification achievement-rate data extracts

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Section 1 - Introduction

Purpose of this document

1. This document provides information about the 2015/2016 education & training qualification achievement-rate provider data extracts and how the included aims dataset can be pivoted to show achievement rate, pass rate and retention rate for the fields on the dataset. These include those that are shown in the achievement rates dashboard. It also provides information about where the data in the datasets comes from.

Purpose of qualification achievement rates

2. Qualification achievement rates help training providers to assess the quality of the courses they provide, and the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) uses them in their inspections. The data feeds into minimum standards, which we use to identify and manage underperformance.

Purpose of minimum standards

- 3. We use the minimum standards to assess whether a training provider is delivering provision that makes efficient and effective use of public funds.
- 4. We will take action if a training provider's performance is below the minimum standard. The action we will take is set out in our Approach to Intervention document (at www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-when-and-how-the-sfa-will-formally-intervene-with-providers).

Availability of qualification achievement rate provider data extracts

5. The qualification achievement rates provider data extracts will be provisionally released on the Hub no later than 22 December 2016. They will be confirmed as final following the publication of the National QAR data in the Statistical First Release.

Distribution of qualification achievement rate provider data extracts

- 6. Qualification achievement rates provider data extracts are available for each provider of education & training that receives funding from us. Providers download their own provider data extracts, in a zipped file, from the Hub. The zipped file contains three files relating to education & training.
 - A file containing details of all learning aims relating to this provider that were expected to complete, or that actually completed, in 2013/2014, 2014/2015 or 2015/2016, that are included in the qualification achievement rate calculations (subject to the value in the QAR_Status_Overall and QAR_Status_Timely columns)
 - ii. A file containing details for all learning aims relating to this provider that were expected to complete, or that actually completed, in 2013/2014, 2014/2015 or 2015/2016, but that were excluded from the qualification achievement-rate calculations.
 - iii. This document.

Exclusions from qualification achievement rates

7. Some learning aims are not included in calculations of the qualification achievement rates. The main reasons for exclusion are as follows.

- a) Aims where the learner has withdrawn within the funding qualifying period, and the learning aim is not achieved.
- b) Aims where a learner has transferred to a different learning aim with the same provider or is on a planned break.
- c) Aims where a learner transferred to a new provider due to intervention by us or the Education Funding Agency.
- d) Aims that are not funded by us or the Education Funding Agency.
- e) Aims that are key skills aims.
- f) Aims that are innovation code learning aims.

Full details on all exclusions are given in the education & training dataset production and data definitions document (at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfaqualification-achievement-rate-2015-to-2016-formerly-qsr).

Provider mergers and changes to learner reference numbers

8. Any mergers of further-education colleges, and changes to learner reference numbers, reported to us by 25 October 2016 using the learner reference number mapping document, or recorded in the 2013/2014, 2014/2015 or 2015/2016 ILR, have been applied to the final datasets.

Further Information

9. If you need more information you can phone the service desk on 0370 267 0001 or email servicedesk@sfa.bis.gov.uk . Please provide a detailed explanation of your query.

Section 2 – Qualification achievement-rate and minimum-standards calculations

Calculating qualification achievement-rate, pass-rate and retention-rate percentages

- 10. The fields from the qualification achievement-rates provider data extract that are used in calculating overall qualification achievement, pass and retention rates are as follows.
 - Hybrid_End_Year
 This field is the actual learning end year (Actual_End_Year), the expected learning end year (Expected_End_Year) or the reporting year (Year_Aim_Submitted) whichever is later.
 - Overall_Leaver
 This field indicates whether a learning aim has ended (a learning aim has ended if a learning actual end date is present). Learning aims where Overall_Leaver is 1 are included in the overall qualification achievement-rate calculations.
 - Overall_Achiever
 This field indicates whether a learning aim has been achieved (achieved learning aims have a Learning Outcome of 1 or 7).
 - Overall_Completer
 This field indicates whether a learning aim has been successfully completed (successfully completed learning aims have a Completion Status of 2).
 - QAR_Status_Overall

This indicates whether or not the record is included in the provider's education and training overall qualification achievement-rate calculations. Included aims have a setting of 'QAR Inclusions'.

11. For a given hybrid end year, the **overall** qualification achievement-rate percentage is calculated as follows. Number of learning aims that have been achieved X 100 Number of learning aims that have ended In terms of the fields on the provider data extract, for a given hybrid end year (Hybrid End Year) the overall qualification achievement-rate percentage is calculated as follows. Number of learning aims where Overall Achiever is 1 And QAR_Status Overall = 'QAR Inclusions' X 100 Number of learning aims where Overall_Leaver is 1 And QAR_Status_Overall = 'QAR Inclusions' 12. For a given hybrid end year, the overall pass rate is calculated as follows. Number of learning aims that have been achieved X 100 Number of learning aims that have been successfully completed In terms of the fields on the provider data extract, for a given hybrid end year (Hybrid_End_Year), the overall pass-rate percentage is calculated as follows. Number of learning aims where Overall_Achiever is 1 And QAR Status Overall = 'QAR Inclusions' X 100 Number of learning aims where Overall_Completer is 1

13. For a given hybrid end year, the overall retention rate is calculated as follows.

And QAR Status Overall = 'QAR Inclusions'

Number of learning aims that have successfully completed

X 100

Number of learning aims that have ended

In terms of the variables on the provider data extract, for a given hybrid end year

(Hybrid_End_Year), the overall retention-rate percentage is calculated as follows.

Number of learning aims where Overall_Completer is 1

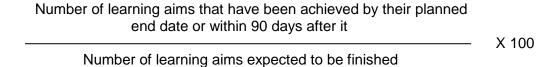
And QAR_Status_Overall = 'QAR Inclusions'

X 100

Number of learning aims where Overall_Leaver is 1

And QAR Status overall = 'QAR Inclusions'

- 14. The fields from the provider data extract that are used in calculating timely qualification achievement rates are as follows.
 - Expected_End_Year
 This field is the first calendar year of the academic period which the Learning
 Planned End Date falls in.
 - Timely_Leaver
 This field indicates whether a learning aim has been included in the qualification achievement-rate calculation. Learning aims where Timely_Leaver is 1 are included in the overall qualification achievement-rate calculations.
 - Timely_Achiever
 This field indicates whether a learning aim has been achieved.
 - QAR_Status_Timely
 This indicates whether or not the record is included in the provider's education and training timely qualification achievement-rate calculations. Included aims have a setting of 'QAR Inclusions'.
- 15. For a given expected end year the **timely** qualification achievement-rate percentage is calculated as follows.



In terms of the fields on the provider data extract, for a given expected end year (Expected_End_Year) the timely qualification achievement-rate percentage is calculated as follows.

Number of learning aims where Timely_Achiever is 1
And QAR_Status_Timely = 'QAR Inclusions'

X 100

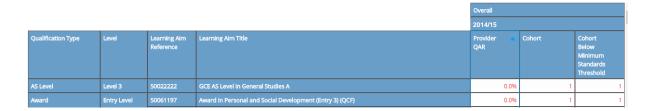
Number of learning aims where Timely_Leaver is 1
And QAR Status Timely = 'QAR Inclusions'

16. Pass rate and retention rate are not calculated for the timely measure.

Calculating the percentage of the cohort below the minimum standard threshold

- 17. Minimum standards use the overall qualification achievement rate and uses data for 2015/2016 only.
- 18. In the qualification achievement rates dataset an aim has been classified as below minimum standards if Leaver_Below_MS_Threshold is 1.
- 19. The first stage in working out the percentage of provision that is below minimum standards is to identify whether the 19+ age band's overall qualification achievement rate for individual learning aim references is below the minimum standards threshold for the qualification type (for example, A-level, Diploma).

20. If the 19+ age band's qualification achievement rate of a learning aim reference is below the minimum standard threshold, all the cohort for that learning aim reference are classified as being below the minimum standards threshold. The cohort number and the qualification achievement rate are highlighted in red in the minimum standards aim details page of the QAR dashboard. An example of this is shown below.



21. The table below shows the minimum standards tolerance for each qualification type.

Qualification type	Minimum standards threshold
Access to HE	70%
A-levels	75%
AS-levels	63%
Award	80%
Basic skills maths and English	63%
Certificate	80%
Diploma	70%
ESOL	70%
GCSE maths and English	75%
GCSE other	75%
QCF unit	85%
Other regulated	70%
Other non-regulated	85%

- 22. The cohort below the minimum standard threshold are then added together to give a figure for the total cohort below the minimum standards threshold for the provider.
- 23. The percentage of the cohort below the minimum standard threshold is then calculated as follows.

The total cohort below the minimum standard threshold	V 400
The total cohort for the provider	X 100

- 24. The percentage of the cohort below the minimum standard threshold is then compared to the minimum standards tolerance level, which is 40%.
- 25. If the percentage of the cohort below the minimum standard threshold is equal to or greater than the minimum standards tolerance, the provider's provision is below minimum standards and there may be formal intervention by us, as set out in the Approach to Intervention process (at www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-when-and-how-the-sfa-will-formally-intervene-with-providers).
- 26. When provision is below minimum standards, the total percentage of the cohort below the minimum standards threshold highlighted in red on the summary page of the QAR dashboard. An example of this is shown below.

Minimum Standards	Cohort	Below Threshold	% Below Threshold
Apprenticeships	1,562	658	4 2.1%
Education & Training	8,294	4875	5 8.7%

27. These calculations are illustrated in the two scenarios below.

In these scenarios, a training provider only delivers three level-2 qualifications. These qualifications are:

50098160: Diploma in Vehicle Fitting Principles (QCF)

50098184: Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles (QCF)

50098366; NVQ Diploma in Performing Engineering Operations (QCF)

Scenario 1 – The percentage of the cohort below the minimum standards threshold is less than the minimum standards tolerance.

				Overall		
				2014/15		
Qualification Type	Level	Learning Aim Reference	Learning Aim Title	Provider QAR		Cohort Below Minimum Standards Threshold
Diploma	Level 2	50098160	Diploma in Vehicle Fitting Principles (QCF)	51.3%	40	40
Diploma	Level 2	50098184	Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles (QCF)	73.6%	111	0
Diploma	Level 2	50098366	NVQ Diploma in Performing Engineering Operations (QCF)	85.3%	56	0

In this scenario, the qualification achievement rate of only one of the three learning aim references (50098160: Diploma in Vehicle Fitting Principles) falls below the minimum standard threshold for Diploma, which is 70%. The 40 cohort for this learning aim are classified as cohort below the minimum standards threshold.

The percentage of the cohort below the minimum standards for this provider is calculated as follows.

The total cohort below the minimum standard threshold

X 100

The total cohort for the provider

In this scenario, the percentage is equal to 40 divided by 207, which is 19.3%.

In this scenario, the percentage of the provider's provision that is below the minimum standards threshold is less than the minimum standard tolerance of 40%, so we will take no action.

Scenario 2 – The percentage of the cohort below the minimum standards threshold is more than the minimum standards tolerance.

				Overall		
				2014/15		
Qualification Type	Level	Learning Aim Reference	Learning Aim Title	Provider QAR		Cohort Below Minimum Standards Threshold
Diploma	Level 2	50098160	Diploma in Vehicle Fitting Principles (QCF)	51.3%	40	40
Diploma	Level 2	50098184	Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles (QCF)	73.6%	111	0
Diploma	Level 2	50098366	NVQ Diploma in Performing Engineering Operations (QCF)	65.3%	56	56

In this scenario, the qualification achievement rate of two of the three learning aim references (50098160: Diploma in Vehicle Fitting Principles and 50098366: NVQ Diploma in Performing Engineering Operations) fall below the minimum standard threshold for Diploma, which is 70%. The 96 cohort for these learning aims are classified as cohort below the minimum standards threshold.

The percentage of the cohort below the minimum standards for this provider is calculated as follows.

The total cohort below the minimum standard threshold

The total cohort for the provider

X 100

In this scenario, the percentage is equal to 96 divided by 207, which is 46.4%.

In this scenario, the percentage of the provider's provision that is below the minimum standards threshold is more than the minimum standard tolerance of 40%, so we will take action as set out in the Approach to Intervention process.

Section 3 –Data file contents

Extract of qualification achievement-rate data used for producing the QAR dashboard

- 28. The data used to work out and report on qualification achievement rates is provided as a CSV file. The file contains all the provider's learning aims that are included in the qualification achievement rate dashboard.
- 29. The file contains the following data fields.

Data field in included aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
Provision_Type	Type of provision in the file.	Set to 'E & T'.
CL_WPL	Indicates whether the aim is a classroom learning aim or a workplace learning aim.	Set to 'CL' or 'WPL'.
UKPRN	UK provider reference number (UKPRN).	UKPRN
Learner_Reference	Learner reference number.	LearnRefNumber

Data field in included aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
ULN	The unique learner number.	ULN
Academic_Year	The academic year.	Set to 2015/16.
Data_Source	The source of the record on the qualification achievement-rates dataset, which is the ILR or the LEOP dataset.	Set to 'ILR' .
Age_Group	A banding of the learner's age used for reporting.	Set to '16-18' or '19+'
Ethnicity	The learner's ethnic background.	Ethnicity
Sex	The learner's sex.	Sex
Learning_Difficulties	Indicates whether the learner considers that they have a learning difficulty, disability or health problem.	LLDDHealthProb
PrimaryLLDD	The primary learner disability, learning difficulty or and heath problem of the learner.	PrimaryLLDD
Free_Meals	Indicates that the learner is eligible for free meals, or is eligible and receiving free meals. 19+ learners are not eligible for free meals.	FreeMeals
EFA_Direct_Funded	Indicates that the learning aim has been funded by the Education Funding Agency in the year of the latest ILR returned for the learning aim.	EFA_Direct_Funded. Set to 1 if the aim is directly funded by the EFA, otherwise set to 0.
PriorAttain	The learner's prior attainment level. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification, which is available from the Skills Funding Agency website (at https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/skills-funding-agency).	PriorAttain
Completion_Status	The completion status of the learning aim. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	CompStatus
Learning_Outcome	The learning outcome of the learning aim. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	Outcome
Outcome_Grade	The learning outcome grade of the learning aim.	OutGrade
Withdrawal_Reason	The reason learning ended. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	WithdrawalReason
Achievement_Rate_Status	The status of the learning aim for calculating qualification achievement rates. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the 2014/2015 education and training dataset production specification (at Education and training QAR production specification 2015 to 2016 at (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-qualification-achievement-rate-2015-to-2016-formerly-qsr)	D_AchieveRateStatus

Data field in included aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
Overdue_Continuing_Aim	Indicates whether the aim is an overdue continuing aim.	Overdue_Continuing_Ai m
Overdue_Planned_Break	Indicates whether the aim is an overdue planned break.	Overdue_Planned_Break
Software_Supplier_Aim_ID	System generated globally unique identifier for the learning aim to enable data included on reports created by FIS and the Hub to be matched back to data in provider MIS.	SWSupAimID
Learning_Aim_Reference	The learning aim reference.	LearnAimRef
Learning_Aim_Description	The learning aim description.	LearnAimRefTitle
Programme_Type	The type of programme which the learner is undertaking. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	ProgType
Aim_Type	The type of aim. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	AimType
Map_Code	A code used to group learning aims together for the purpose of analysis.	SuccRateMAPCode
Map_Code_Desc	Map code description.	SuccRateMAPCodeDesc
Notional_NVQ_Level	A level on the NVQ scale.	NotionalNVQLevel
Qualification_Type Maths_English	A categorisation of learning aims. The categories are: Access to HE A-levels AS-levels Basic skills maths and English Certificate Diploma GCSE maths and English GCSE other Award ESOL QCF unit Other regulated Indicates whether a learning aim is a	Qualification_Size Maths_English.
Maths_English	mathematics or English learning aim. Only set for qualification types of 'GCSE Maths and English' and 'Basic Skills Maths and English'.	Set to 'E' or 'M'.
Report_Level	 The levels used on the qualification achievement-rate dashboard. Set to 'Entry and Level 1' if NotionalNVQLevel is 1 or E. Set to 'Level 2' if NotionalNVQLevel is 2. Set to 'Level 3' if NotionalNVQLevel is 3. Set to 'Level 4 or Higher' if NotionalNVQLevel is 4, 5 or H. Set to 'Level Unknown' if NotionalNVQLevel is M, U or X. 	Derived from NotionalNVQLevel.

Data field in included aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
Full_Level_2	Identifies whether the learning aim is a full level 2.	D_Fulllevel2. Set to 1 if the aim is a full level 2, otherwise set to 0.
Full_Level_3	Identifies whether the learning aim is a full level 3.	D_Fullllevel3. Set to 1 if the aim is a full level 3, otherwise set to 0.
Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_1	Sector subject area – the broad (tier 1) classification of the subject of the learning aim.	SectSubAreaTier1 plus the description of the SSA tier 1
Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_2	The more specialised (tier 2) classification of the subject of the learning aim.	SectSubAreaTier2 plus the description of the SSA tier 2
Subcontractor_UKPRN	The UKPRN of the subcontractor delivering this learning aim.	Subcontractor_UKPRN
Subcontractor_Name	The subcontractor's name.	Subcontractor_Name
Learner_Home_Postcode	The learner's home postcode.	L_PriorPcode
Learner_Home_Region	The name of the region which contains the learner's home postcode.	L_PriorPcode_GOR
Learner_Home_LA	The name of the local authority district which contains the learner's home postcode.	L_PriorPcode_LocalAuth ority
Delivery_Location_Postcode	The postcode of the delivery location.	DelLocPostCode
Delivery_Region	The name of the region which contains the delivery location postcode.	Derived from DelLocPostCode_GOR
Delivery_LA	The name of the local authority district which contains the delivery location postcode.	Derived from DelLocPostCode_LocalA uthority
Year_Aim_Submitted	The academic year which the aim was submitted in.	YearAimSubmitted
Learning_Start_Date	The date the learning began.	LearnStartDate
Learning_Planned_End_Date	The date the learning aim is due to be completed.	LearnPlanEndDate
Learning_Actual_End Date	The date the learning aim was actually completed.	LearnActEndDate
Actual_End_Year	Actual end year – the academic year the learning aim was actually completed in. The field contains only the first year in an academic year. For instance 2012 refers to academic year 2012/13.	P_Actendyr
Expected_End_Year	Expected end year – the academic year the learning aim is expected to be completed in. The field contains only the first year in an academic year. For instance 2013 refers to academic year 2013/14.	P_Expendyr.
Hybrid_End_Year	Hybrid end year, which is the expected end year, the actual end year or reporting year, whichever is later. The field contains only the first year in an academic year. For instance 2014 refers to academic year 2014/15.	P_Hybridendyr
Overall_Leaver	For the overall qualification achievement-rate measure, this indicates whether the learning	P_Count_Overall

Data field in included aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
	aim counts towards the overall qualification achievement rate.	
	If Overall_Leaver is 1 and QAR_Status_Overall is 'QAR Inclusions', the learning aim counts towards the overall qualification achievement rate.	
Overall_Achiever	For the overall qualification achievement-rate measure, this indicates whether the learning aim has been achieved.	P_Ach_Overall
	If Overall_Leaver is 1 and QAR_Overall_Status is 'QAR Inclusions', the learning aim has been achieved.	
Overall_Completer	For the overall qualification achievement-rate measure, this indicates that the learning aim has been completed.	P_Complete_Overall
	If Overall_Completer is 1 and QAR_Overall_Status is 'QAR Inclusions', the learning aim has been completed.	
Leaver_Below_MS_Threshold	This indicates whether the overall qualification achievement rate for a learning aim is lower than the minimum standards threshold.	This is derived, as described in paragraphs 17 to 25.
	If Leaver_Below_MS_Threshold is 1 and QAR_Status_Overall is 'QAR Inclusions', the overall qualification achievement rate for the learning aim is below the minimum standards threshold.	
Timely_Leaver	For the timely qualification achievement-rate measure, this indicates whether the learning aim should be counted towards the timely qualification achievement rate.	P_Count_Timely
	If Timely_Leaver is 1 and QAR_Status_Timely is 'QAR Inclusions', the learning aim will be counted towards the timely qualification achievement rate.	
Timely_Achiever	For the timely qualification achievement-rate measure, this indicates whether the learning aim has been achieved.	P_Ach_Timely
	If Timely_Leaver is 1 and QAR_Status_Timely is 'QAR Inclusions', the learning aim has been achieved.	
QAR_Status_Overall	Indicates whether or not the record is included in the provider's education and training overall qualification achievement-rate calculations. Either 'QAR Inclusions' or 'QAR Exclusions'	QAR_Status_Overall
QAR_Status_Timely	Indicates whether or not the record is included in the provider's education and training timely qualification achievement-rate calculations. Either 'QAR Inclusions' or 'QAR Exclusions'	QAR_Status_Timely

Learning aims excluded from qualification achievement rates

- 30. The data not used to work out qualification achievement rates is provided as a CSV file. The file contains all the learning aims that are not included in the qualification achievement-rate calculations.
- 31. The file contains the following data fields.

Data field in excluded aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
Provision_Type	The type of provision in the file.	Set to 'E & T'.
CL_WPL	Indicates whether the aim is a classroom learning aim or a workplace learning aim.	Set to 'CL' or 'WPL'.
UKPRN	UK provider reference number (UKPRN).	UKPRN
Learner_Reference	Learner reference number.	LearnRefNumber
ULN	Unique learner number.	ULN
Academic_Year	The academic year.	Set to 2015/16.
Data_Source	The source of the record on the qualification achievement-rates dataset, which is the ILR dataset.	Set to 'ILR'.
Age_Group	A banding of the learner's age used for reporting.	Set to '16-18' or '19+'
Ethnicity	The learner's ethnic background.	Ethnicity
Sex	The learner's sex.	Sex
Learning_Difficulties	Indicates whether the learner considers that they have a learning difficulty, disability or health problem.	LLDDHealthProb
PrimaryLLDD	The primary learner disability, learning difficulty or and heath problem of the learner.	PrimaryLLDD
Free_Meals	Indicates that the learner is eligible for free meals, or is eligible and receiving free meals. 19+ learners are not eligible for free meals.	FreeMeals
EFA_Direct_Funded	Indicates that the learning aim has been funded by the Education Funding Agency in the year of the latest ILR returned for the learning aim.	EFA_Direct_Funded. Set to 1 if the aim is directly funded by the EFA, otherwise set to 0.
PriorAttain	The learner's prior attainment level. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification, which is available from the Skills Funding Agency website (at https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/skills-funding-agency).	PriorAttain
Completion_Status	The completion status of the learning aim. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	CompStatus
Learning_Outcome	The learning outcome of the learning aim. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	Outcome
Outcome_Grade	The learning outcome grade of the learning aim.	OutGrade

Data field in excluded aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
Withdrawal_Reason	The reason learning ended. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	WithdrawalReason
Achievement_Rate_Status	The status of the learning aim for calculating qualification achievement rates. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the Education and training QAR production specification 2015 to 2016 at (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sf a-qualification-achievement-rate-2015-to-2016-formerly-qsr)	D_AchieveRateStatus
Overdue_Continuing_Aim	Indicates whether the aim is an overdue continuing aim.	Overdue_Continuing_Ai m
Overdue_Planned_Break	Indicates whether the aim is an overdue planned break.	Overdue_Planned_Brea k
Software_Supplier_Aim_ID	The status of the learning aim for calculating qualification achievement rates.	SWSupAimID
Learning_Aim_Reference	The learning aim reference.	LearnAimRef
Learning_Aim_Description	The learning aim description.	LearnAimRefTitle
Programme_Type	The type of programme which the learner is undertaking. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	ProgType
Aim_Type	The type of aim. This field holds a code. The description of the code can be found in the ILR specification.	AimType
Map_Code	A code used to group learning aims together for the purpose of analysis.	SuccRateMAPCode
Map_Code_Desc	Map code description.	SuccRateMAPCodeDesc
Notional_NVQ_Level	A level on the NVQ scale.	NotionalNVQLevel
Qualification_Type	A categorisation of learning aims. The categories are: Access to HE A-levels AS-levels Basic skills maths and English Certificate Diploma GCSE maths and English GCSE other Award ESOL QCF unit Other regulated Other non-regulated	Qualification_Size
Maths_English	Indicates whether a learning aim is a mathematics or English learning aim. Only set for qualification types of 'GCSE Maths and English' and 'Basic Skills Maths and English'.	Maths_English

Data field in excluded aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
Report_Level	The levels used on the qualification achievement rate dashboard.	Derived from NotionalNVQLevel.
	 Set to 'Entry and Level 1' if NotionalNVQLevel is 1 or E. Set to 'Level 2' if NotionalNVQLevel is 2. Set to 'Level 3' if NotionalNVQLevel is 3. Set to 'Level 4 or Higher' if NotionalNVQLevel is 4, 5 or H. Set to 'Level Unknown' if NotionalNVQLevel is M, U or X. 	
Full_Level_2	Indicates whether the learning aim is a full level 2.	D_Fulllevel2. Set to 1 if the aim is a full level 2, otherwise set to 0.
Full_Level_3	Indicates whether the learning aim is a full level 3.	D_Fullllevel3. Set to 1 if the aim is a full level 3, otherwise set to 0.
Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_1	Sector subject area – the broad (tier 1) classification of the subject of the learning aim.	SectSubAreaTier1 plus the description of the SSA tier 1.
Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_2	The more specialised (tier 2) classification of the subject of the learning aim.	SectSubAreaTier2 plus the description of the SSA tier 2.
Subcontractor_UKPRN	The UKPRN of the subcontractor delivering this learning aim.	Subcontractor_UKPRN
Subcontractor_Name	The subcontractor's name.	Subcontractor_Name
Learner_Home_Postcode	The learner's home postcode.	L_PriorPcode
Learner_Home_Region	The name of the region which contains the learner's home postcode.	L_PriorPcode_GOR
Learner_Home_LA	The name of the local authority district which contains the learner's home postcode.	L_PriorPcode_LocalAuth ority
Delivery_Location_Postcode	The postcode of the delivery location.	DelLocPostCode
Delivery_Region	The name of the region which contains the delivery location postcode.	Derived from DelLocPostCode_GOR
Delivery_LA	The name of the local authority district which contains the delivery location postcode.	Derived from DelLocPostCode_LocalA uthority
Year_Aim_Submitted	The academic year which the aim was submitted in.	YearAimSubmitted
Learning_Start_Date	The date the learning began.	LearnStartDate
Learning_Planned_End_Date	The date the learning aim is due to be completed.	LearnPlanEndDate
Learning_Actual_End_Date	The date the learning aim was actually completed.	LearnActEndDate
Actual_End_Year	Actual end year – the academic year the learning aim was actually completed in. The field contains only the first year in an academic year. For instance 2012 refers to academic year 2012/13.	P_Actendyr
Expected_End_Year	Expected end year – the academic year the	P_Expendyr

Data field in excluded aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
	learning aim is expected to be completed in. The field contains only the first year in an academic year. For instance 2013 refers to academic year 2013/14.	
Hybrid_End_Year	Hybrid end year, which is the expected end year, the actual end year or the reporting year, whichever is later. The field contains only the first year in an academic year. For instance 2014 refers to academic year 2014/15.	P_Hybridendyr
The following fields identify the reasons why the learning aim was not included in the qualification achievement-rate calculations. A learning aim can be excluded for several reasons.		
Add_Unit_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is an Additional Unit aim.	Add_Unit_Excl
CL_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is funded by the Community Learning budget.	CL_Excl
Component_Aim_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a component aim that is not included in qualification achievement rates.	Component_Aim_Excl
Diagnostic_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a Diagnostic Test aim.	Diagnostic_Excl
Diploma_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a programme aim, such as those used for Diplomas and Programme-led Pathways.	Diploma_Excl
ESF_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is funded by the European Social Fund.	ESF_Excl
FirstSteps_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a First Steps or Formal First Steps aim.	FirstSteps_Excl
FoundationLearningWeekly_ Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a Foundation Learning Weekly aim.	FoundationLearning Weekly_Excl
Fund_Qual_Excl	Indicates that the learner has withdrawn from a learning aim before the qualifying number of days for funding has been met.	Fund_Qual_Excl
Innovation_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is an Innovation Code aim.	Innovation_Excl
JIP_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a Joint Investment Programme aim.	JIP_Excl
JSA_ESA_UC_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is for a learner claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) or Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) in the work-related activity group (WRAG) and cannot continue their learning through to completion because they have started working.	JSA_ESA_UC_Excl
KeySkills_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a Key Skills aim.	KeySkills_Excl
LLDD_Placement_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is funded by the LLDD Placement budget.	LLDD_Placement_Excl
Non_Reg_ESOL_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a non-regulated ESOL funding aim.	Non_Reg_ESOL_Excl
Not_Funded_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is not funded. Learning aims financed by a 24+ advanced	Not_Funded_Excl

Data field in excluded aims file	Description	Data item on the qualification achievement-rate dataset
	learning loan are considered as funded.	
Pilot_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is learning technologies pilot aim or a work skills aim.	Pilot_Excl
Sup_Intern_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a Supported Internship.	Sup_Intern_Excl
Traineeship_Excl	Indicates that the learner is on a traineeship and cannot continue their learning through to completion because they have started work.	Traineeship_Excl
Tutorial_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a Tutorial Support and Complementary Studies aim.	Tutorial_Excl
UC_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is for a learner who is receiving Universal Credit and has to take skills training.	UC_Excl
Unitisation_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a Unitisation qualification.	Unitisation_Excl
Work_Exp_Excl	Indicates that the learning aim is a work-experience or work-placement aim.	Work_Exp_Excl

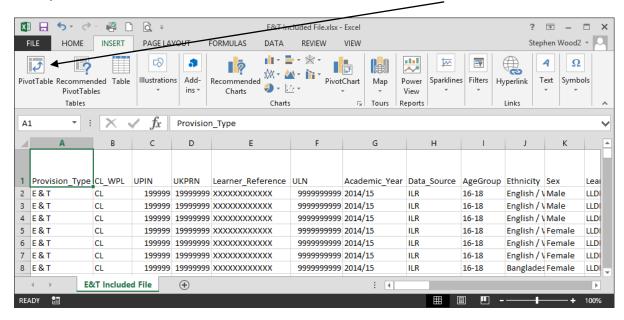
Section 4 – Analysing Achievement Rates using an Excel Pivot Table

Updating the provider data extract files to replace codes with descriptions

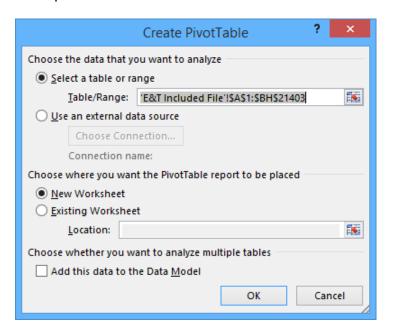
- 32. Some fields on the provider data extract file contain codes instead of descriptions. To make the contents of these fields easier to understand when shown in the pivot table the codes should be replaced by a description. Refer to the ILR specification, which is available from the Skills Funding Agency website (at https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/skills-funding-agency).
- 33. Fields where codes could be replaced by a description are:
 - The Full_Level_2 field, which contains values of 1 and 0. 1 should be replaced by 'Full level 2' and 0 should be replaced by 'Not full level 2'.
 - The Full_Level_3 field, which contains values of 1 and 0. 1 should be replaced by 'Full level 3' and 0 should be replaced by 'Not full level 3'.
 - The **Maths_English** field, which contains the values 'E' and 'M'. 'E' should be replaced by 'English' and 'M' should be replaced by 'Mathematics'.
- 34. The **Expected_End_Year** and **Hybrid_End_Year** only contain the first year of an academic year, for example 2013. The year should be replaced by the full year name, for example, 2013 should be replaced by 2013/14.

Creating an achievement rates pivot table in Microsoft Excel

- 35. In order to view achievement rates, pass rates and retention rates using the data on the provider data extract file it is necessary to create a pivot table in Excel. The steps required to do this are shown below.
- 36. The provider data extract file is in csv format. In order to create a pivot table the file must be opened in Microsoft Excel and saved as an Excel file.
- 37. Open the Excel format file and select 'Pivot Table' from the Insert menu.

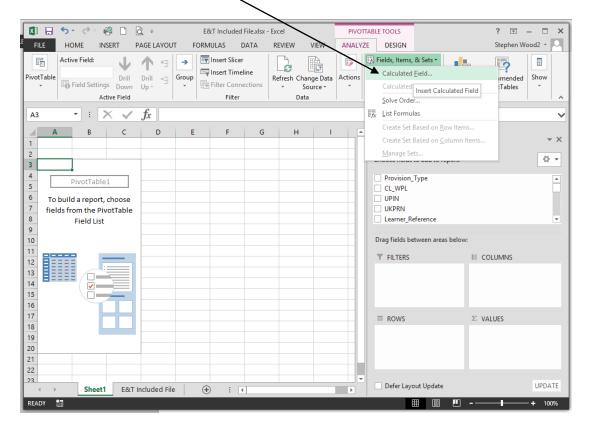


38. The Create Pivot Table dialog box will be shown. Click 'OK' to create the pivot table in a separate worksheet.



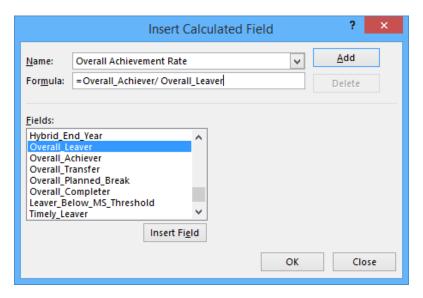
Creating the achievement rate, pass rate and retention rate fields

- 39. The achievement rate, pass rate and retention rate have to be added to the pivot table as calculated fields. The steps to do this are shown below.
- 40. On the Pivot Table Tools menu select 'Fields, Items & Sets' in the Calculate menu, and then select 'Calculated Field'.

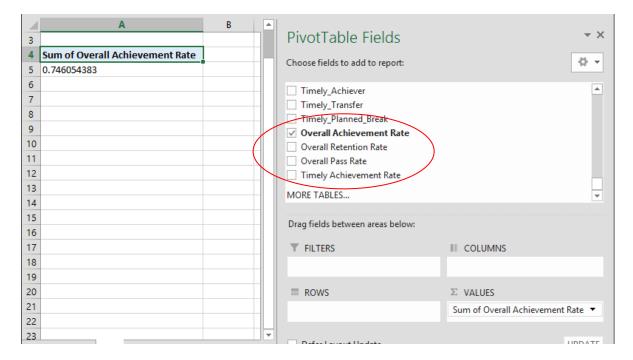


- 41. Using the 'Insert Calculated Field' dialog box create calculated fields for overall achievement rate, overall pass rate, overall retention rate and timely achievement rate. The calculations are shown below.
 - Overall achievement rate is 'Overall_Achiever / Overall_Leaver'
 - Overall pass rate is 'Overall_Achiever / Overall_Completer'
 - Overall retention rate is 'Overall_Completer / Overall_Leaver'
 - Timely achievement rate is 'Timely_Achiever / Timely_Leaver'

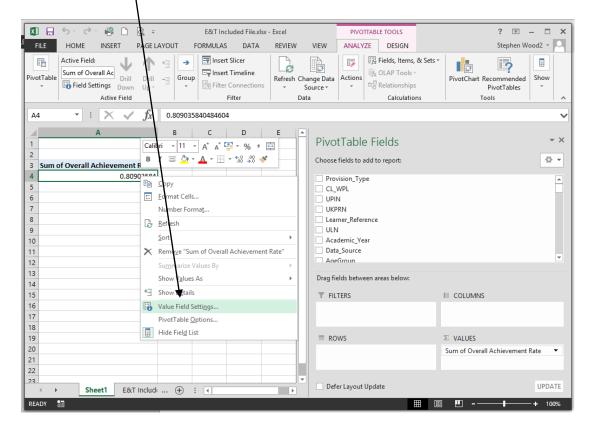
The dialog box shows the creation of the overall achievement rate field.



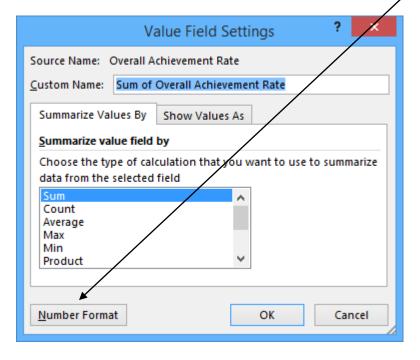
42. The overall achievement rate, overall pass rate, overall retention rate and timely achievement rate fields will appear at the end of the list of pivot table fields.

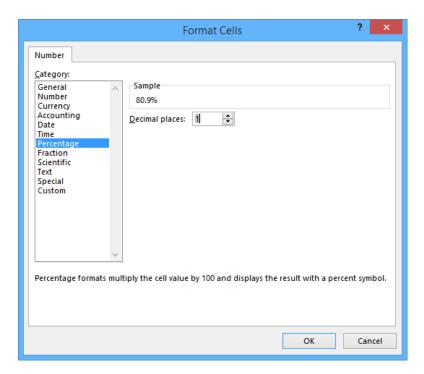


43. The fields are unformatted when output in the pivot table. The fields are formatted using 'Value Field Settings', which is selected from the menu displayed by right clicking the rate value. \



44. On the 'Value Field Settings dialog box select 'Number Format' and format the fields as percentages, to 1 decimal place.

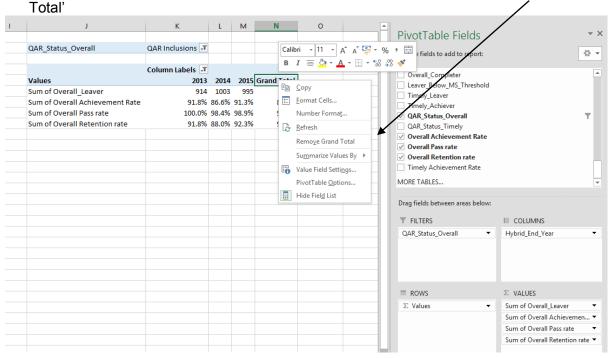




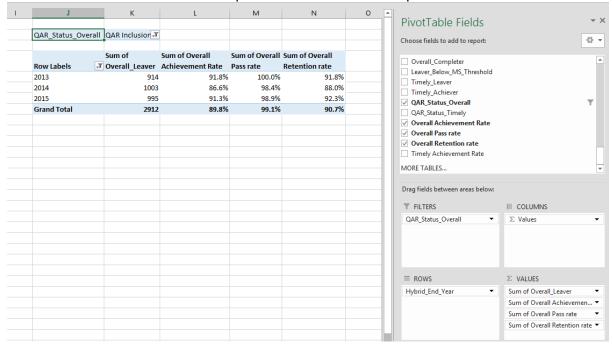
Showing the overall achievement, pass and retention rates in the pivot table

- 45. The **hybrid end year** must be used when showing the overall achievement rate, overall pass rate and overall retention rate. Note that that continuing aims have a hybrid end date of 2015.5. Continuing aims are present in the provider data extract as they are included in the timely achievement rate calculation. Please note that you must add the QAR_Status_Overall field to the pivot filter area and set this to 'QAR Inclusions'
- 46. There are two ways of showing the three year rate trend, as rows or as columns. The format chosen will depend on the other dimensions being displayed.

47. To show trend data in columns the pivot table should be set up as shown. PivotTable Fields QAR Status Overall QAR Inclusions 🗐 Choose fields to add to report: ö Column Labels 🗷 Overall_Completer 2013 2014 2015 Grand Total Leaver_Below_MS_Threshold Sum of Overall_Leaver 914 1003 995 __ Timely_Leaver Sum of Overall Achievement Rate 91.8% 86.6% 91.3% 89.8% ___ Timely_Achiever Sum of Overall Pass rate 100.0% 98.4% 98.9% 99 1% ✓ QAR Status Overall Sum of Overall Retention rate 91.8% 88.0% 92.3% 90.7% QAR_Status_Timely ✓ Overall Achievement Rate ✓ Overall Pass rate ✓ Overall Retention rate Timely Achievement Rate MORE TABLES. Drag fields between areas below: ▼ FILTERS III COLUMNS QAR_Status_Overall Hybrid_End_Year Sum of Overall_Leaver Σ Values Sum of Overall Achievemen... Sum of Overall Pass rate Sum of Overall Retention rate 48. When data is first shown in the pivot table a 'Grand Total' value will be shown. As a grand total is not relevant to qualification achievement rates it should be removed. The field is removed by right clicking on the 'Grand Totals' cell and selecting 'Remove Grand



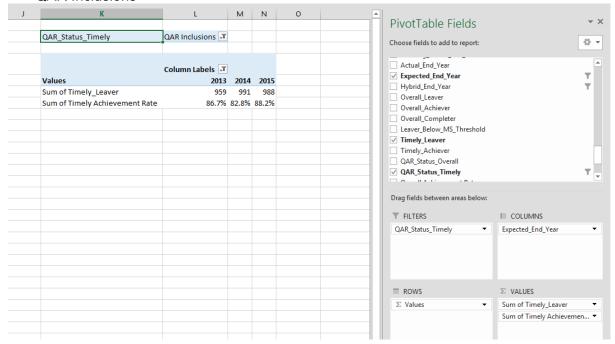
49. To show trend data in rows the pivot table should be set up as shown.



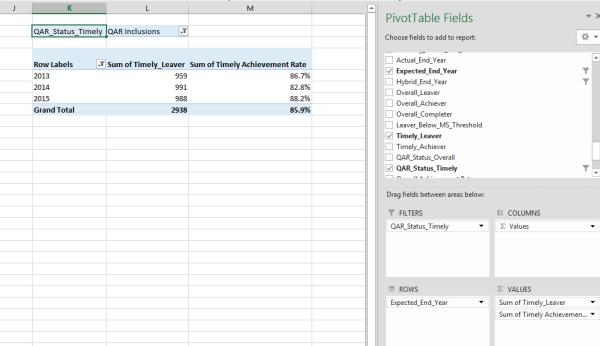
Showing the timely achievement rate in the pivot table

- 50. The **expected end year** must be used when showing the timely achievement rate.
- 51. There are two ways of showing the three year rate trend, as rows or as columns. The format chosen will depend on the other dimensions being displayed.

52. To show trend data in columns the pivot table should be set up as shown. Please note that you must add the QAR_Status_Timely field to the pivot filter area and set this to 'QAR Inclusions'



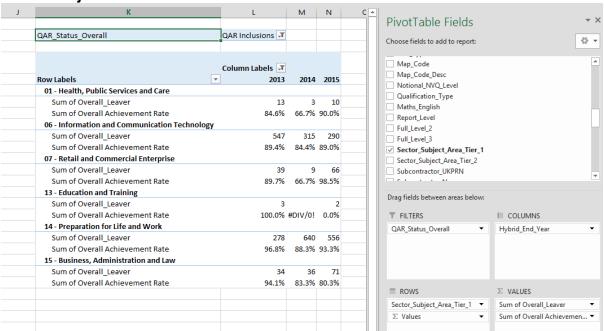
53. To show trend data in rows the pivot table should be set up as shown.



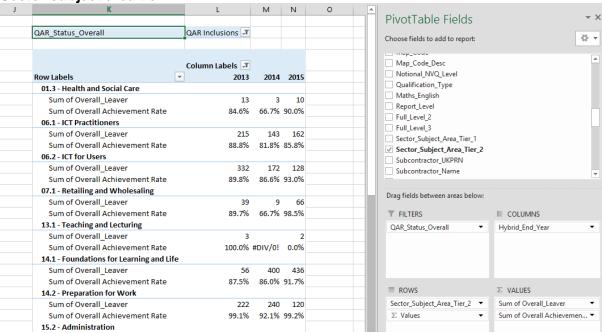
Examples of ways to configure the pivot table

- 54. The following screenshots show how to configure the pivot table to show overall cohort and overall achievement rates for a number of dimensions. These are:
 - Sector subject area tier 1
 - Sector subject area tier 2
 - Level
 - Qualification type
 - Qualification type and level
 - Map code description by qualification type and level
 - Maths and English qualification types split by English and mathematics
 - Full level 2
 - Full level 3
 - Age group
 - Ethnicity
 - Sex
 - Learning difficulties (LLDD)
 - Subcontractor
 - Learner home region and learner home local authority district
 - Delivery region and delivery local authority district
- 55. In the following screenshots '#DIV/0!' is shown in some of the overall achievement rate fields. This is because the number of overall cohort is zero and Excel is trying to divide by zero.

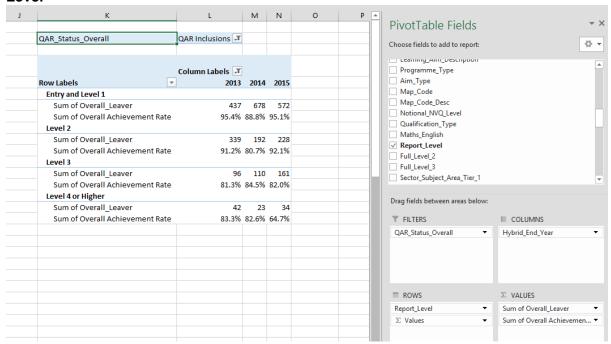
Sector subject area tier 1



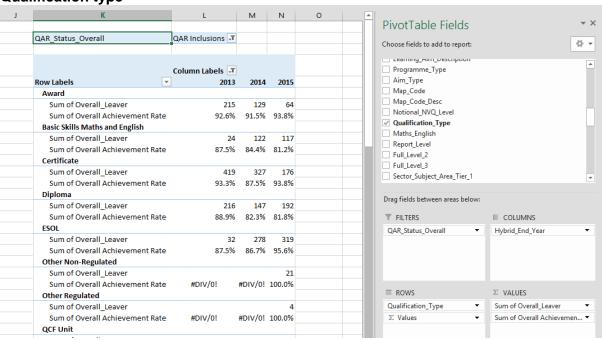
Sector subject area tier 2



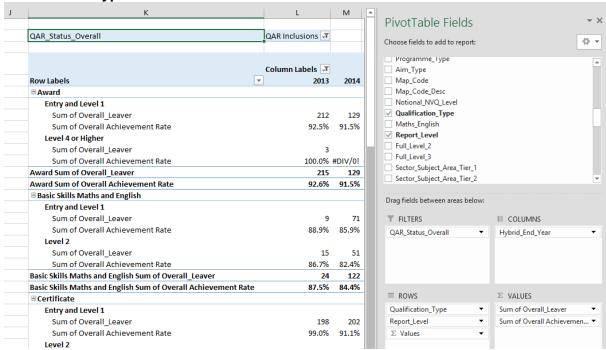
Level



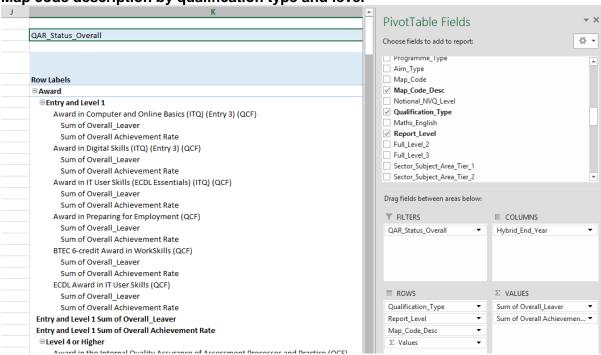
Qualification type



Qualification type and level

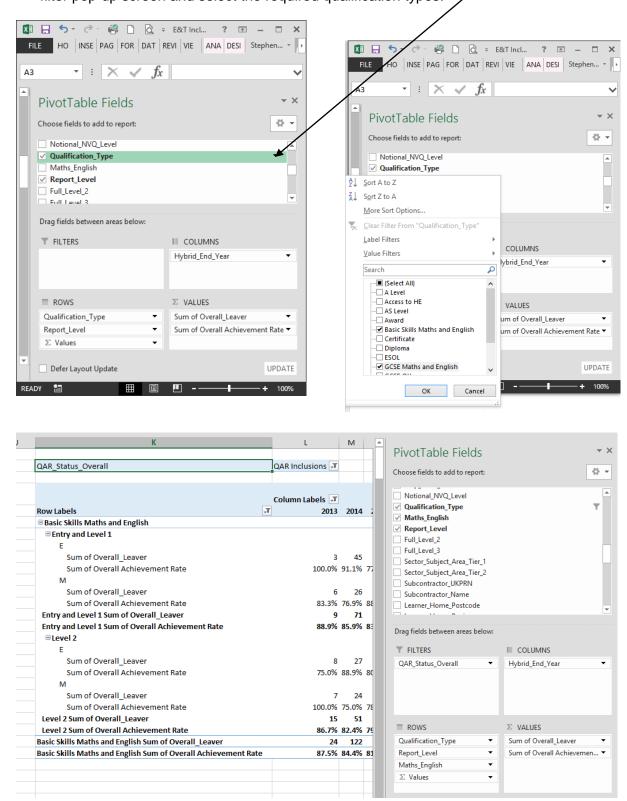


Map code description by qualification type and level



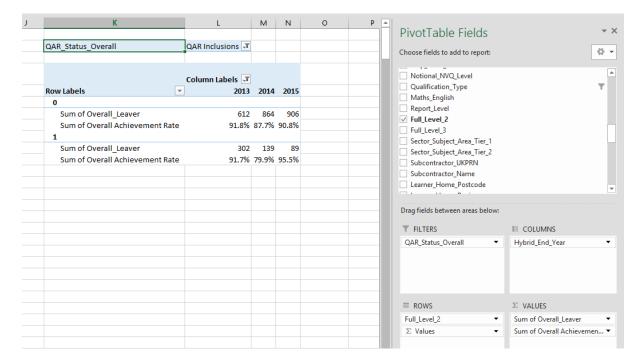
Maths and English qualification types split by English and mathematics

56. In order to select just the 'Basic Skills Maths and English' and 'GCSE Maths and English' qualification types a filter needs to be applied. Click the downward arrow to display the filter pop-up screen and select the required qualification types.

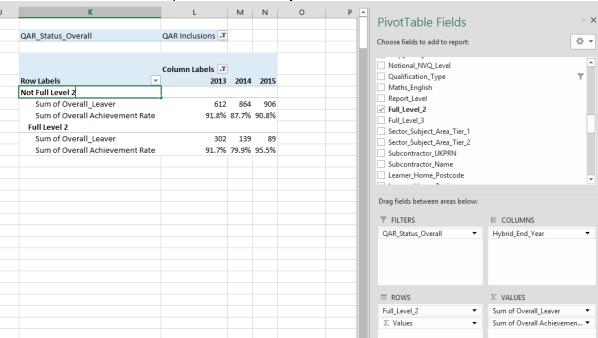


Full level 2

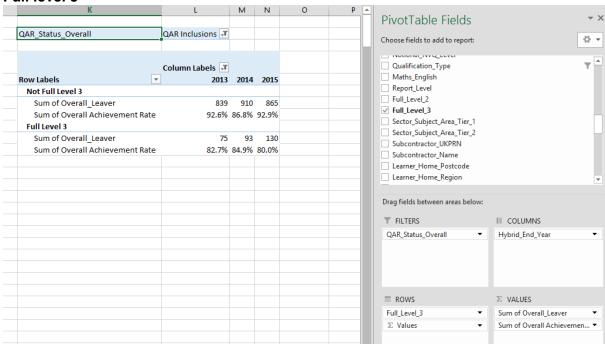
If you have not changed codes to a more meaningful description as described at the beginning of this section the pivot will show the codes.



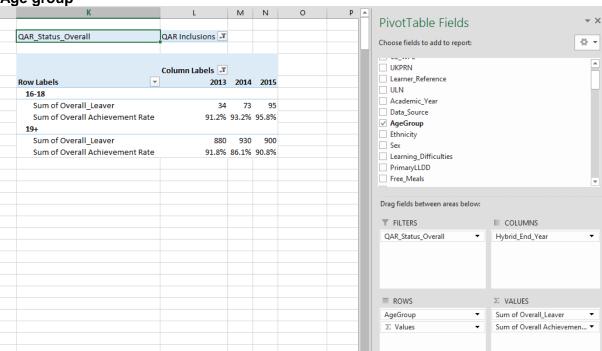
You can of course edit the pivot labels directly



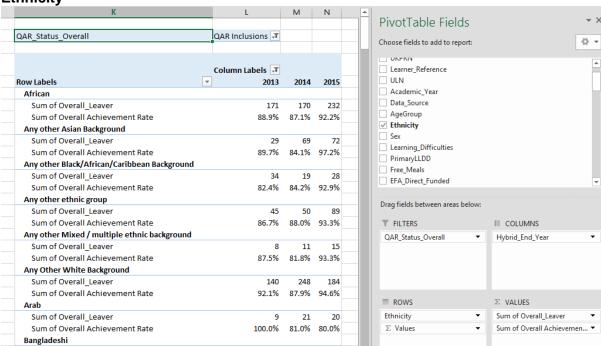
Full level 3



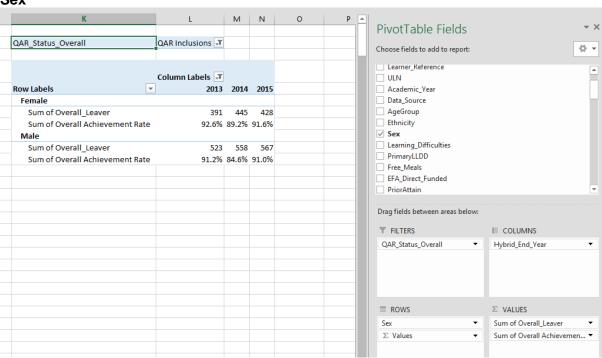
Age group



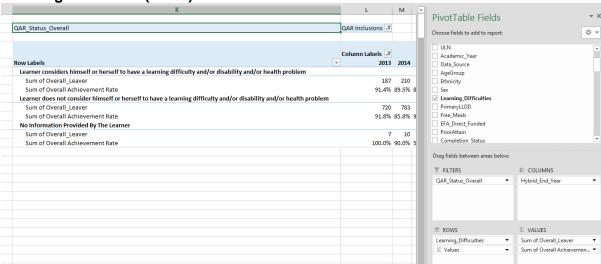
Ethnicity



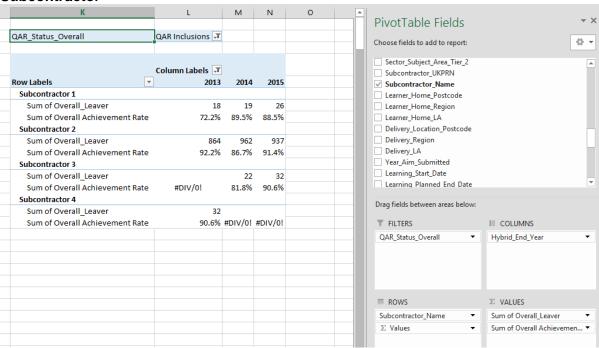
Sex



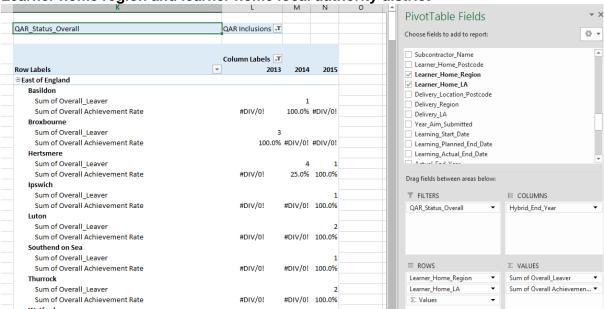
Learning difficulties (LLDD)



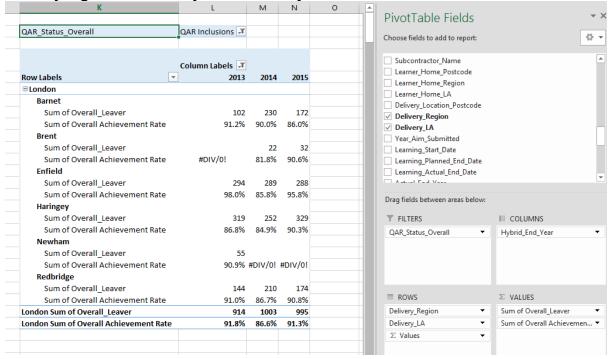
Subcontractor



Learner home region and learner home local authority district



Delivery region and delivery local authority district



Section 5 – Analysing Minimum Standards using an Excel Pivot Table

Showing the leavers below minimum standards threshold in the pivot table

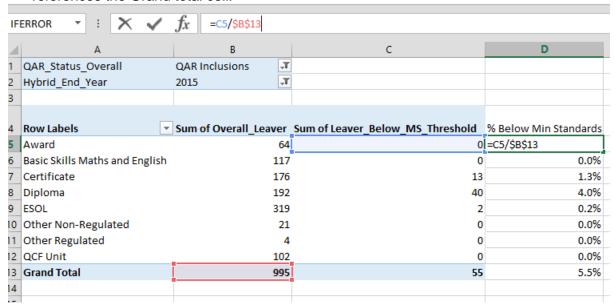
57. The **hybrid end year** must be used when showing the leavers below minimum standards threshold. The Leaver_Below_MS_Threshold field is only populated for the 2015/16 hybrid end year.

Showing the percentage below minimum standards threshold in the pivot table

58. The calculation for percentage below minimum standards threshold cannot be done with a calculated field because the denominator is the total number of learning aims for the provider. The calculation for percentage below minimum standards threshold uses a formula.

Where QAR_Status_Overall = 'QAR Inclusions'

59. In the example below, which shows minimum standards information by qualification type, the formula for the Award percentage below minimum standards threshold is C5/\$B\$13. Note the use of \$ to ensure that when the formula is copied to the other cells it still references the Grand total cell.



Examples of ways to configure the pivot table

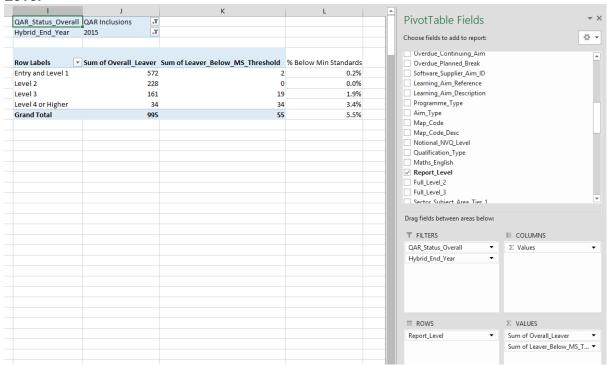
- 60. The following screenshots show how to configure the pivot table to show overall cohort and learners below minimum standards threshold for a number of dimensions. These are:
 - Sector subject area tier 1
 - Sector subject area tier 2
 - Level

- Qualification type
- Qualification type and level
- Learning aim description by qualification type and level
- Full level 2
- Full level 3
- 61. It is not valid to show the learners below minimum standards tolerance by any learner characteristic, or by any geography. This is because the learner and the geography are not used when determining whether a learning aim is below minimum standards.

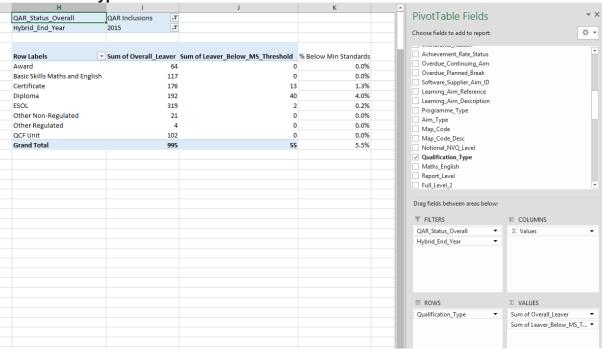
Sector subject area tier 1 PivotTable Fields <> → Choose fields to add to report: Notional_NVQ_Level ▼ Sum of Overall_Leaver Sum of Leaver_Below_MS_Threshold % Below Min Standards Qualification Type Maths_English Report_Level Full_Level_2 Full_Level_3 06 - Information and Communication Technology 290 4.3% 07 - Retail and Commercial Enterprise 66 0.0% 13 - Education and Training 14 - Preparation for Life and Work Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_1 15 - Business, Administration and Law 0.8% Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_2 Subcontractor UKPRN **Grand Total** Subcontractor_Name Learner_Home_Postcode Learner_Home_Region Learner_Home_LA Delivery_Location_Postcode Drag fields between areas below: ▼ FILTERS III COLUMNS QAR_Status_Overall ▼
Hybrid End Year ▼ Hybrid_End_Year ■ ROWS Σ VALUES Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_1 ▼ Sum of Leaver_Below_MS_T... ▼

Sector subject area tier 2 PivotTable Fields QAR_Status_Overall Hybrid_End_Year 2015 ⇔ + Choose fields to add to repo Notional_NVQ_Level Row Labels Sum of Overall_Leaver Sum of Leaver_Below_MS_Threshold % Below Min Standards Qualification_Type 01.3 - Health and Social Care 0.0% Maths_English 06.1 - ICT Practitioners 162 32 Report_Level 06.2 - ICT for Users Full_Level_2 Full_Level_3 128 11 1.1% 07.1 - Retailing and Wholesaling 13.1 - Teaching and Lecturing 0.2% Sector Subject Area Tier 1 14.1 - Foundations for Learning and Life 0.2% ✓ Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_2 Subcontractor_UKPRN 14.2 - Preparation for Work 120 0.0% 15.2 - Administration 0.4% Subcontractor Name Learner_Home_Postcode 15.3 - Business Management 0.4% **Grand Total** Learner Home Region Learner_Home_LA Delivery_Location_Postcode Delivery_Region Drag fields between areas below: ▼ FILTERS III COLUMNS QAR Status Overall Σ Values Hybrid_End_Year ■ ROWS Σ VALUES Sector_Subject_Area_Tier_2 ▼ Sum of Overall Leaver Sum of Leaver_Below_MS_T... •

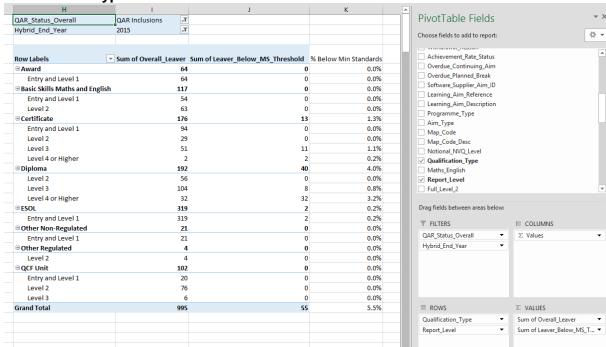
Level



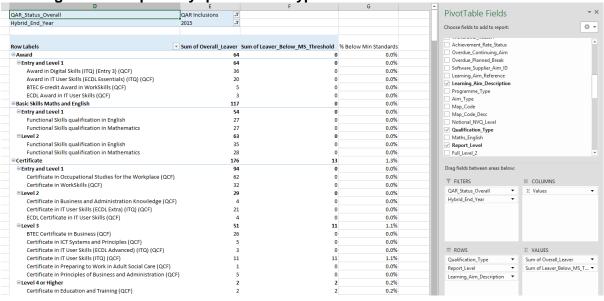
Qualification type



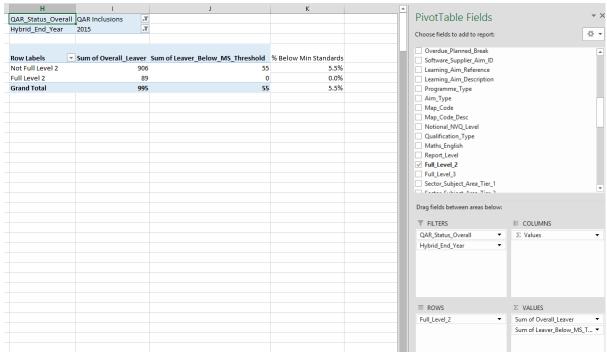
Qualification type and level



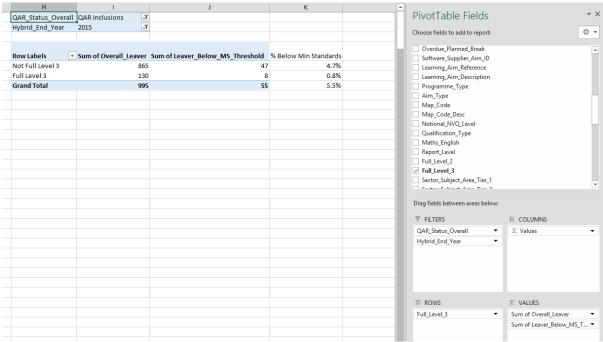
Learning aim description by qualification type and level



Full level 2



Full level 3



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Date created: 20 January 2017

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2015/2016

Version: 1.1