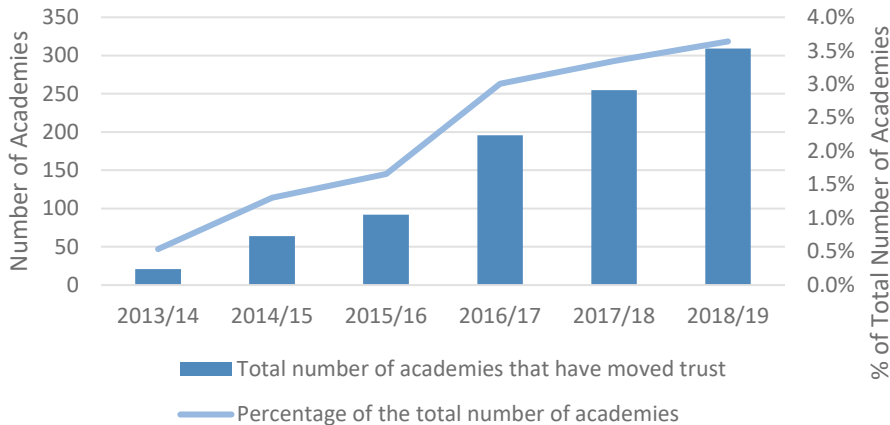




18 July 2019

Total number and proportion of academies that have moved trust

The number and proportion of Academies that have moved trust between 2013-14 and 2018-19

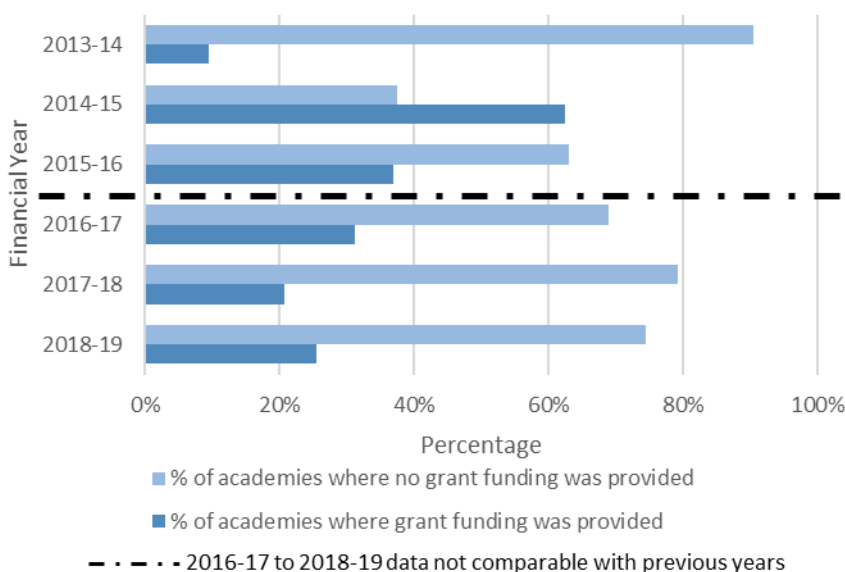


The total number of academies that have moved trust between financial years 2013-14 to 2018-19 was 935. The annual number of academies moving trust has increased from 21 academies in 2013-14, to 307 in 2018-19.

The proportion of academies that have moved trust over this time has increased from 0.5 per cent to 3.6 per cent of all open academies in England.

The percentage of academies moving trust with grant funding provided

Proportion of Funding for Academies Moving Trust Between 2013-14 and 2018-19



Of the 935 academies that have moved trust between financial years 2013-14 to 2018-19, 270 (29%) have received grant funding.

The proportion of academies moving trust and that have received grant funding has decreased from 31 per cent in 2016-17 to 26 per cent in 2018-19. Due to a break in the series, these figures cannot be compared to statistics for previous years.

A total of 307 academies moved trust in financial year 2018-19. 80 of these were provided with grant funding and 227 did not receive any grant funding.

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About this release

This statistics publication provides information on the funding associated with the transfer of academies to a different academy trust or sponsor, whether this is initiated voluntarily by the academy or academy trust, or where the Regional School Commissioner has made a decision that this will be the best outcome for the academy. Grant funding is normally provided only in the latter scenario.

In this publication

The following tables are included in this publication:

- Academies that have moved trust and grant funding provided (Excel .xls)

Feedback

We are changing how our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at academies.data@education.gov.uk

1. Number of academies moving trust

A total of 935 academies moved to a different academy trust between the six financial years 2013-14 to 2018-19. Of these, 270 (29%) received grant funding for the transfer.

The number of academies moving trust has increased from 21 in financial year 2013-14, to 307 in 2018-19. This represents an increase from 0.5% of all open academies in England in 2013-14, to 3.6% in 2018-19. More detail is available in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Number of academies moving trust

Financial year	Number of academies where grant funding was provided	Number of academies where no grant funding was provided	Total number of academies that have moved trust	Percentage of academies where grant funding was provided	Percentage of academies where no grant funding was provided	Number of academies in England as at 31 March	Percentage of academies that moved trust in England
2013-14	2	19	21	10%	90%	3,908	0.5%
2014-15	40	24	64	63%	38%	4,902	1.3%
2015-16	34	58	92	37%	63%	5,553	1.7%
2016-17 (r)	61	135	196	31%	69%	6,518	3.0%
2017-18 (r)	53	202	255	21%	79%	7,613	3.3%
2018-19	80	227	307	26%	74%	8,490	3.6%
Total	270	665	935	29%	71%		

Source: Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) Management Information and Academies Regional Delivery Group (ARDG) Management Information.

(r) figures have been revised from previous publication.

2. Grant funding provided

In financial year 2013-14 grant funding of £566,000 was provided for academy transfers, this increased to over £4.2 million in financial year 2015-16. This increase in grant funding is driven by an increase in the number of academies transferring trust over these years.

In financial year 2016-17 total grant funding rose to £8.4 million, but decreased to about £7.6 million in 2017-18. This further decreased to £6.5 million in the financial year 2018-19. The grant funding provided has decreased from 2016-17 to 2018-19 despite more schools transferring between those years. More detail can be found in Table 2 overleaf.

The total grant funding provided to academies moving trust in financial years 2016-17 to 2018-19 are not comparable with earlier years due to differences in what it has been possible to include in the total costs compiled (see [Technical Information](#)).

It is not possible to calculate an average payment per financial year as some trusts can receive grant funding for an academy over several years.

Table 2: Grant funding provided to academies when moving trust¹

Financial year	Number of academies where grant funding was provided	Grant funding provided in 2013-14 £	Grant funding provided in 2014-15 £	Grant funding provided in 2015-16 £	Grant funding provided in 2016-17 £	Grant funding provided in 2017-18 £	Grant funding provided in 2018-19 £	Total grant funding provided £
2013-14	2	74,400	121,200	271,700	0	0	0	467,300
2014-15	40	491,600	3,532,500	343,800	105,100	29,500	0	4,502,500
2015-16	34	0	337,400	3,627,400	801,900	0	0	4,766,700
2016-17 (r)	61	0	0	0	6,297,900	492,500	28,000	6,818,400
2017-18 (r)	53	0	0	0	1,195,500	5,199,300	542,000	6,936,800
2018-19	80	0	0	0	0	1,849,000	5,971,400	7,820,400
Total	270	566,000	3,991,100	4,242,900	8,400,400	7,570,300	6,541,400	31,312,100

Source: Education & Skills Funding Agency and Academies Regional Delivery Group

(r) figures have been revised from previous publication.

Funding figures are calculated using figures that have been rounded to nearest £100. There may be discrepancies between the sum of constituent items and totals as shown.

3. Reason for Academy Transfers

Out of the 307 academy transfers in 2018-19, 183 (60%) were initiated by the outgoing Trust, 67 were transferred due to sponsor closure and 57 transfers were due to intervention.

Table 3: Reasons for Academy Transfers and for 2017-18 and 2018-19

Financial year	Transfer due to Intervention	Transfer Initiated by Trust	Transfer due to sponsor closed	Total
2017-18	61	172	22	255
2018-19	57	183	67	307
Total	118	355	89	562

4. Accompanying tables

The following table is available in Excel format on the Department's statistics website:

List of all academies that have moved trust during financial years 2013-14 to 2018-19 and how much grant funding was provided to each.

When reviewing the tables, please note that the grant funding figures have been rounded to the nearest £100.

5. Further information is available

Academy transfers and funding	An ad-hoc statistical release published on 14 September 2017 providing information on academies that have moved trust during financial years 2013-14 to 2016-17 Ad-hoc statistical release: Academy transfers and funding
Open academies and academy projects in development	A list of open academies and academies awaiting approval is published monthly at: Open academies and academies in development
Academies annual report	Academies consolidated annual report and accounts: 2017-18
Free schools and successful applications	A list of open free schools and successful applications Open free schools and successful applications
Letters to academy trusts about poor performance	Letters issued by RSCs to academy trusts about poor performance Letters to academy trusts on poor performance
Academy spending	Academies Financial Returns 2017-18
Academy financial notices	Academies financial notices to improve Academy financial notices
Academy Transfers and Funding, Financial Year 2017-18	The previous year's release of this annual publication Academy Transfers and Funding

6. Official Statistics

These are Official Statistics and have been produced in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

This can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as Official Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Department has a set of statistical policies in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

7. Technical information

An academy can change trust arrangements only with the agreement of the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) acting on behalf of the Secretary of State (prior to 2014 decisions were taken by the Secretary of State). The academy may apply to do so voluntarily – for example, a single academy may apply because it wants to benefit from the greater capacity and school improvement that is offered from being part of a multi-academy trust; or the transfer may be initiated by the RSC because of concerns about the performance of the academy or the academy trust responsible for it.

The sponsored academy process, which began in the early 2000s, is now well established. The first academy transfer of an academy was carried out in 2012. Much like the early sponsored academies, funding for trust transfers was agreed on a case-by-case basis according to the particular circumstances and needs of the case.

However, as academies moving trust has become more systematically implemented, the process has changed to align more closely with that used for establishing sponsored academies. This includes establishing guidelines for grant funding so that it is applied to academy transfer cases in a similar way to the grant funding that is applied to sponsored academy projects.

These changes were introduced in Autumn 2016.

The indicative grant funding levels are: a basic, fast track level (£70,000 primary, £80,000 secondary); an intermediate level (£90,000 primary, £115,000 secondary) and a full level (£110,000 primary, £150,000 secondary). The amounts of the awarded grant are typically offset against any surplus that will transfer with the academy to the new sponsor. The grants tend to be paid in one instalment rather than claimed annually, however on occasion some transfers will be paid in multiple instalments both before and after the academy is transferred to a new academy trust.

The data in this release has been compiled by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and the Academies and Regional Delivery Directorate (ARDD) within the Department for Education (DfE). In the financial year 2016-17 budget responsibilities transferred from ESFA to the ARDD in the DfE. Legacy and current Management Information and Finance systems are used as well as ESFA and Academies Group documentation in compiling these statistics.

The figures in this publication are derived from the Academies Management Information System, and reflect the operational data that was held on this system as of June 2019. Amendments to this operational Management Information after this date will not be included in this publication. Therefore, revisions may be made to the previous year's figures in future publications, should this operational data change.

Academies will only be listed in this publication if the academy trust transfer has concluded during that financial year which is being reported on (i.e. when a new funding agreement has been issued concluding an academy transfer). Therefore, in cases where trusts receive an advance payment ahead of the transfer concluding, the case will not be listed until it has concluded which could be in the next financial year. Where trusts receive payments over more than one year, the separate payments are shown in each financial year. This can mean that in future year's publications, revisions to the previous year's figures are highly likely.

Academies operate under a strict system of oversight and accountability and RSCs will require the new trusts to provide details on how the academy transfer grant will be used and the impact that it is expected to have. They will monitor the academy's performance to ensure the necessary improvements are made and that value for money is achieved.

Academies may receive funding for transfer in the financial year that it joins a new trust or in the years pre or post a trust move, in this publication we are not including costs paid out to academies in 2018-19 which have not yet joined a new academy trust yet.

Following the publication of an ad-hoc statistical release in September 2017, a full data cleanse has been completed on management information relating to academies that have moved academy trust between financial years 2013-14 and 2016-17. Following this, some academies were excluded from the ad-hoc release which have now been included in this release, therefore numbers of academies moving trust will vary compared to the first publication.

Due to differences in the way data was recorded in legacy systems compared to the current system the grant funding for financial years 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015- 2016 are not comparable with the grant funding in financial years 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. The grant funding included for each financial year are set out below:

Financial years 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015- 2016

- Legal costs
- Environmental Improvement Grant
- ICT costs
- Project management support costs
- Financial management support
- Education consultancy costs
- Recruitment / training costs
- School Improvement Grant
- Sponsor Grant
- Staff restructure/redundancy costs

Excluded funding are:

- Deficit payments
- Diseconomies of scale

Financial years 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019

- Leadership support, teaching and learning interventions, curriculum re-design, pupil-focused support, etc
- Staff re-structuring
- Legal services relating to the transfer
- Communications and marketing support, including re-branding
- HR and recruitment services to support any TUPE process and senior leader appointments
- Financial management and advice to establish the AT's finance and management information systems

Excluded funding are:

- Deficit payments
- Diseconomies of scale
- Capital costs eg EIG, ICT hardware, building works
- Statutory redundancies

8. Get in touch

Media enquiries

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Other enquiries/feedback

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for Education

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