

**Six Month Offer Work Focused
Training Official Statistics**

**Publication Date:
9:30am Wednesday 17th February 2010**

Summary

This publication contains official statistics for England and Scotland on the Work Focused Training element of the Six Month Offer (6MO) up to and including October 2009.

This is an annex to the main 6MO Statistics Publication of 20th January 2010 as the Work Focused Training Statistics were not available in January. From April 2010 the training statistics will be included with the main 6MO Statistics publication.

The key statistics are:

Between April 2009 and October 2009:

- **13,870** JSA customers have started the Work Focused Training.

Work Focused Training demographics:

- **12,750** are in England and **1,120** are in Scotland
- **10,460** are male and **3,410** are female
- **2,250** are aged under 25, **9,280** are aged 25 to 49 and **2,350** are aged 50 or over
- **1,430** are recorded as having a disability and **11,420** are recorded as not having a disability
- **11,260** are from a white background and **1,960** are from an ethnic minority background

Introduction

1. This publication contains statistics on the Work Focused Training element of the Six Month Offer (6MO) from April 2009 up to and including October 2009. Figures for more recent months are subject to upward revision as more complete data becomes available.
2. This is a joint statistical publication between the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), the Scottish Government and the Welsh Assembly Government.
3. This is an annex to the main 6MO Statistics Publication of 20th January 2010 ([link](#)) as the Work Focused Training statistics were not available in January. This annex is an ad-hoc release of this publication to present the Work Focused Training statistics at the first reasonable opportunity. From April 2010, and quarterly from then on, the main 6MO Statistics publication will include statistics on Work Focused Training.
4. Training providers may submit data on learner starts some time after the actual start occurred. This means that data presented in this Release is subject to some retrospection, and figures will be revised upward in subsequent releases. We have not included provisional statistics for starts in November in this Release as it is still very provisional. Statistics for starts in November will be included in the April Release of this publication, at which point providers will have had longer to make data returns. This is consistent with the approach used in other publications of training statistics.
5. Every effort has been made to ensure the quality of these statistics is of the highest standard. However, it may be necessary to revise the statistics in subsequent publications when more complete data becomes available. This will be carried out in line with the Code of Practice on official statistics. The format of this publication will be kept under review and any feedback or suggestions to improve this publication are welcomed.
6. Please note: this publication does not yet include statistics on Work Focused Training in Wales. The support on offer in Wales is different to that in England and Scotland and we are not able to separately identify 6MO Work Focused Training starts in Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government is exploring options for separately identifying 6MO Work Focused Training starts to include in future 6MO Statistics publications.

Policy Description

7. The Six Month Offer was announced in January 2009 as a support package offering up to 500,000 opportunities for Jobseeker's Allowance customers reaching six months unemployment. The Six Month Offer was introduced nationally from the 6th April 2009.
8. There are four strands to the Six Month Offer: (1) Recruitment Subsidy, (2) Self Employment, (3) Volunteering and (4) Work Focused Training.

9. From October 2009 elements of the Young Person Guarantee were introduced, including Future Jobs Fund (FJF), Routes into Work and Work Focused Training. The Young Person Guarantee could affect take up of the Six Month Offer by young people.

Work Focused Training

10. The Work Focused Training strand of the Six Month Offer is led and funded by BIS in England, the Scottish Government in Scotland and the Welsh Assembly Government in Wales. It offers training to Jobseeker's Allowance customers who would benefit from significant up-skilling or re-skilling in order to re-enter the local job market.
11. In England, as part of this package of enhanced support, there are 75,000 new training places on offer to jobseekers who reach the six month point on Jobseeker's Allowance who would benefit from significant up-skilling or re-skilling in order to re-enter the local job market. Training, commissioned by the Learning and Skills Council and delivered through the Further Education sector, is focused to meet both the individual's work aspirations and employer demand, taking into account the needs of the local job market. Training will be at a range of levels, from Skills for Life to level 3 depending on need. Training can be part-time or up to eight weeks full-time provision. It must be relevant to the local labour market, be a significant uplift in skills, and allow people to progress to a full qualification. Full-time provision is supported by a Training Allowance.
12. In Scotland, the training for the Six Month Offer is provided through Training for Work, the national vocational training programme for the unemployed. Training is demand led, aimed at specific job opportunities and can vary in length from a week to a year. Support for those wishing to be self employed is also available through this programme. Training for Work can be accessed by all people seeking work who have been unemployed for three months or more. Day one access is available to those who are disadvantaged in the labour market, such as lone parents, or those with disabilities.
13. The support offered in Wales is different from both England and Scotland. The training element of the Six Month Offer is delivered by the Welsh Assembly Government's existing Skill Build programme, which continues to offer pre-employment training to Jobseeker's Allowance customers from their first day of unemployment, with additional funding for 2009-10 to meet rising demand. It has not been possible to separately identify 6MO Work Focused Training starts joining the Skill Build programme from overall Skill Build starts.

Technical Overview

14. Data on Work Focused Training in England is sourced from training provider returns through the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) database. The ILR holds data from all Further Education Colleges and training providers on learners and their learning aims.

15. Data on training in Scotland is sourced from Skills Development Scotland (Corporate Training System). This is similar to the ILR in England, in that it is a collection of data from training providers on learners and their learning participation.

Job Outcomes

16. We are investigating the feasibility of reporting job outcomes for the Work Focused Training strand for future publications of the 6MO Statistics.

Rounding Policy

17. To reduce the risk of inferring the identity of a customer from these statistics and other statistics, values less than ten, including zeros, are suppressed and marked with a dash. Values above ten are rounded to the nearest ten. Therefore totals may not equal the sum of the individual cells.

Official Statistics

Table 1: Six Month Offer Work Focused Training Starts

	England	Scotland	Total
Total	12,750	1,120	13,870
Apr-09	470	170	640
May-09	120	130	250
Jun-09	600	150	750
Jul-09	1,220	110	1,320
Aug-09	2,410	190	2,600
Sep-09	4,080	220	4,300
Oct-09	3,860	160	4,020

Notes: Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash and any figures above 10 are rounded to the nearest 10. Due to rounding totals may not be the sum of the individual cells. Months are calendar months.

Table 2: Demographics for Starts for the period April to October 2009

		England	Scotland	Total
	Total	12,750	1,120	13,870
Gender	Male	9,720	740	10,460
	Female	3,030	380	3,410
	Unknown	-	-	-
Age Group	<18	n/a	-	n/a
	18-24	2,070	180	2,250
	25-49	8,500	780	9,280
	50+	2,180	170	2,350
	Unknown	-	-	-
	19+	12,660	1,100	13,770
Disability ¹	Yes	1,400	30	1,430
	No	10,390	1,020	11,420
	Unknown	960	70	1,020
Ethnicity ²	White	10,250	1,020	11,260
	Black or Black British	890	20	910
	Asian or Asian British	520	10	530
	Mixed	250	10	260
	Other/ Chinese	260	-	260
	Unknown	590	70	660
Region	East Midlands	1,760	n/a	1,760
	East of England	1,000	n/a	1,000
	London	1,330	n/a	1,330
	North East	780	n/a	780
	North West	1,710	n/a	1,710
	Scotland	n/a	1,120	1,120
	South East	1,840	n/a	1,840
	South West	1,110	n/a	1,110
	West Midlands	1,410	n/a	1,410
	Yorkshire & Humberside	1,700	n/a	1,700
Unknown	110	-	110	

Notes: Figures are for the period April 2009 to October 2009 inclusive. Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash and any figures above 10 are rounded to the nearest 10. Totals may not be the sum of the individual cells due to rounding. n/a means "not applicable".

1: Disability status is according to the learners own assessment if a learner has a disability or disabilities

2: Customers recording their ethnicity status as "prefer not to say" are categorised as unknown

Publication Timetable

Publication	Date	Notes
1 st	Wednesday 14 October 2009	(First Publication)
2 nd	Wednesday 20 th January 2010	Work Focused Training statistics will be published in February as an annex to the January publication.
	Wednesday 17 th February 2010	
3 rd	Wednesday 21 st April 2010	The first full publication to include all four strands.

Future publications will be quarterly thereafter in July 2010, October 2010, January 2011, April 2011 and July 2011. Publication dates will be announced on the UK Statistics Authority's Publication Hub for Official Statistics at least four weeks before publication date.

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