



Information for participants of the 2019 Employer Skills Survey (ESS19)

Overview

The Department for Education has commissioned [IFF Research](#), [Ipsos MORI](#) and [BMG Research](#) to conduct 81,800 telephone interviews with UK employers. We aim to gather information on the skills challenges faced by all industries and areas of the UK.

The survey is also conducted on behalf of the Welsh Government, Scottish Government, and Department for the Economy in Northern Ireland.

Why we have contacted you

We have selected your site to capture the views of your industry and area. You do not have to participate in the survey, but the accuracy of the survey depends on high levels of participation. If your site is part of a larger organisation, we cannot receive responses from the headquarters because the answers should relate to your site's geographical area.

What the survey involves

The average interview lasts 23 minutes, and interviews can be rescheduled for a more convenient time. The interviewer asks about a range of skill and training issues, including:

- Skill needs, both now and for the future
- Recent vacancies and recruitment, including skills you are struggling to find
- Training and work experience
- Your site's activities and structures, which help us understand where skills issues occur

How the information is used

Both nationally and locally, policy makers and industry use the survey findings to decide where to invest in skill systems. The information you provide is treated confidentially and stored securely. **We make sure that nobody can identify you or your site from the published data.**

How the survey will benefit your organisation

With your participation in the survey, we capture a full picture of all areas and industries of the UK. This is important even if you feel your site has no skills problems. Based on the survey's findings, we can ensure policy decisions best meet the needs of employers.

Findings from the survey will be available online in 2020. You can use these to compare your establishment with others in your industry and area. Findings from the previous survey are available [here](#).