



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Youth Offer Official Statistics: April 2012 to November 2015

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Summary

1. The Youth Contract was a flexible package of support provided through Jobcentre Plus between April 2012 and March 2015 as a response to high levels of youth unemployment during the recession. It aimed to support young unemployed people to move close to the labour market and gain sustained employment through a range of programmes, in addition to existing support. DWP is continuing to support young people through additional Jobcentre Plus advisor support, extra work experience and sector-based work academy places.
2. This publication contains official statistics on work experience and sector-based work academies up to and including November 2015. Since April 2015, places have been funded by the Youth Offer not the Youth Contract. The publication no longer contains statistics on Youth Contract Wage Incentive job starts. The programme finished in August 2014. A separate Excel file is available which contains copies of these tables and geographical breakdowns.
3. The Youth Contract provided funding for an extra 250,000 work experience or sector-based work academy places for 18- to 24-year-olds from April 2012 to March 2015. Funding for work experience and sector based work academies since March 2015 is made through our Youth Offer. While not funded by the Youth Contract, under-18s and over-25s can also take part in work experience and sector-based work academies where local funding and availability exists. To give a view of overall performance of the programmes, all starts are outlined in **Annex A**.
4. Work experience consists of a 2 to 8 week placement with a host employer. It aims to provide young people with work-related experience and skills, and can be a route into an apprenticeship. Between April 2012 and November 2015 there have been **288,960** starts to a work experience placement by 18 to 24 year-olds.
5. Sector-based work academies are made up of pre-employment training, work experience placements and a guaranteed job interview. From April 2012 up to and including November 2015 there have been **111,520** starts on sector-based work academy pre-employment training by 18 to 24 year-olds.
6. Interventions for claimants on Universal Credit are not captured in the data presented here, and so these official statistics will be a small undercount of referrals and starts in areas where Universal Credit has been introduced. For more information, please refer to the Technical Overview.

Official Statistics

Table 1: Take up of Youth Offer measures by month (18- to 24-year-olds)

	Work Experience starts	Sector based work academy pre-employment training starts
Total	288,960	111,520
Apr-Jun 2012	11,940	4,090
Jul-Sep 2012	13,340	5,460
Oct-Dec 2012	14,760	5,000
Jan-Mar 2013	14,700	6,590
Apr-Jun 2013	14,100	6,580
Jul-Sep 2013	15,900	7,470
Oct-Dec 2013	20,600	7,920
Jan-2014	8,070	3,220
Feb-2014	9,250	4,060
Mar-2014	9,920	4,210
Apr-2014	7,420	2,870
May-2014	7,930	3,410
Jun-2014	9,270	4,650
Jul-2014	8,250	3,820
Aug-2014	7,100	3,140
Sep-2014	9,080	4,310
Oct-2014	8,600	3,610
Nov-2014	8,400	3,330
Dec-2014	5,270	1,480
Jan-2015	7,230	2,790
Feb-2015	7,550	3,300
Mar-2015	8,040	3,050
Apr-2015	6,120	2,090
May-2015	6,500	2,150

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Jun-2015	8,130	2,860
Jul-2015	8,350	2,200
Aug-2015	7,370	1,760
Sep-2015	8,940	2,130
Oct-2015	8,650	2,180
Nov-2015	8,190	1,810

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

The Youth Contract was rolled out in April 2012. Prior to this, work experience and sector-based work academies were funded as part of Get Britain Working, which came to an end in March 2013. Between April 2012 and March 2013, funding for young people could be from either source. In March 2015 the Youth Contract came to an end and in April 2015, the Youth Offer was rolled out.

Data Source - DWP LMS opportunities evaluation database December 2015.

Table 2: Demographic breakdown of Youth Offer starts (18- to 24-year-olds) for the period April 2012 to November 2015

		Work Experience starts	Sector based work academy pre-employment training starts
	Total	288,960	111,520
Gender	Male	161,850	72,530
	Female	127,110	38,990
Disability ¹	Yes	49,830	15,910
	No	239,130	95,600
Ethnicity ²	White	234,000	88,540
	Black or Black British	12,860	6,710
	Asian or Asian British	18,820	7,210
	Mixed	6,320	3,050
	Other/ Chinese	4,210	1,540
	Unknown	12,750	4,460
Region	North East	17,700	9,800
	North West	31,010	13,630
	Yorkshire and The Humber	31,300	13,350
	East Midlands	27,950	9,760
	West Midlands	39,240	12,650
	East	21,090	8,510
	London	34,170	15,330
	South East	23,820	9,350
	South West	16,310	5,600
	Wales	16670	-
	Scotland	24930	11200
	Unknown	4790	2340

Notes: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash. Totals may not be the sum of the individual cells due to rounding.

The Youth Contract was rolled out in April 2012. Prior to this, work experience and sector-based work academies were funded as part of Get Britain Working, which came to an end in March 2013. Between April 2012 and March 2013, funding for young people could be from either source. In March 2015 the Youth Contract came to an end and in April 2015, the Youth Offer was rolled out.

Claimants on Universal Credit are not captured in the data presented here. As a result, geographical breakdowns may show a small undercount in areas where Universal Credit has been introduced.

Data Source - DWP LMS opportunities and DWP Clients evaluation databases December 2015.

1. Disability status is declared by the Jobseeker during a Jobcentre Plus interview. Disability status is according to the claimant's own assessment.

2. Claimants recording their ethnicity status as "prefer not to say" are categorised as unknown.

Policy Description

The Youth Contract was a flexible package of support provided through Jobcentre Plus between April 2012 and March 2015 as a response to high levels of youth unemployment during the recession. It aimed to support young unemployed people to move close to the labour market and gain sustained employment through a range of programmes, in addition to existing support. DWP is continuing to support young people through additional Jobcentre Plus advisor support, extra work experience and sector-based work academy under the Youth Offer contract which began in April 2015.

Work experience

7. Work experience was launched in January 2011 and is primarily designed to help young people aged 18 to 24 with little or no work experience gain the experience they need to secure a job before they become eligible for the Work Programme. Jobcentre Plus works with employers to offer young jobseekers the opportunity to overcome barriers to employment through offering them a work experience placement lasting two to eight weeks.
8. Young people undertaking a work experience placement continue to receive their benefit and are expected to look for permanent work. There is also the opportunity for some participants to have their placement extended by up to four weeks, where an employer makes an offer to take them onto an Apprenticeship.

Sector-based work academies

9. Sector-based work academies offer pre-employment training, work experience placements and a guaranteed job interview for recipients of Jobseeker's Allowance, Universal Credit (all work-related requirements group) or Employment and Support Allowance (Work-Related Activity Group), aged 18 years or over, or eligible lone parents aged 18- to 24-years-old in receipt of Income Support. Sector-based work academies are developed in partnership with employers and run in sectors with high volumes of current local vacancies. The scheme was introduced from 1 August 2011 in England and from 30 January 2012 in Scotland.

Technical Overview

10. These statistics are derived using a combination of data from the Jobcentre Plus claimant management systems (the Labour Market System) and the Client database.

11. Information on demographics is obtained by merging data across these separate administrative systems which sometimes results in unknown values. This is because either we are unable to find a match or the information has not been recorded for the particular claimant.
12. The Labour Market System does not distinguish between Youth Contract, Youth Offer and Get Britain Working funding. For these tables, 18- to 24-year-olds from April 2012 to March 2015 are assumed to be Youth Contract funded. From March 2015 they are assumed to be funded by the Youth Offer.
13. Interventions for claimants on Universal Credit are not captured by the Labour Market System, and so these official statistics will be a small undercount of referrals and starts in areas where Universal Credit has been introduced. These will occur nationally from February 2015 as part of the planned national rollout over 2015/16.
14. Further information on Universal Credit statistics and rollout volumes can be found using the following link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>
15. Every effort has been made to ensure that 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, particularly for more recent months.

Work experience

16. A work experience start is defined as the date the claimant accepted their work experience placement with the employer. This is input by an adviser to the Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System.

Sector-based work academies

17. A start is defined as the first date the claimant attended sector-based work academy pre-employment training. The number of starts was based on the individual claimant level data supplied by Further Education Colleges or training providers and entered by an adviser onto the Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System. Further Education Colleges and training providers may submit data on starts some time after the actual event occurred.

Retrospection

18. Retrospection refers to the time period allowed for additional or updated information to be incorporated into DWP's data systems.

19. Work coaches may submit, correct or resubmit data relevant to a mentor or allowance start some time after the actual event occurred. This means that the data presented in each release is subject to some retrospection, and figures may be revised in subsequent releases.
20. Labour Market System (LMS) datasets are produced with a month delay. For example: data for September 2014 was available at the end of October 2014. Generally we see significant retrospection in the last reported month of the latest LMS dataset (to use the same example: we see significant retrospection in the data for September 2014, which was released at the end of October 2014).
21. Therefore, to ensure the data published in these Official Statistics are accurate and will not be subject to significant change in the future, the statistics are published 2 to 3 months after the reference period. That is: Statistics for September 2014 are produced using October 2014 data rather than September 2014 data. This method ensures accuracy of the data for September 2014, bypassing the retrospection we would have seen for September if the initial September data 2014 were used. The October 2014 data was released at the end of November 2014 and the Official Statistics are subsequently published in December 2014.

Revisions Policy

22. In accordance with Principle 2 of the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for Official Statistics¹, statistics within this publication adhere to DWP's statistics revisions policy, which explains how we will make revisions and inform users of our statistics when they occur:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/dwp-statistics-policies-and-procedures>

Rounding Policy

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

¹ <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/code-of-practice-for-official-statistics.pdf>

Annex A: Work experience and sector-based work academy starts (all starts)

Table 5: Take up of work experience and sector-based work academies by month for all ages

	Work Experience starts	Sector based work academy pre-employment training starts
Total	446,740	229,770
Jan-Mar 2011	1,490	-
Apr-Jun 2011	6,730	-
Jul-Sep 2011	13,180	1,240
Oct-Dec 2011	16,510	2,870
Jan-Mar 2012	17,220	5,650
Apr-Jun 2012	14,490	8,480
Jul-Sep 2012	16,530	11,050
Oct-Dec 2012	18,250	9,760
Jan-Mar 2013	19,680	13,650
Apr-Jun 2013	19,100	14,490
Jul-Sep 2013	20,550	15,920
Oct-Dec 2013	24,890	14,810
Jan-Mar 2014	31,950	20,390
Apr-Jun 2014	28,730	19,080
Jul-2014	9,640	6,640
Aug-2014	8,470	5,760
Sep-2014	11,230	7,780
Oct-2014	11,090	6,210
Nov-2014	11,340	6,060
Dec-2014	7,580	2,910
Jan-2015	10,420	5,470
Feb-2015	10,980	6,100
Mar-2015	11,540	6,170
Apr-2015	9,670	4,550
May-2015	10,830	4,720

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Jun-2015	13,450	6,270
Jul-2015	13,630	5,300
Aug-2015	12,300	4,250
Sep-2015	15,790	4,850
Oct-2015	14,740	4,850
Nov-2015	14,750	4,510

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

This table includes all starts on the work experience and sector-based work academy schemes from the rollout of Get Britain Working. Funding may come from Get Britain Working (Jan 2011-Mar 2013) or Youth Contract (Apr 2012-March 2015, 18-24 only). From April 2013, non-Youth Contract places are funded from Jobcentre Plus day-to-day expenses and are managed locally. To provide a view of overall take-up of the schemes, and to allow comparison with the Get Britain Working publication series, individuals that appear in Table 1 also appear in this table. From April 2015 Youth Contract places are funded by the Youth Offer.

Work experience started in January 2011. Sector-based work academies started in August 2011 in England and from 30th January 2012 in Scotland. They are not available in Wales.

Starts for 2011 to 2013 are shown as quarters in this table. Their monthly breakdown can be found in the accompanying spread sheet and the Get Britain Working series.

Data Source - DWP LMS opportunities evaluation database December 2015.

Table 6: Demographic breakdown of all starts for the period January 2011 to November 2015

		Work Experience starts	Sector based work academy pre-employment training starts
	Total	446,740	229,770
Gender	Male	241,860	148,590
	Female	204,890	81,180
Age Group ¹	<18	910	130
	18-24	337,890	116,450
	25-49	86,140	91,070
	50+	21,760	22,110
Disability ²	Yes	103,680	47,570
	No	343,060	182,200
Ethnicity	White	364,080	183,720
	Black or Black British	20,660	16,180
	Asian or Asian British	27,290	12,700
	Mixed	9,270	5,400
	Other/ Chinese	6,440	3,530
	Unknown	19,010	8,240
Region	North East	24,410	22,810
	North West	43,740	33,130
	Yorkshire and The Humber	43,390	25,390
	East Midlands	51,270	21,570
	West Midlands	72,100	26,180
	East	34,900	16,200
	London	46,100	27,810
	South East	37,850	19,040
	South West	25,160	12,600
	Wales	24,270	-
	Scotland	36,490	20,950
	Unknown	7,070	4,110

Notes: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash. Totals may not be the sum of the individual cells due to rounding.

This table includes all starts on the work experience and sector-based work academy schemes from the rollout of Get Britain Working. Funding may come from Get Britain Working (Jan 2011-Mar 2013) or Youth Contract (Apr 2012-March 2015; 18-24

only). . From April 2015 Youth Contract places are funded by the Youth Offer. From April 2013, non-Youth Contract places are funded from Jobcentre Plus day-to-day expenses and are managed locally.

To provide a view of overall take-up of the schemes, and to allow comparison with the Get Britain Working publication series, individuals that appear in Table 2 also appear in this table.

Work experience started in January 2011. Sector-based work academies started in August 2011 in England and from 30th January 2012 in Scotland. They are not available in Wales.

Claimants on Universal Credit are not captured in the data presented here. As a result, geographical breakdowns may show a small undercount in areas where Universal Credit has been introduced.

Data Source - DWP LMS opportunities and DWP Clients evaluation databases December 2015..

1. Disability status is declared by the Jobseeker during a Jobcentre Plus interview. Disability status is according to the claimant's own assessment.

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

Annex B: Publication Timetable

Publication	Date	Notes
1 st	Tuesday 25 th February 2014	The first publication covering Youth Contract starts
2 nd	Thursday 28 th August 2014	The second Youth Contract publication
3 rd	Wednesday 25 th February 2015	The third Youth Contract publication
4 th	Wednesday 26 th August 2015	The fourth Youth Contract publication
5 th	Wednesday 24 th February 2016	The fifth Youth Offer publication

Publication dates and content will be confirmed on the Government Statistics: release calendar website (<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements>) at least four weeks before publication date.

For general enquiries regarding Pre-Work programme measures please visit the DWP website: www.gov.uk/dwp or contact the DWP press office on 0203 267 5144.

Starts on work experience and sector-based work academy were previously included in the Get Britain Working series. This series is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/pre-work-programme-and-get-britain-working>

Contact Details

For general enquiries regarding Get Britain Working Measures please visit the DWP website: www.dwp.gov.uk or contact the DWP press office on 0203 267 5144.

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